

**International Peace Congress 2012:
Stop the war – Ways to Peace in Afghanistan**

13/14 October 2012, Bonn, Germany



Organizers:

Cooperation for Peace, Germany



Additional Partner Organisations:

*Association for Afghan Refugees in Europe
Commission for Peace and Freedom Afghanistan
Party of the National Alliance
Progressive Community of Afghanistan (Heidelberg)*

Supported by numerous Afghan organizations and initiatives from Europe and Afghanistan*

Network "No to war – No to NATO"

In cooperation with:

*Foundation International Meetings of the
Sparkasse in Bonn (a German savings bank)*



**Stiftung Internationale Begegnung
der Sparkasse in Bonn**



**ROSA
LUXEMBURG
STIFTUNG**

Supported by numerous Afghan organisations and initiatives from
Europe and Afghanistan:

Afghanic Islamic Center (The Netherlands)

Afghanic Islamic Society, Hamburg

Afghanistan Committee for Peace, Reconstruction and Culture

Comission for Unity and Understanding

Cultural Committee for Afghans in Baden-Wuerttemberg

Ensemble of Afghan cultural Organizations in Hamburg

Islamic Alliance Afghans in France

Islamic Committee of Free Journalists in Afghanistan

Organization for Peace of the Lawyers of Kabul

Organization for Women's Rights in Afghanistan

Organization of Afghans in Bremen

People's Party Afghanistan

Student body of the University of Kabul



International Peace Congress: Stop the war – Ways to Peace in Afghanistan

The war in Afghanistan has taken a terrible toll on the nation's people. Over the last 33 years, presumably no Afghan within or outside of Afghanistan has failed to be impacted by the war. Now the withdrawal of most of foreign troops in Afghanistan is being prepared while continuing help by the former occupation forces is being offered.

The doors to many opportunities have opened for Afghanistan. The civil society of Afghanistan and of the intervention forces want to shape the road to reconciliation, reconstruction and peaceful social development with their own agendas and actions. For such an encompassing societal process the Afghan people need to develop shared premises and necessary conditions.

Essential steps for an encompassing peace include ceasefire negotiations, dialogue, and reconciliation among all parties of the conflict. Priority is being given to civil reconstruction, self-determination for the Afghani people and development of a working civil society. These steps are not being pursued. Instead militarily enforced "neo-liberal free trade concepts" are being imposed on Afghanistan. We are certain that it will be a long and difficult road to achieve a democratic, self-determined, and social Afghanistan. But the path can only be walked in peace and with the Afghan civil society.

The challenges that must be addressed are many and large scale beginning with preventing decade-long violence from becoming a civil war. Due to external and internal factors terror, criminality, and corruption permeate all levels of society and politics. Criminal drug trafficking has reached a globally unique scale in Afghanistan. The human rights of Afghan men and women have not improved over the last decade of war.

Starting with the demand for an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal of all interventionist forces, Afghan civil society, Afghan exiles and European civil society plan to discuss pressing questions and the tasks of Afghan development. Our main focus will be the identification of and development of common practical political perceptions on the cornerstones peace, security, development, and justice.

The active participation of civil society and peace movements is essential. It needs to reflect their actions and to communicate the message that peace is only possible if we actively work for peace in this geostrategically vital region. Together with Afghan exile communities, peace movement organizations and unions we will analyze alternatives to the existing model, engage in discussions, and have a broad dialogue about potential ways to achieve peace in Afghanistan. Possible and necessary ways to socially, ecologically, and economically sustainable reconstruction with the integration and participation of all forces of Afghanistan as well as regional actors will be discussed. We will develop ideas for peace for and with Afghan and exile Afghan communities who are increasingly tired of war.

We invite to participate in this process and to take the opportunity provided by the conference in Bonn.

Saturday, October 13th

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.:

Greetings

- Reiner Braun for the organizers (IALANA, GER)
- Jürgen Nimptsch (Mayor of Bonn)

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.:

Analysis of the situation

1. **33 years of war, 11 years of NATO's Intervention – Crying out for Peace**
By Matin Baraki (AFG/ GER)
2. **Review of 11 Years of War - the Government Lie of the Development of the Country**
By Halim Karim (Commission for Peace and Freedom in Afghanistan)
3. **Women and Human Rights in Afghanistan**
By Shukria Haideri (Lawyer, AFG)
4. **Germany at War**
By Claudia Haydt (Information Agency on Militarisation, GER)
5. **Afghanistan and Imperial Strategies**
By Andreas Zumach (Journalist, Geneva / SUI)
*Moderation: Christine Hoffmann (Pax Christi, GER) and Wahida Kabir (Commission for Peace and Freedom in Afghanistan)

1:00 p.m.– 2:00 p.m.:

Break

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.:

Workshops: Obstacles on the Road to Peace

1. **Economics and industrial Relations**
Moderator: Uwe Wötzel (ver.di, GER)
2. **Education and Science**
Moderator: Reiner Braun (IALANA, GER)
3. **The Shorish-peace-plan and its current importance**
Moderation: Otmar Steinbicker (aixpaix, GER) with Naqibullah Shorish (national tribal leader of the Kharoti)
4. **Migration**
Moderator: Karim Popal with Assma Nassery (Attorney at law concerning migrants)
5. **Women's rights**
Moderator: Kristine Karch, (No to War, No to NATO) with Farkhunda Zahra Naderi (MP from Afghanistan)
6. **Geostrategy: Regional Developments**
Moderator: Ahmad-Sha-Qadiri (Esemble of Afghan cultural Organisations in Hamburg, Movement of the future in Afghanistan, Wiltrud Roesch-Metzler (Pax Christi)
7. **Environment and Health**
Moderator: Matthias Jochheim with Angelika Claussen (both IPPNW, GER)
8. **Corruption, Drug Economy and good Governance**
Moderation: Philip Ingenleuf (Peace Cooperative Network, GER)
9. **NATO and the Afghanistan War**
Moderator: Lucas Wirl (NatWiss, GER) with Claire Chastain (No to War, No to NATO, FRA), Otto Jäckel (IALANA, GER)

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.:

Evaluation of the Workshops / short break

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.:

Plenary: Presentation and Discussion of the Results of the Workshops

Focus on strategies for peace from the perspective of Afghans, development and peace movement
Moderation: Jens-Peter Steffen (IPPNW, GER), Claudia Wörmann-Adam (ver.di, GER)

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.:

Parliamentarian Round

With Agnieszka Brugger (Green Party), Angelika Graf (Social Democratic Party), Oliver Höfinghoff (Pirate Party), and Kathrin Vogler (Left Party)
Moderation: Andreas Zumach (Journalist, Geneva / SUI) and Wahida Kabir (Commission for Peace and Freedom in Afghanistan)

From 8:30 p.m.:

Evening program

- Casual evening program with focus on the exchange of participants
- Concert by Delagha Surud (Afghan folk singer)

Sunday, October 14th

- 9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.: **Introduction**
By Angelika Claußen (IPPNW, GER)
- 9:15 a.m.– 9:35 a.m.: **Peace Movement in the U.S. – After NATO Actions: Activities against the War in Afghanistan**
Lecture by Joseph Gerson (American Friends Service Committee, USA)
- 9:35 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.: **Short introduction of Afghan organizations**
Presentations by Afghan organizations (3-5 minutes each)
- 10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.: **Poster Session**
The poster session conceptually linked to the short presentations. It should be a possibility for participants to an in-depth exchange with Afghan organizations and offer space for conversation.
- 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.: **Coffee break (during the poster session)**
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.: **Peace is possible! Thoughts on Peace and Reconciliation**
Lecture by Karim Popal
- 11:20 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.: **Requirements for a sustainable Development Policy in and for Afghanistan**
Lecture by VENRO AG Afghanistan
- 11:40 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: **Discussion of both Lectures**
Moderation: Susanne Grabenhorst (Cooperation for Peace, GER) and Ahmad-Sha-Qadiri (Esemble of Afghan cultural Organisations in Hamburg)
- 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.: **Panel Discussion: How can Strategies for Peace be realized - Issues of Actions**
Moderation: Natasha Zupan (Peace and Development Association), Gul-Rahim Safi (Afghanistan Committee for Peace, Reconstruction and Culture) with Reiner Braun (IALANA, GER), Fausia Kofi (MP, AFG), Shukria Haideri (Lawyer, AFG), Farkhunda Zahra Naderi (MP, AFG), Naqibullah Shorish (National tribal leader of the Kharoti, AFG)
- Final Statement / Summary of the Conference**
Jens-Peter Steffen (IPPNW, GER), Fausia Kofi (MP, AFG)

Organizational details:

When: 13 / 14 October 2012

Where: LVR-Landesmuseum, Colmantstrasse 14-16, 53111 Bonn (5 minutes from Central Station, Central Station rear exit, turn right into Quantiusstr, go through the intersection in Colmantstrasse.)

Fee: 20 EUR (reduced 5 EUR)

Registration: On www.afghanistanprotest.de or via email: [info\[at\]afghanistanprotest.de](mailto:info[at]afghanistanprotest.de)



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