

Beat: Politics

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN OFFICIAL FOREIGN POLICY

BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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USPA NEWS - Below follow some issues being part of the official Afghanistan Foreign Policy :

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We view regional countries, in particular our immediate neighbors among the most important countries for Afghanistan. Because of decades of war and bloodshed in the country, Afghanistan lost its traditionally and conventionally balanced relations with its neighbors. During recent troubled years it was often treated as a sub-state entity, rather than an independent and sovereign nation. Since the demise of the Taliban, the government here has sought to change the dynamics of our relations with our neighbors.

We wanted to convey two messages to our neighbors: Firstly, Afghanistan wants to be an equal partner; and secondly, that Afghanistan wants to be the catalyst for regional cooperation.

(...)

ISLAMIC WORLD :

Strengthening our relations with the Islamic states constitutes another priority for Afghanistan's foreign policy. As a Muslim country, we place special importance on our relations with the rest of the Islamic countries.

We salute the resilience of the People of Palestine for their unfailing efforts and patience for self-determination.

Supporting Palestinians' rights, in accordance with the resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations, H.E. King Abdullah's Initiative and the 'Roadmap' remains the official policy of Afghanistan.

Afghanistan welcomes the formation of the 'National Unity' government in Iraq. After many years of hardship, the people of Iraq deserve our full support. We are confident the new Government of Iraq will work towards, peace, stability and national reconciliation.

Afghanistan views the Organization of the Islamic Conference as one of the best venues to seek solution to many of our challenges, including underdevelopment, in particular in the fields of research and education, inter and intra state conflicts, fanaticism, and Islamophobia.

UNITED STATES :

We consider our strategic relations with the United States of America as pivotal to our success in overcoming the legacy of war and conflict in Afghanistan, and becoming a democratic and prosperous nation.

As the 'Joint Declaration of the United States-Afghanistan Strategic Partnership' confirms, our relations with the United States of America is multifaceted. It includes cooperation in the fields of security, development, civil society, education, and regional as well as international issues.

UNITED NATIONS :

We appreciate the important contribution of the United Nations to international peace, stability and development since its inception. We believe the UN should play a more active role in global affairs, in particular in the fields of development, environment and international justice.

In order to assume such a role, the member states should help the UN to address some of its structural deficiencies, including under-representation of developing nations in the influential bodies of the UN, and the UN bureaucracy.

We also fully support the mission and objectives of the United Nations Assistance in Afghanistan. We are in the view that the UNAMA should strengthen its co-coordinating role.

EU & NATO :

We also attach strategic importance to our relations with the European Union, and NATO who have been among our most generous and committed friends. We fully appreciate the positive role that the EU has been playing in Afghanistan, in particular its commitments and efforts towards transnational justice. We welcome NATO's expanding missions in Afghanistan since they took over command of ISAF in August 2003. Afghanistan is keen to establish an enduring partnership with NATO.

(...)

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