

DROPS

ORGANIZATION FOR POLICY RESEARCH
& DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

نهاد پژوهش و توسعه

Newsletter

February

2020

Our Activities:

- DROPS held one-day consultation on "Afghanistan Mechanism for Inclusive Peace" with 133 Civil Society Members at Serena, in Kabul.
- Afghan Civil Society Presented "Living Principles" to EU Policymakers

Organization for Policy Research and Development Studies (DROPS) is an independent and multidisciplinary policy-oriented research organization based in Kabul, Afghanistan.

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DROPS NEWS

DROPS held Consultation with Civil Society

On February 26, 2020, in collaboration with The Liaison Office (TLO), Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU) DROPS held a one-day 'Consultation Conference on Inclusion & Representation in the Afghanistan Peace Process: Civil Society Voices' at the Kabul Serena. In this event 66 civil society members attended from the 34 provinces & 50 from Kabul.



The event begun with Dr. Orzala Nemat remarks where she said "it a very critical time for Afghanistan, to decide the course of it future history either to move in the path of preserving liberal values and the achievements of the last 18 years, or to collapse back in the backyard of history. Hence, the Afghan people must play an active role."

Representative of the State Ministry for Peace Laila Jafari said "the government will not ignore the voices of the civil society, rather we believe that it is the diversity of voices which makes peace sustainable in Afghanistan."



The participants divided in to working groups, to discuss inclusion, constitution, regional interests, reintegration of former combatants, actions by the international community, lessons learnt from the Afghanistan history, good governance, peace dividends, reduction of violence and ceasefire, information sharing and communication, & transitional justice. The views of the participants of the conference was compiled in to a document. This documents will be share to different stakeholders of the peace process.

Afghan Civil Society Presented "Living Principles" to EU Policymakers

Between March 4-6 DROPS Executive Director Mariam Safi along with members of the Afghan Civil Society, and 17 diaspora representatives in Europe presented their "[living principles](#)" documents to the European policymakers, the European Union Parliament, and the European Commission.

The Living Principles are based on a summarizing of key documents on inclusive peace generated in Afghanistan over the past three years, and tested through initial consultations with over 150 civil society representatives, including religious leaders, women, youth, members of the diaspora, and victims from across Afghanistan and an additional 17 Afghan diaspora representatives in Europe. As a result, representatives of Afghan civil society firmly believe that the securing of a permanent ceasefire and the laying down of an inclusive peace process are two fundamental requirements to making peace and finding a lasting political solution to the conflict in Afghanistan.



د ټول شموله سولې لپاره د افغانستان ميکانيزم
ميکانيزم افغانستان برای صلح همه شمول
AFGHANISTAN MECHANISM FOR INCLUSIVE PEACE

March 6, 2020

LIVING PRINCIPLES FOR AN INCLUSIVE AFGHAN PEACE PROCESS - CIVIL SOCIETY

EVELOPMENTS IN AFGHAN PEACE-PROCESS

Taliban and U.S. Strike Deal to Withdraw American Troops from Afghanistan

By: Mujib Mashal

The United States signed a deal with the Taliban on Saturday that sets the stage to end America's longest war — the nearly two-decade-old conflict in Afghanistan that began after the Sept. 11 attacks, killed tens of thousands of people, vexed three White House administrations and left mistrust and uncertainty on all sides.

[Read more...](#)



US and Taliban sign deal to withdraw American troops from Afghanistan

By Emma Graham-Harrison

The US and the Taliban have signed a landmark peace agreement after nearly 20 years of war that could result in American troops leaving Afghanistan within 14 months. The deal also paves the way for talks between Afghans to end one of the longest-running conflicts in the world. At a signing ceremony in Doha on Saturday, US secretary of state Mike Pompeo and Taliban deputy leader Mullah Baradar took turns to address a crowd of senior dignitaries. [Read more...](#)



Will the U.S.-Taliban Deal End the War?

By Laurel Miller

The talks between the United States and the Taliban in Doha, Qatar, which were abruptly canceled by President Trump in September, are back on track. After several months of diplomatic regrouping, American and Taliban negotiators are once again on the verge of sealing a deal.

The negotiators haven't revised the basic transaction they set out last August — an American commitment to withdraw troops from Afghanistan for a Taliban promise not to allow the country to be used by transnational terrorists. [Read more...](#)



How a seven-day truce could start Afghanistan on an uncertain road to peace

By Shashank Bengali

By agreeing to pause hostilities for seven days, the U.S. and the Taliban could set Afghanistan on the path toward a peace agreement that has eluded the country for nearly two decades. But analysts say an agreement between the Trump administration and Taliban representatives, a year and a half in the making, would be the easy part. [Read more...](#)



Can We Bomb Afghanistan into Peace?

By Bonnie Kristian

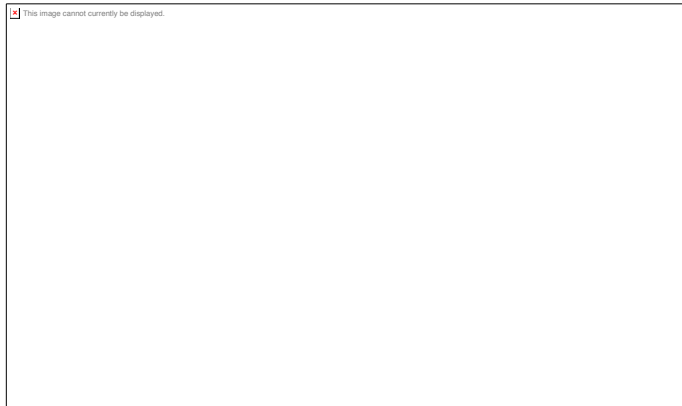
If President Trump is delivering on his promise to end the “endless war” in Afghanistan, he has chosen an awfully circuitous route to do so. U.S. troop levels in the country have increased on Trump’s watch, and the tentative plan to reduce them by about 4,000 in 2020 would only return us to where we were at the start of his tenure. Per new data released by U.S. Central Command, the United States dropped a record number of bombs and other ordnance on Afghanistan last year -- 7,423. [Read more...](#)



Taliban hardliners push to quit US talks as frustration grows at impasse

By Ben Farmer and Sami Yousafzai

Taliban envoys have warned of growing frustration in the insurgents' ranks at slow progress in talks with America, as hardline military commanders push their negotiators to pull out of the discussions. Taliban military leaders have told their negotiating team that the slow-moving talks risk detracting from the annual spring offensive and undermining the resolve of their fighters. [Read more...](#)



What does Soleimani's death mean for Afghanistan?

By Javid Ahmad & Husain Haqqani

As Iran plans vengeance for the United States' killing of the commander of its Quds Force, Qassem Soleimani, the U.S. should not ignore Afghanistan as an important theater where Iran might flex its muscle. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo recently warned Iran and the Taliban about the effect their ties might have on talks between American negotiators and Taliban representatives. [Read more...](#)



A U.S.-Taliban Deal Hinges on Reducing Violence. It Might Work Like This.

By Mujib Mashal

The United States and the Taliban are perhaps the closest they have been to a deal that could begin the end of America’s longest war, with President Trump giving a conditional green light to his diplomats to prepare for signing. That condition, however, is no small one. The United States is demanding that in the week before any agreement is signed, there be a sustained, significant reduction in hostilities — something described as close to a cease-fire.

[Read more...](#)



The Limits of U.S. Strategy in Afghanistan, by the Numbers

By C. J. Chivers

If you are like most of us, you can be forgiven for missing news during President Trump's impeachment trial that you might otherwise have caught. The news feeds filled with political news, making it feel as if coverage of other issues was bumped. With the trial now over, it's time to glance back at one moment in particular — the release on Jan. 30 of the latest quarterly report of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, or SIGAR. [Read more...](#)



Afghan Peace dilemma

By Asad Kosha

Afghanistan will not turn backward, says the Afghan presidential palace ahead of a breakthrough in a peace deal that is expected to be signed in a couple of weeks. "They—the Taliban — are ready to part with war and violence and join a pluralistic society," reads a statement that was issued by the presidential palace following a high level meeting between President Ashraf Ghani and a high level US diplomat in Kabul. [Read more...](#)



A Tale of Two Scepticisms: Fighting and Talking with the Taliban During the Obama Years

By Barnett Rubin

The Post based its coverage on interviews conducted by the office of the special inspector general for Afghanistan reconstruction with serving and former officials of the U.S. government, including me. From April 2009 to October 2013, I served as senior adviser to the U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. I had been hired by that position's first incumbent, the late Richard Holbrooke, who died from a torn aorta that erupted during a Dec. [Read more...](#)



First Breakthrough Toward Peace? A look at the seven-day 'reduction of violence'

By Thomas Ruttig

It is widely expected that the US and the Taleban will announce a seven-day 'reduction in violence' in Afghanistan any day. If all sides honour it, this would lead to the rapid signing of a US-Taleban agreement with a timetable for the gradual withdrawal of US and other NATO troops in exchange for anti-terrorism guarantees from the Taleban. Some media outlets, the first being Arab News in Pakistan, reported a "tentative date" of 29 February for the signing. This seems to have consolidated, so that the reduction in violence period should latest start on 22 February. [Read more...](#)



جگړه له چا سره او سوله؟

انعام خاړوان

طالبانو د اشغال په پلمه او جهاد او اسلام ترنامه لاندې اتلس کلونو کې سلگونه زره افغانان شهیدان او ټپیان کړل، میندې یې بوري کړې، میرمنې یې کونډې کړې، بچي یې یتیمان کړل او پلرونه د خپلو اولادونو په درد او غم په ملا مات کړل.

تر ننه دا لړۍ طالب ترهگرو جاري ساتلې او هره ورځ د پردیو گټو لپاره خپل او پردی اولادونه قرباني کوي، خو دوی په دومره وینې توپینې ماړه نه شول او نه یې ترې لاس واخیست.

طالبانو په دومره موده کې د هرو زره افغانانو سره یو بهرنی پوځي هم نه دی وژلی خو بیا هم دې جگړې ته د جهاد نوم ورکوي او توجیحات ورته لټوي. نور ولولئ...



صلح به چه قیمتی؟

کاووسی

اعلامیه وزارت دفاع ایالات متحده امریکا از شهر مونشن آلمان مبنی بر تفاهم ایالات متحده و طالبان به کاهش خشونت‌ها، با عکس‌العمل‌های متفاوت میان طرف‌های مورد بحث ایالات متحده و طالبان یعنی افغان‌ها روبه‌رو شد که فصل تازه‌ای را در این مذاکرات زمان‌گیر باز کرد. افغانستان در چندین ماه گذشته شاهد دو موضوع عمده یعنی انتخابات و مذاکرات صلح میان ایالات متحده امریکا و طالبان بوده است، توجه باشندگان و رسانه‌های اجتماعی را به نوبت به خود معطوف داشته و بعضی اوقات طوری انتباه می‌گردد که شاید قرار همین است که این دو موضوع میان خود نوعی رابطه محسوس یا غیر محسوس داشته باشند.

بیشتر بخوانید...



د سولې تړون که د خارجي قواوو د وتلو تړون

ډاکټر عبدالحافظ کاکړ

د سولې د نوم سره د هر افغان ارمانونه تړلي، څلویښت کاله کیري چې سولې ته انتظار باسو، خو په قطر کې د سولې کوم ممکنه تړون چې شاید د فیروزي د میاشتي تر اخره لاسلیک شي، دا د امریکا او طالبانو ترمنځ تړون دی چې یوازې د خارجي ځواکونو وتلو ته لاره برابروي، پاته شوه هغه سوله چې څلویښت کلن ارمان دی بې له شکه چې هغه به بین الافغانی مذاکراتو کې به ور باندې بحث کیري، او د هغې سولې کیلي د افغانانو په لاس کې ده، دا بیا د افغانانو پورې اړه لري هغوی څنگه یو بل زغملی شي او د علیا ملي گټو لپاره تر شخصي گټو څنگه

تبریري! نور ولولئ...



توافق‌نامه‌ی صلح میان امریکا و طالبان در دهم حوت امضا می‌شود امریکا و گروه طالبان به صورت هم‌زمان در بیانیه‌های جداگانه اعلام کرده‌اند که توافق‌نامه‌ی نهایی صلح را در دهم حوت برابر با بیست‌ونهم فیروزی سال جاری میلادی امضا می‌کنند. وزارت خارجه امریکا در بیانیه‌ای که امروز جمعه، دوم حوت، منتشر کرد، این مرحله را مهم خوانده و گفته است که برای بیست‌ونهم فیروزی، روز امضای توافق‌نامه با طالبان آماده‌گی می‌گیرد. این وزارت تأکید کرده است که پس از امضای توافق‌نامه صلح میان امریکا و گروه طالبان مذاکرات بین‌افغانی آغاز می‌شود. در این بیانیه آمده است: «یگانه راه دست یافتن به صلح در افغانستان این است که افغان‌ها متحد شوند و به توافق برسند.»

بیشتر بخوانید...

