## PRESS RELEASE

## STOP TERRORISM AND GENOCIDE IN AFGHANISTAN

We are gathering today to protest for those of us who are still alive and to also mourn the senseless deaths of our fellow humans in Afghanistan.

The history of the Afghan people is very complex and multi-faceted for those living in Afghanistan as well as for those living as refugees fleeing from war. The Europeans' Civil Society Organization is working as an umbrella collecting data from different countries and in protest for those of us still living and in mourning for those who have died.

The conditions prevailing during the 40-year war in Afghanistan and the systematic genocide in the presence of the big powers, NATO, USA, Europe and many Asian countries, still continue today without change. Our pain and sorrow is not just because of the horrific incidents of the past two weeks. We keep having to face being the daily targets of, according to the President's statements, 24 terrorist gangs operating inside and outside of Afghanistan. The big question is, despite the big power of the world deploying thousands of soldiers, why don't we have security yet? Does Afghanistan even have a government? What does government mean? Does Afghanistan have security? Is there poverty in Afghanistan? Is there covid-19 in Afghanistan?

We, the Afghan society, have been witness to many agreements between the Afghan government, their supporters like NATO, Europe, USA and with terrorist groups. Time and again the Afghan government keeps pardoning terrorists and releasing them from prisons in absolution of religious celebrations. The terrorists are offered amenities such as high quality clothes, money and of course in a spirit of respect. Terrorists have killed many civilians, soldiers, diplomats, politicians and still this system remains supportive with terrible consequences for civilians, while encouraging them to kill many more people every day. The Europeans' Civil Society Organization would like to express the question, "what is genocide?"

The incidents that we witness daily in Afghanistan as in the recent case of passengers being stopped on the road and killing them by setting them on fire means genocide, the MSF maternity ward massacre means genocide. A thieving government collecting funds for the prevention of the spread of covid-19 being shared among relatives. That means genocide.

A large part of Afghan civilians choose to live and work inside specific areas, not moving outside certain boundaries, while others take the risk to travel outside for work and business. Whatever choice we make; we are met with terrorist gangs. Many have been killed while at home and during their travel. This means genocide.

The Europeans' Civil Society Organization is worried for the future of Afghans in Afghanistan and asylum seekers and refugees all over the world. These authorities deciding for us is dangerous for our well-being and development. This is the time to call on for educated Afghans and those believing in the respect of human rights, equality, the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more to raise their voices. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination, to stand with us with one voice in finding a peaceful solution because our people are tired of war and displacement.

This month a group of Afghan asylum seekers were deported by the Iranian authorities and were made to cross the river at the border where most drowned. Another incident involved police shooting passengers in a car and then setting them on fire. These incidents involving Afghan's neighbouring country is a big crime. Our point is that when Afghans are being massacred in their own country, what can we expect from other countries? When a nation doesn't have security in any part of the country, unfortunately we can only expect more attacks and victims in the future. That is the reason that we are protesting, to prevent the genocide of Afghans world-wide.

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