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## Editorial

### Int'l support key to uproot terror

The extreme growth of terror and terrorist activities has begun to worry the whole world. The growing rates of terrorist activity, mainly conducted by Taliban in Afghanistan have become a bold challenge for the regional and international communities. To address the high level of insecurity and insurgency in Afghanistan and end its threat to the region and the world, it is of immense importance that the world leaders unite against terror and continued supporting Afghanistan in war against the ugly phenomenon, which not only polluting the country, but rather it has spread throughout the globe.

United States President Joe Biden said at a press conference after the NATO leaders' summit in Brussels on Monday "There was a strong consensus in the room, among the leaders, in that meeting, on Afghanistan," reiterating that the alliance will continue its support to Afghan after the withdrawal of international troops from the country.

"Our troops are coming home, but we agreed that our diplomatic, economic, and humanitarian commitment to the Afghan people and our support for the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces will endure," Biden said.

"And I welcomed our Allies and partners to recognize that counterterrorism — that counterterrorism efforts must continue to ensure that Afghanistan never again becomes a safe haven for attacks on our countries," he said.

Meanwhile, on Monday, the NATO leaders at the Brussels summit agreed to maintain funding for the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul after the Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan ends. Addressing a press conference after the summit, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said the RS mission is ending but NATO will continue supporting Afghanistan in four ways: funding Afghan forces, out-of-country training for Afghan forces, a continued civilian presence, and maintaining "critical infrastructure" such as the Kabul airport.

Despite spending billions of dollars on war against terror, the terrorist activities persist to continue in many countries. If may go on in many other upcoming years, in Afghanistan, Africa, Central, West, and Southeast Asian countries as it is getting accelerated day by day and the late terrorist attack in Afghanistan and some European countries are enough to be the evidence.

Meanwhile, the United States and its allies have much devoted in Afghanistan and other countries to break down the terrorists, yet they haven't succeeded to put an end to their continuous attacks and horror on the world and will sacrifice further because most of the Islamic countries were not supportive in this process to fight against terrorists.

Despite issuing declarations and supporting the Afghan peace process, but no tangible steps taken by the Islamic countries to curb terror in the country. Although US and NATO vowed to continue Afghanistan to post-withdrawal era, but much more is needed to control the situation and reduce Taliban's threats to national and global security.

Perhaps, this is not a battle to be won by single few countries, rather it is a battle that must be supported and expected by all nations of the world. Muslim countries, and non-Islamic countries all must take part to settle it once and for all.

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## Afghanistan: The bridge connecting Central and South Asia

Dr. Sahrob Burayom, Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies



Various forms of negotiations are taking place on the ground of Afghanistan to ensure peace and settle the long-lasting war. The withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and the simultaneous withdrawal of Afghan negotiations as well as mutual conflicts and sustainable economic development in this country are of particular scientific interest. These facts, the research is focused on the geopolitical aspects of the internal Afghan peace talks and the impact of external forces on Afghanistan's internal affairs. At the same time, the approach for recognizing Afghanistan not as a threat to global peace and security, but as a factor of strategic opportunities for the development of Central and South Asia has become a key object of research and made the implementation of effective mechanisms a priority. In this regard, the issue of meeting the historical position of Russia, Afghanistan in connecting Central and South Asia, including the acceleration of these processes, play an important role in the diplomacy of Uzbekistan.

Afghanistan is a mysterious country in its history and today, trapped in major geopolitical games and internal conflicts. The region in which Afghanistan is located will automatically have a positive or negative impact on the geopolitical transformation processes of the entire Asian continent. French diplomat Rene Doherty once compared Afghanistan to "Asian Switzerland" (Doherty, 1937, p. 15). This allows us to confirm that in this country, there was the most stable country on the Asian continent. As Pakistani writer Muhammad Iqbal rightly describes, "Asia is a body of water and flowers. Afghanistan is its heart. If there is instability in Afghanistan, Asia is unstable. If there is peace in Afghanistan, Asia is peaceful" (Dahat of Asia, 2013). Given the complexity of current events and the geopolitical interests in Afghanistan, it is believed that the geopolitical importance of this country can be defined as follows.

Geographically, Afghanistan is located in the heart of Eurasia. Afghanistan is very close to the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), which is surrounded by the countries with nuclear weapons such as China, Pakistan and India, as well as the countries with nuclear programs such as Iran. It should be noted that Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan account for about 80% of the territory of Afghanistan.

From a geo-economic perspective, Afghanistan is a crossroad of regions with global resources. This factor, in essence, also means that Afghanistan is a crossroad of transport and trade corridors. Naturally, leading power centers such as the United States and Russia, as well as China and India, which are known around the world for their potential major economic development, have great geo-economic interests here. From a military-strategic point of view, Afghanistan is an important link in regional and international security. Security and military-strategic interests in this country are among the main goals and objectives of such global and influential structures as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Collective Security

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