



**GLOBAL
SECURITY ISSUES**
BEZPEČNOSTNÁ
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Forum for 21st century on International Assistance to Afghanistan

ISAF mission in Afghanistan is to be concluded in 2014. After all the effort which the NATO has shown in Afghanistan in order to maintain order and keep peace in this country, fears have been expressed that after the international community withdraws from Afghanistan the security situation will worsen. There is concern that the country might fall into chaos and another civil war that might destabilize the whole region and turn Afghanistan yet again into a Failed State.

Thus the International Community must be certain that the Afghan National Army will be capable of assuring the internal security of Afghanistan on its own. The international community must also provide proper aid and assistance to the Afghan society.

All of this is necessary to create a stable Afghanistan, which is also critical to Global Security.

*Therefore the “**Forum for the 21st century**” are gathering the representatives of the European Union, the United States of America and of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to discuss the possible future solutions of this global challenge.*

Throughout the Model Conference the delegates from the EU, the USA and the ASEAN will be meeting in the **section for Global Security Issues** and discuss the topic of *Development Aid for Afghanistan*.

There are 4 crucial topics that will need to be discussed in this section:

1. **Internal Security and Stability**, which makes further economic, political and civilian development possible. In order to properly understand this issue there are some questions which need to be answered, such as:
 - × What should be the nature of international assistance to the Afghan National Army, after the ISAF troops withdraw, so that it can assure security and stability on its own (*training, selling weapons and equipment and/or intelligence sharing*)?
 - × Should foreign ideas and foreign ways of running a country be imposed on the Afghans or should the principle be that they should rebuild their country on their own by themselves for themselves with the international community only providing assistance and helping achieve stability?
2. **Education** of the Afghan Population should be considered one of the most essential problems. Although, the education system has improved a lot since the Taliban was overthrown in 2001 the number of girls attending school is still too low. Another problem is, that in the past secular



education and scientific research were banned and replaced by more religious teachings. Here are some suggestions for the discussion about education in Afghanistan

- × How could Afghanistan improve its education system? What reforms or changes need to be done in order to improve it?
 - × Could the international community allow Afghans to be educated abroad and then return to Afghanistan? What needs to be done so that educated Afghans are motivated to return?
3. **Civilian Stability**, which includes fair elections, tolerance and equal rights of all minorities including that of women. To make it more detailed:
- × How could women be more empowered and how could they help improve the country's security?
 - × Much is talked about the military and security aspect of Afghanistan but the civilian rule is also important. NATO's civilian representatives have been engaging with the population and are trying to ensure fair elections and also a proper representation by women MPs. How can US, EU and ASEAN each help to improve the civilian infrastructure of Afghanistan?
 - × How can religious freedom and tolerance be assured so that moderate Islam worshipping groups that promote peace and tolerance (i.e. *Sufism*) aren't marginalized and so that radical militant groups such as Taliban are not mainstream and can't attract more followers?
 - × How important is it to make sure that Afghans who wish for stability and peace and who are against the Taliban and radical militarism can clearly express themselves and make it visible that they are a majority? Is this a key for political stability? How could that be achieved?
4. **Economic Development** through Trade and Investment
- × Afghanistan has seen a great economic boom in the Telecom sector and it has created jobs and attracted foreign investment. Could similar successes be the key in achieving economic growth and security? How could the international community help in this regard? (Work with **the Economic Affairs Section**)
 - × Many Afghan men join the Taliban because they don't have an economic alternative. They need to be given jobs and that requires economic growth, which is impossible without stability and without a better infrastructure. Should Foreign Aid in Afghanistan build the infrastructure for the Afghans or rather help them build it on their own?

Each of the member of Forum for 21st Century is a strategic player and has its own position regarding the situation in Afghanistan.

- × The **United States** declared Afghanistan a strategic ally, just like it did with Japan after World War II and it also decided to openly trade with Afghanistan. Could this be an effective way of rebuilding Afghanistan just like it was for Japan? How about America's relationship with the Muslim World?
- × The **European Union** could provide assistance in developing the Afghan Civil Society and assuring the Rule of Law, which will further promote stability and security. Opening its market to Afghanistan could also be very beneficial.
- × The countries of **ASEAN** have Muslim populations that are also susceptible to radical Islamism and terrorism so they can directly benefit from a stable Afghanistan. They could help Afghanistan by providing foreign aid, opening their markets to the Afghan economy and also by allowing Afghans to be educated in their countries and later return home.



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Even though Slovakia is not a member of the Forum, it is helping to train the Afghan Security Forces via its ISAF mission and is providing some development aid. It could also help Afghanistan by sharing its experience of transforming the public sector and the civil society. Slovak development aid NGOs could also help build Afghan schools and hospitals. What should be the target population for Slovak Foreign Aid in Afghanistan (*children, women, the extremely poor, the civil society and/or the army*)?

Afghanistan will be unlikely to rebuild, develop and stabilize without the effort of the neighboring countries and other key players in the region. Countries such as India, Pakistan, China, Iran and the countries of Central Asia will play a key role in this regard. How can the international community assure that the individual efforts in the region will be well coordinated? Will this be the biggest challenge?

