

Press Release

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN TWO MONTHS AFTER THE TALIBAN CAME TO POWER (IN COLLABORATION WITH THE EUROPEAN GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION)

It would not be an exaggeration to start this press release by summarizing the mood in Afghanistan, as one where people have lost hope. This is because the Taliban is a terrorist group known all over the world for its barbarity, but above all for the core of its ideology which is nothing more than the use of violence against domestic and foreign adversaries with the immediate consequence of killing thousands of people.

Those at risk include not only the Hazaras but also many Pashtoon journalists and activists who, despite belonging to the same tribe as the Taliban, were considered too open-minded, but also other races such as Tajik, Uzbek, Sikhs, Aimaq and Bayat. And these are only the largest communities. Other smaller communities in Afghanistan have also experienced the cruelty of the Taliban.

To put it bluntly, the unfortunate thing is that the previous transitional government belonged to the Pashtoon tribe and did not share power with other communities. Thus, all the key positions were controlled by one tribe, so we are essentially talking about a monarchy. For example, all Afghan ambassadors came from the dominant Pashtoon tribe, and practically no representatives of other communities had any power or voice.

There has been a war in Afghanistan for 40 years. Under these adverse conditions not only Hazaras are in danger, but also other tribes and educated people in general, anyone with an open mind and a broad and cultured cultural consciousness. But it is certain that the target of the Taliban has always been the Hazara tribe. This is for several reasons: First, because the Hazara areas of Afghanistan do not have borders with other neighboring countries, second, because the Hazaras have a different cultural character, and finally, because the majority are Shiites, even if a small a percentage of them are also Sunnis.

For all these reasons, buses have been hijacked, the Taliban have invaded schools, gyms, mosques, and even carried out heinous suicide bombings at Hazara demonstrations, where protesters were even blindfolded by official government forces. So today, the Afghans of the diaspora with a bitter tone refer to the Hazaras as the outcasts of Afghanistan.

Unfortunately, in the past, 62% of Hazaras were brutally massacred, and today they are again in immediate danger. Proof of this is the recent suicide bombing in the northeastern city of Kunduz at the Gozar-e-Sayed Abad mosque during a prayer service by Shiite worshipers with at least 50 dead. It is worth mentioning that about 15-20% of the population of Afghanistan are Shiites. Also, a national volleyball team player was recently

beheaded because she was Hazara. The same has happened to some women in the army some women but their fate has been ignored.

Undoubtedly, the Taliban is a bomb in itself that threatens the foundations of stability throughout the region and they will not hesitate to commit genocide again. In fact, there are many who argue that Afghanistan under the new regime will unite with Pakistan, which openly supports them anyway. For this reason, the international community should not recognize the Taliban as an official state entity. All those who believe in democracy and human rights must not apologize for the Taliban's crimes. Even more, all the tribes inside and outside Afghanistan must unite and ensure equality for all. As for the Hazara tribe they should seek recognition for the genocide they suffered not only from the other tribes but also officially from the United Nations in order to find a calm, peaceful and dignified life in Afghanistan.

22/10/2021