UPR Pre-Session on Afghanistan

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- Repatriation of Refugees
- Education opportunities
- Rights and security of ethnic minorities

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Repatriation of Refugees

Almost 40 years of war

2016: agreement signed between EU and Afghan government to deport refugees

“Afghanistan: second least peaceful country in the world”- Global Peace Index 2018

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Recommendations

» **Stop deportation** of refugees persecuted for political, ethnic or religious reasons.

» Providing and fairly distributing **humanitarian aids** to IDPs and Returnees.

» Support already deported refugees with the **reintegration** processes and provide them with **security**.
Education opportunities

» Nearly half of children (estimated 3.7 million) even can not complete the primary school

» Different challenges makes it difficult/impossible for many to attend school.
   - Early age marriage
   - Insecurity
   - Lack of female teachers
   - ...

» Lack of quality education
Education opportunities

Recommendations

» A strong education system is key to economic growth, democratic development, stability, counter violent extremism and poverty. Therefore, quality education should be **compulsory** and **state-supported** for children aged between 7 and 16 (until end of middle school).

» “Continue strengthening access to education, in particular, to orphans, children with disabilities and children of missing parents” - South Sudan’s recommendation

» Work with religious leaders and other groups at the national, provincial and community level to advocate for participating **regular** education, especially for girls.
Rights and security of ethnic minorities (Hazaras)

» Systematic discrimination, security threats, and marginalization towards Hazara ethnic group

» Early November: the Taliban have launched an all-out assault on Jaghuri, Malistan and Khas Uruzgan

» Civil activism concerned with minority issues has been oppressed

» August: 48 students killed, 67 wounded in a tuition center

» 57 Hazara civilians killed, dozens wounded in a voter registration center few days before
Rights and security of ethnic minorities

Recommendations

» **Fair representation** of ethnic minorities in the government and giving them a voice in **decision making processes**.

» Fair distribution of **opportunities**.

» Preventing discrimination and coordinated terrorist attacks on **Hazara** through providing further military assistance (also in rural areas).
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