



8 SEPTEMBER 2021

PETITION IN SUPPORT FOR THE WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN

WE INVITE YOU TO SIGN THIS PETITION AT iPETITION VIA THIS [LINK](#). Please sign by 13 September 2021 if possible, ahead of the United Nations 13 September meeting to address the Afghanistan crises.

We are concerned about the women and girls of Afghanistan, especially their safety, their right to continuing education and any curtailment of their Human Rights. Women are peace-builders in their countries. Peace is not attainable if 50% of the population is not allowed to participate.

We strongly urge United Nations member states to act as follows:

- Ensure life-saving humanitarian aid is provided to the people Afghanistan.
- Insist on including the voices of women and Afghan civil society in the negotiations concerning the flow of aid as mandated by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.
- Insist that the Taliban allow safe corridors and passage into countries neighbouring Afghanistan for those who want to leave.
- Support aid to countries neighbouring Afghanistan to cope with the influx of refugees.
- Expand immigration programs to co-ordinate the resettlement of vulnerable Afghans.
- Insist that journalists be allowed to enter Afghanistan to work in safety to report conditions to the world.
- Uphold their **Responsibility to Protect** endorsed in 2005 and listed in paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.

And we urge the UN member states to act toward the Taliban and its supporters in the following ways:

- Monitor for human rights abuses and to make known around the world any abuses that do occur.
- Apply sanctions to individuals who encourage, support and fund armed insurgent groups operating in Afghanistan.
- Require that a Taliban government, before formal recognition is granted by any UN member state, show, over at least a full year,
  - respect for the human rights of women and girls - the right to education, the right to work, the right to freedom of movement and association, the right to equitable and meaningful participation in governance, and the right to live in safety regardless of their ethnic background or religious beliefs,
  - include women and Afghan civil society in negotiations regarding formal recognition
  - recognize and act upon their responsibilities and obligations in upholding international accords and UN conventions including women and girls human right to have quality education (SDG4).

*To the Women of Afghanistan: we hear your pleas at this dark time. We aim to amplify your voices to the international community.*

*Supporters of this petition represent a global network of women who promote and protect human rights for all. Supporters of this petition have had the opportunity of education and the freedom to use this education in the service of our communities and the world. Many supporters live in countries where women's rights are respected, yet many live in countries where these rights are oppressed. This petition is their voice and, especially for the women and girls of Afghanistan.*

Lead sponsor of this petition: Graduate Women International (GWI) in special consultation status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 1947.

Additional resources:

Joint written statement to the Human Right Council, August 2021 is accessed [HERE](#)

Letter to members of Graduate Women International is accessed [HERE](#)

Globe2Go Press Reader article: "We are witnessing a critical moment in Afghanistan's education system" can be accessed [HERE](#).

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