## not safe - Afghanistan is not safe! Call for a nationwide day of action on June 5, 2021: Stop all deportations to Afghanistan!

There has been war in Afghanistan for over 40 years and the safety situation for civilians continues to worsen. Bombings, assassinations, armed conflicts and suicide bombings characterize everyday life.<sup>1</sup>

With the Corona pandemic, a pandemic of exceptional proportions, the situation in Afghanistan has once again dramatically worsened. The majority of the population lives in poverty and has no access to health care. Life is threatened by food insecurity, lack of livelihood opportunities and thus of basic needs such as food, housing and clothing. Women, children and the most vulnerable are exposed to extremely high levels of violence. Afghanistan is the most insecure country in the world, and humanitarian poverty has reached a record high.<sup>2</sup>

The majority of the population is fleeing within Afghanistan and in neighboring countries, where they are forced to live as people without rights. Since the beginning of the Corona pandemic, 1 million people only from Iran have returned to Afghanistan.

Despite this, the German government, Federal Minister of the Interior Horst Seehofer and many interior ministers of the federal states continue with monthly massive deportations to Afghanistan. Since the end of 2016, more than 1000 people have been deported to Afghanistan on massive deportation flights. The deportees are by no means "only" "criminals" or "dangerous persons", but people who have been living in Germany for many years. People who have no criminal record, but who have a permanent job or have concrete prospects for training, or who are about to get married.

The deportees are being deported against their own will to a country that many have never seen or only know from their childhood. A country where many of the deportees have no networks or structures to protect them from homelessness and complete destitution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://unama.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/sg\_report\_on\_afghanistan\_march\_2021.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.visionofhumanity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/GPI 2020 web.pdf

Even though Western troops have now announced that they will pull out their troops from Afghanistan, this does not mean that the country is safe. The opposite is the case: It is feared that the security situation will continue to worsen and be dominated by armed forces, such as the Taliban. Germany has a special responsibility towards the people who have fled this war and not only because of the military involvement of Germany in the war in Afghanistan since 2001.

By signing the Geneva Conventions<sup>3</sup> 70 years ago and the New York Declaration<sup>4</sup> of 2016, Germany has committed itself to guaranteeing human rights and the protection of those in need of protection. However, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) regularly rejects the asylum applications of Afghan refugees and thus also makes unlawful decisions: More than half of the BAMF's rejection decisions are found to be illegal in appeals by the administrative courts and thus forcing the BAMF to recognize the Afghan refugees' need for protection.<sup>5</sup>

Considering the planned conference of the ministers of interior in June, the 70th anniversary of human rights in July and the upcoming federal elections in September, we call on all groups, associations, organizations and individuals to take a stand against deportations to Afghanistan and to participate in the nationwide day of action against deportations to Afghanistan on 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2021.

## Stop all deportations to Afghanistan!

## Organize protests, hang posters on the houses, banners on the balconies and red kites out of the window!

More information, print templates and craft instructions for the red kites can be found here: <u>www.afghanistan.not-safe.de</u>.

#AfghanistanNotSafe

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>https://www.unhcr.org/dach/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/sites/27/2017/03/Genfer\_Fluechtlingskonvention\_und\_New\_Yorker\_Protoko</u> <u>II.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://www.unhcr.org/dach/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/2017/05/New-Yorker-</u> Erkl%C3%A4rung-Kurzinformation.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://verfassungsblog.de/politik-recht/