

6. Raising the total amount of ANSF a recommended number of 600,000 (300,000 ANA, 250,000 ANP and 50,000 NSD) compensating the withdrawn international troops in line with the ISAF Strategy by the currently set deadline of 2014.
7. Recommendation of continuation of the NATO Training Mission to Afghanistan (NTMA) by the end of 2020 to achieve the previously mentioned objectives.
8. Bearing in mind that terrorism is an international threat, the European Union and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan commit to strengthen their efforts and co-operation with other regional and international partners to combat terrorism, extremism, particularly al-Qaida, in the region. Thus the regional co-operation should be strengthened in order to engage the region in economic development project.
9. The protection of civilians is and must remain the main priority of all security efforts.
10. Political dialogue and reconciliation are crucial in order to ensure the majority of the population to participate in the political process. The European Union and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan fully support a transparent Reintegration Process (Peace Dialogues) endorsed by Afghans through High Peace Council (HPC), with, for instance, those Taliban who now respect the constitution of the Islamic Republic Afghanistan and renounce to violence.

Education

The European Union and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, reaffirming the outcomes of the 2005 Joint Declaration and the 2010 Kabul Conference, wish to emphasise the unique and important role that education plays in the long-term development of a nation. There have been significant achievements in Afghanistan with respect to education. Currently, 7 million students attend school, of which 39% are female.

The European Union supports in principle the 2020 Education programme, as developed by the Afghan Government.

The European Union supports the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to achieve the following goals to improve the education system:

1. Focus on increased participation amongst school-aged students with a special focus on the education of females and promoting equal access to the education system. This includes raising awareness throughout the population of the importance of female education;
2. Security of schools and surrounding environment;
3. Creation of economic incentives to encourage school attendance, such as scholarships, provision of school materials and free school lunches;
4. Minimisation of regional disparity in school access. There must be equal opportunity of obtaining an education regardless of whether a child lives in city or provincial areas;
5. Support of Islamic education institutions;
6. Construction of the necessary school infrastructure and provision of school materials;
7. Improvement of teacher training and their living conditions to ensure high standards and a focus on appropriate remuneration;
8. Vocational and practical training such as agricultural training;
9. Continuation of strong partnerships between Afghan and European universities and other higher education institutions, such as through scholarships and student exchanges;
10. Promotion of literacy programs for the general population.