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## Editorial

### Increasing public uprisings against Taliban

After losing hope for success of the Doha talks and Taliban's increasing violence in rural districts and villages of the country, people in different provinces took arms to fight Taliban and their foreign friends, which in recent days the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces together with local people have killed dozens of Taliban militants and took control of the fallen districts.

The recent public uprisings speak of growing hatred against insurgency among Afghans. Violence, bombings, poisonings of schoolgirls and setting schools afire, threats and kidnappings and obstruction of reconstruction projects are among the causes that have driven disgusted Afghans to rise up against militants.

Meanwhile, Taliban's dual game regarding the peace process, the group's targeted killings as well as their recent wave of violence against innocent people have forced thousands of elders, influential and even political figures to take arms beside their security forces and fight the group, that have brought nothing, but darkness and ignorance to the war-torn country.

Meanwhile, in the not-so-far future, Afghans will have to defend their country on their own. The process of transition of security responsibilities from NATO and US to Afghan forces is expected to complete in the next few months. After the complete withdrawal of US-led troops from Afghanistan, the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces have to defend Afghanistan.

Although the brave Afghan forces are independently conducting operations against militants in each and every corner of the country, but they will shoulder further responsibilities post foreign troops withdrawal from the country.

Indeed, it would be difficult for Afghan forces to fulfill that responsibility until and unless it has support from within the people. The recent uprisings should be boosted, and the combat morale of the Afghan forces needed to be increased so that to better fight insurgents and eliminate their safe havens inside the country.

At the same time, local people are also useful sources of information about insurgents and their activities, especially in volatile provinces. In Afghan society, it is very difficult for security forces to recognize the insurgents who hide among civilian population, wearing clothing similar to that of local people.

It is the common Afghans who have better knowledge about people activities in their districts. Therefore, it becomes the responsibility of every Afghani to report suspicious people and movements to Afghan forces so that timely and accurate actions to be taken against them.

Meanwhile Afghans worry about the recent uprisings too, saying they shouldn't turn into militia and their activities should be monitored regularly. Indeed, their public uprisings against militants must be guided and monitored by the Afghan government or else such movements may be accompanied with unwanted outcomes.

Such uprisings deliver the message that Afghans no longer want the Taliban to govern them, and they already hate them, as the group has been involved with mass killing of the Afghan people and destruction of infrastructures.

Public uprisings are a must against the insurgent group in each and every corner of the country, but they should be regulated and coordinated with Afghan forces, so that to prevent their casualties as well as avoid any future outcomes that to push the country once again into chaos and civil war.

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### Afghanistan is 'not a winnable war,' White House says as Taliban increase violence



The conflict in Afghanistan, which the United States is pressing to hand over to the Afghan government - is "not a winnable war," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said Friday, dismissing Republican calls to force the withdrawal from the 20-year conflict hours before President Joe Biden met with his vice president.

At the White House, Afghan President tapped a week of meetings, including with several members of Congress and defense officials in the Pentagon. After hearing Ghani talk about the security situation in his country, several Republican lawmakers asked Biden to reverse his decision to withdraw all American troops from Afghanistan as late as Sept. 11. The military is on track to complete the drawdown much sooner.

President Ghani said he is not speech America's decision to withdraw and give anyone "the narrative of abandonment." Still, he pointed to a grim picture of the security situation in Afghanistan, comparing it to the United States in 1861, when the Civil War that ultimately killed more than 600,000 people began despite President Abraham Lincoln fighting to unite a bitterly divided nation.

"The free young republic of the United States was under attack and unity, determination, and courage, that is, we were not afraid to die for it. That's the type of moment for us," Psaki said.

More Ghani told the press after his meeting with Biden. "The support for the republic is immense, and across the board," Psaki said. "We are committed to being engaged, as we are, and across the board," Psaki said. "We are committed to being engaged, as we are, and across the board," Psaki said.

Asked to respond to the pleas on Capitol Hill, Psaki said Biden made his decision based on the nation's ability to lead in Afghanistan when he first took office, promising to decide based by the Trump administration to cut the number of troops in the country and negotiate an agreement with the Taliban to withdraw all troops about three months after Biden's inauguration.

"It's important to take a step back and remember what we inherited," Psaki said. "That's the hard part of this. The president made a decision, which is consistent with his view that this was not a winnable war, so being the U.S. troops home."

Not here challenges to it? Of course," Psaki continued. "We are committed to being engaged, as we are, and across the board," Psaki said. "We are committed to being engaged, as we are, and across the board," Psaki said.

Even after that trip, however, Biden did not publicly advocate for the United States to withdraw its troops during his eight years as vice president. The Obama administration sent an additional 17,000 troops to Afghanistan to increase training capacity, and the administration's 2009 policy response to the conflict, which included withdrawing troops, did not go as far as a draw-

down. Instead, Biden argued for a smaller troop presence more focused on counterterrorism.

Meanwhile the White House in a statement after Afghan and US leaders meeting said that "Our strong support and partnership is designed to prevent Afghanistan from ever again being used as a safe haven for terrorists, ensuring Afghan stability and build self-reliance, promote economic growth, preserve social gains in education, health and women's empowerment and the rule of law, protect the rights of women, girls, and minorities, stabilize Afghan civil society, and respond to humanitarian needs. Since 2002, the United States has provided more than \$200 billion in security assistance, \$50 billion in civilian assistance, including \$67 million specifically intended to support Afghan women and girls, and nearly \$3.5 billion in humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan."

Building on the broad international support for the Afghan people, the United States said will encourage partners to continue their security and development assistance, including through the Afghan National Army Trust Fund (ANATF), Law and Order Trust Fund for Afghanistan (LOTFA), and the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF). The United States will also work closely with other major donors to ensure continued development and humanitarian assistance to help the Afghan people.

**Monitoring Desk**

