Associazione Parlamento Europeo Giovani

Preselezione nazionale 2021/2022

Versione in lingua inglese

In light of the recent events surrounding the withdrawal of the United States of America from Afghanistan, what strategy should the European Union adopt with regards to a common foreign and security policy while also attempting to prevent the next humanitarian crisis?

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The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Considering the loss of the UK as one of the first defense investors for the EU after Brexit¹,
- B. Bearing in mind the EU member States' rejection of Joseph Borrell's² proposal for the creation of an EU army, ³
- C. Aware of the poverty in Afghanistan, which results in local people selling their last possessions⁴ to survive,
- D. Welcoming Afghanistan's request for medical support⁵,
- E. Taking into account that many Afghans are forced to flee⁶ to other countries leaving their ordinary life,
- F. Acknowledging that the neighboring countries, such as Pakistan and Iran⁷, are not willing to accept permanent Afghan refugees in their territory,

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https://www.nytimes.com/article/brexit-uk-eu-explained.html

² High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

 ³ <u>https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/sep/02/us-withdrawal-from-afghanistan-will-lead-to-eu-army-says-top-diplomat</u>
⁴ <u>https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2021/sep/07/our-children-are-hungry-economic-crisis-pushes-</u>
afghans-to-desperation-

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https://www.rescue.org/article/help-afghanistan-what-do-afghans-need-now

⁶ https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-57767067

⁷ <u>https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/aug/31/afghanistans-neighbours-offered-millions-in-aid-to-harbour-refugees</u>

- G. Observing that in the past 20 years the condition of women in Afghan society has improved but their rights⁸ are now being threatened by the Taliban,
- H. Deeply concerned about the presence of terrorists⁹ on the Afghan territory, who handle and control schools or recruit children as soldiers,
- I. Fully aware that most of the Afghan economy is based on opium trade¹⁰,
- J. Recognizing that a lot of capital is made from the illegal mining of minerals in Afghanistan,
- K. Noting with concern that the Taliban buy weapons illegally from other countries¹¹,
- 1. Recommends a search for strong EU investors in the defense field for the Afghan necessity of stability;
- 2. Urges European delegates to carry out more substantial talks with Afghan Taliban officials in order to minimize Taliban impact on Europe;
- 3. Trusts that the Taliban should initiate a correct distribution of wealth to ensure the possession of primary goods to the entire population in Afghanistan;
- 4. Encourages the European Council to allocate more funds to Afghanistan in support packages that must guarantee:
 - a) healthcare and vaccinations,
 - b) food and sheltering,
 - c) protection of civilians;
- 5. Draws attention to the importance of a structural plan for the distribution of Afghan migrants within the EU: a) in such a way, the number of migrants in each EU member State will be more balanced,
 - b) Afghan migrants will have more job opportunities and thus better life conditions;
- 6. Emphasizes the need of European delegates' further understandings with countries such as Qatar and Turkey for economic assistance to Afghan refugees with the aim of helping them seek asylum in bordering countries;

⁹ Who are the Taliban, BBC News, <u>https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-11451718</u>

¹⁰ <u>https://www.brookings.edu/articles/pipe-dreams-the-taliban-and-drugs-from-the-1990s-into-its-new-regime/</u>

¹¹ When the Taliban emerged for the first time in the early 1900s, their financial sources and weapons came from external sponsors, like Pakistan or Saudi Arabia (<u>https://www.brookings.edu/articles/pipe-dreams-the-taliban-and-drugs-from-the-1990s-into-its-new-regime/</u>)

- 7. Invites the European Council to raise the issue of Afghan education, giving support and promoting education and integration to young people in order to put a stop to fostering an extremist culture in Afghanistan;
- 8. Further recommends that European member States should allocate funds for the development of alternative economic activities, which lead to greater urbanization of the country and a general improvement of the population's living conditions;
- 9. Suggests that Member States should carry out a more frequent and rigorous control on the foreign companies operating in Afghanistan in order to promote and boost the local economy;
- 10. Directs the European Council to:

a) impose sanctions on the Taliban government if it persistently endorses the malpractice of the illegal purchase of weapons,

b) assign funds for improving the international control on the illegal trade of weapons.