# THE CONSEQUENCES OF WITHDRAWAL OF INTERNATIONAL FORCES FROM AFGHANISTAN (AFGHAN PEACE PROCESS) Salahuddin Hamidi,<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>2<sup>nd</sup> year Master's degree student of International Relations, Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages <u>salahuddinhamidi1919@gmail.com</u> Abzhaparova L.Zh.<sup>2</sup> <sup>2</sup>PhD, associate professor, Ablai Khan KazUIRandWL, Abzhaparova.l@ablaikhan.kz

Annotation. This article is about the consequences following the full-scale withdrawal of international force from Afghanistan as well as aid cutoff. In this regard, the purpose of this work is to determine the importance of the presence of international forces in Afghanistan. We also want to introduce our analysis about the possible future of the country after the withdrawal of international forces considering that Afghanistan could become a shelter of terrorists again and it could entail for Afghans and the region-a huge challenge in their development.

With 19 years of international forces presence in Afghanistan, the security situation and political challenges in Afghanistan have not improved and have already worsened. With the peace process and the completely withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan and the ending of their military and financial cooperation with the government and the Afghan National Army, it can be said that the government of Afghanistan may once again collapse by the extreme Taliban, which is a big threat to the region and the world

**Keywords:** US, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, NATO, peace process, Islamic State, terrorism.

The outlook of a peaceful Afghanistan is only truthful if the Taliban breaks relations with other terrorist groups, agrees to a ceasefire and joins the intra-Afghan peace talks. The Afghan officials had asked for peace negotiations for many years, and just in November of 2018, the Taliban agreed to meet face to face with the US representatives who are charged to Afghanistan's challenges for peace resolution after 18 years combat. Finally, the Taliban and US representatives launched five rounds of peace negotiations in Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. As the Taliban's condition was the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan, in fifth round of the negotiations both sides agreed to withdrawal of US troops from the country in which the US condition was that the Taliban stop relations with terroristic groups that threats Global security. The peace initiative time outs strongly in the hands of the Afghan government. In February 2018, at the Second Kabul Process for Peace and Security Cooperation, President Ashraf Ghani allowed unconditional peace talks to the Taliban and asked the group to deny violence, accept the rule of law and enter into peace agreements. President Ghani's suggestion to the Taliban also included the release of Taliban prisoners, granting passports and visas to family members and a removal of sanctions imposed on the group's leaders. Although these offers met the Taliban's previous preconditions for peace talks, the group did not answer. Receiving no answer from the Taliban; the

Afghan government threatened it with the closing of its political office in Doha. While the debate over the measure maintained in Kabul, the Taliban unexpectedly called for direct talks with the US by writing a 10-page "Letter to the American People" and "peace-loving congressmen" to press the Trump government into a peace dialogue. In June 2018, a ceasefire started by the Afghan government for the term of the Eid al-Fitr holiday increased the momentum for peace talks. A month later, Taliban officials led by Abbas Stanikzai secretly met with a senior US diplomat, Alice Wells, of the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, for a preliminary discussion in Doha to set up a channel between the US officials and the Taliban onward of future face-to-face talks. In November 2018, the US agent held three-day talks with the Taliban officials in Oatar to discuss the departure of the US forces from Afghanistan and pave the way for intra-Afghan talks. Since then, four more rounds of talks were held, with the last meeting lasting 16 days between the US team led by Khalilzad and the Taliban officials led by Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar. In 2017, the US president suggested that we would withdraw our troops from Afghanistan in accordance with the conditions prevailing. US president emphasized on open-ended military commitment in Afghanistan to "avert the rise of a space for terrorists. The Afghan security forces with the help of US troops raised air attacks on Taliban after the deadliest Taliban attacks in Kabul and other cities, in which they also acted against Taliban's financial core. Apart from this, the US administration also suspended security aid worth billions of dollars to Pakistan for its deception by patronizing Taliban militants who are enemies to international community. Until now just the Taliban got the advantages of peace negotiations, meanwhile the United Nations has lifted off the sunctions on more than 14 prime members of Taliban, consist Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, Anas Haqqani, Abbas Stanikzai and other member based in Qatar. As per the agreement in the peace process, Taliban members were provided with some special treatments and luxuries. On the other side Taliban has not shown any interest so as to commit anything concrete be it to the US or the Afghanistan government. In spite of US peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad having recently pronounced about Taliban's agreeing on averting "platform for international terrorist groups or individuals" getting shape in Afghanistan, the Taliban is carrying on its propaganda of violence. The Taliban had lately started its Al-Fath (Conquer) actions to expand its area of control [1].

The Taliban representatives and US met on May 1, 2019 in Qatar to lead negotiations in which the goal is to end a 17-years fighting in Afghanistan in the 6<sup>th</sup> round of the peace talks. The representative of US is Zalmay Khalilzad and for the Taliban side is Zabihullah Mujahid in peace negotiations in Doha. Nevertheless, the Taliban heads demand the withdrawal of US forces firstly, then peace can resolve.Khalilzad had mentioned that both parties reminded of an earlier agreement on the US and International troops withdrawal duration and the Taliban not to shelter the terroristic groups in Afghanistan again. Khalilzad is expected to motivate the terrorists involve afghan-to-afghan negotiations to get a political resolution to the 17-year war in Afghanistan. The Resolute Support Mission, which is training and assisting the Afghan security forces in the combat against the

Taliban combats and radical groups such as Islamic State and Al-Qaeda, which is led by US. US president Donald Trump decided to get an agreement to finish the US's longsome combat in which defeated the Taliban in Afghanistan after 9/11 bombing attacks [2].

Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, the Afghanistan president, has initiated the Loya Jirga through consultation with Afghan leaders. The Afghan Peace Consultative Loya Jirga was launched on April 30, 2019, with over 3,000 members under the presidency of Abdul Rab Rasul Sayyaf

(Afghan Jihadi leader). The Loya Jirga is expected to decide on how to peace with the Taliban.Ghani said at the opening of the Loya Jirga: "One of the duties of the representatives of the Loya Jirga is to define peace. Are the Taliban ready for peace? You guide these questions and demands of the people in relation to peace. Wahid Omar, a president advisor and a participant in the Peace Consultative Jirga, said that the views of the people from all over Afghanistan would be heard in the Jirga and could have a positive impact on the peace talks with the Taliban [3].

The NATO general secretary told: Afghanistan's peace without retaining 17years gains will not be sustainable. Mr. Stoltenberg the general secretary of NATO said that after the fall of the Taliban, Afghanistan has gone a long way in securing women's rights, which must be respected and retained in any peace deal with the Taliban. NATO Secretary General speech at the US Congress headquarters said NATO supports the peace process and the Afghan reconciliation process ... but peace is to be based on our achievements, to be a sustainable peace "NATO social and economic conditions in Afghanistan and brought provided the education and women's rights to women and girls. Their rights must be preserved. He addressed US lawmakers: the United States and NATO have entered Afghanistan together and will decide together on the future of the mission and withdrawal process from Afghanistan [4]. He added "NATO is fully will support the Afghan peace process, and the process should be the basis for Afghan national reconciliation, peace will set in Afghanistan, when the country is cleaned from international terrorists. Once again, he reassured the commitment of the NATO treaty to support Afghan security forces and said: "NATO will stays in Afghanistan, and fight against terrorism and train Afghan security forces.

The battle of Afghanistan is the longest and most costly mission of NATO since the founding of the organization. following the September 9, 2001, attacks under the fifth article of the treaty (an attack against one Ally is considered as an attack against all) [10], NATO led the United States to break the Taliban regime, invaded into Afghanistan [5]. The NATO secretary general says NATO entered Afghanistan with the United States and will also leave Afghanistan in coordination with US [6].

US troop withdrawal from Afghanistan: All the US troops will be withdrawn from Afghanistan during five years under a new Washington proposal for Afghan peace talks. The New York Times, by announcing the report, said the proposal was made during the peace talks with the parties involved in the conflict in Afghanistan. According to the report, recent peace talks are about to form a government in Kabul where the division of power with the Taliban is an irrefutable part of that. The New York Times reported that other members of the NATO Resolute Support mission Force in Afghanistan will leave Afghanistan after stabilizing the country along with American forces. according the news which broadcast from White House by the media. The withdrawal of half of the 14,000 US troops from Afghanistan in the coming months is part of the US government's plan. Accordingly, the European and Australian the Resolute Support Mission of NATO members despite training and advising Afghan security forces will be also responsible for major part of the operations assigned to US troops against terrorist attacks in Afghanistan [7-8].

The commander of NATO's Resolute Support mission and U.S. forces in Afghanistan told The peace negotiations in Afghanistan has shown progress from the first cease-fire in 18 years attacks and horror. The first cease-fire in the 2018 Ramadan's Eid made the Afghan people hopeful for peace and an end to violence on a national and international scale, And many groups all around Afghanistan -- the People's Peace Movement, religious [scholars], civil society, youth activists, women's groups -- were all calling for peace [9].

Implications of NATO Presence in Afghanistan:

•As the international forces' achievements in Afghanistan, we can point out to the creation of the ANA, the Afghan National Police, Afghan National Army and the Constitution of Afghanistan.

•The realization of human rights, especially women's rights, children's rights & democracy. Under the rule of the Taliban, women did not have the right to educate, which, with the creation of new government with the support of international community, Afghan women were able to defend their rights and find their place in social and political life. Now we can see the extensive contribution of the Afghan women in the high-ranking positions of the Afghan government.

•During the Civil War and the Taliban era, mostly parts of Afghanistan were devastated, and by initiative international forces under the PRT ( Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Afghanistan) building peace and security, road construction, bridge construction, the construction of hospitals, schools and universities were built [10-11].

Peace and its risks for Afghanistan Government: The United States Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconciliation warns that peace with the Taliban and the withdrawal of international forces can turn into the overthrow of the Afghan government. He said Without international assistance, the sustainability of the Afghan government is unlikely, he said that with the withdrawal of international troops and the cut off of their aid and, peace will not be sustainable and the government of Afghanistan cannot survive without the assistance of international partners. He warns that if peace is to take place and international forces withdraw from Afghanistan or leave the country quickly, the history will repeat as the president Najibullah (withdraw of Soviet troop). There are 300,000 Afghan security forces are serving in charge of securing the country, and if it caused that their salaries stepped down, or termination of their salaries due to cut off of our aid, this could be a serious threat to Afghanistan's security. A recent report by the Cigar shows that at least 60,000 Taliban warlords will join Afghanistan's society after Afghanistan gains peace.

With the withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan and the cessation of international assistance, cooperation and financial supporting the Afghan government and Afgan army, Afghanistan is once again threatened by the government's collapse, and the Najib government's destiny will be repeated again with Ashraf Ghani's government. In the first act of the United States, the United States and NATO, in accordance with the resolution on the war on terror, succeeded in eradicating the terrorists (the Taliban and al-Qaeda), and by operation enduring freedom US-led ISAF troops with cooperation of more than 40 countries. US counterpart operations fought against terror that in the first years managed to eradicate the Taliban from the center and provinces where the Taliban were mostly killed or fled to Pakistan.

Because at the time of the dictatorship of the extreme Taliban, people were living in horror and people were not happy with their decisions and rules, and were happy and optimistic about the overthrow of the Taliban government and the attacks of the United States and its allies.

But from the very first years until today, which the US forces mainly played the role of attacking militant sanctuaries and their disagreement with the Afghan forces and ISAF has caused heavy casualties from Afghan civilian populations, with thousands of homes In which innocent Afghan women and children have been killed in the attacks, which has caused anger of civilians, and it caused that people which are living in the areas which are under control of the Taliban, join the Taliban group and fight against afghan government and international troops and it is one of the reasons of empowerment of the Taliban and terrorists.

The peace process decision with the Taliban and the withdrawal of international forces from Afghanistan indicate US and NATO failed to Taliban militants, which could undermine the credibility (dignity) and power of the United States and NATO.18 years ago, following the 9/11 incident, US forces and their allies attacked Afghanistan on fighting international terrorism. During this time, thousands of afghan civilians and military forces were killed and billions of dollars were spent on war on terror, according to BBC report since the presidency of president Ghani till now, more than 45,000 troops and thousands of Afghan civilians have died.

With 18 years of international forces presence in Afghanistan, the security situation and political challenges in Afghanistan have not improved and have already worsened [12]. With the peace process and the completely withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan and the ending of their military and financial cooperation with the government and the Afghan National Army, it can be said that the government of Afghanistan may once again collapse by the extreme Taliban, which is a big threat to the region and the world. The conditions of Taliban with the US special envoy for the Afghan Peace Project (Zalmay

Khalilzad) in the sixth round of peace talks in Qatar has been very concernable for the Afghan government and the people of Afghanistan. Taliban leaders have not been willing to negotiate with Afghan government's officials, and their condition is that the United States and international troops withdraw from Afghanistan and demand a temporary government because they do not accept the Afghan government and the constitution, and want to create the Islamic state. However, the conditions of the government and the people of Afghanistan in the peace process are to preserve the achievements of the 18-year-olds, such as human rights, women's rights, and individual liberty and democracy.

## Conclusion

After 19 years of fighting with insurgents, international forces, with all their advanced capabilities and spending billions of dollars, could not defeat the enemy. After countless casualties that thousands of civilian and military afghans were killed and wounded and heavy casualties were sustained by international forces, recent decisions of the Afghan government and international partners (NATO member states) on supporting the peace process indicate that international forces have failed and the enemy has been stronger than before, and the international forces have not found alternative way but the negotiating option with the Taliban. With the withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan and the cessation of international assistance, cooperation and financial supporting the Afghan government and Afghan army, Afghanistan is once again threatened by the government's collapse, and the Najib government's destiny will be repeated again with Ashraf Ghani's government.

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#### ПОСЛЕДСТВИЯ ВЫВОДА МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫХ СИЛ ИЗ АФГАНИСТАНА (АФГАНСКИЙ МИРНЫЙ ПРОЦЕСС)

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Аннотация. Данная статья посвящена последствиям полномасштабного вывода международных сил из Афганистана, а также прекращению оказания помощи. В этой связи целью данной работы является определение важности присутствия международных сил в Афганистане. Мы также хотим представить наш анализ возможного будущего страны после вывода международных сил с учетом того, что Афганистан может снова стать убежищем террористов и это может повлечь за собой для афганцев и всего региона огромный вызов в их развитии.

За 19 лет присутствия международных сил в Афганистане ситуация в области безопасности и политические проблемы в Афганистане не улучшились, а уже ухудшились. С началом мирного процесса и полным выводом международных войск из Афганистана и прекращением их военного и финансового сотрудничества с правительством и Афганской национальной армией можно сказать, что правительство Афганистана может вновь рухнуть из-за экстремистского движения "Талибан", которое представляет большую угрозу региону и миру.

**Ключевые слова:** США, Исламская Республика Афганистан, НАТО, мирный процесс, Исламское государство, терроризм.

## ХАЛЫҚАРАЛЫҚ КҮШТЕРДІҢ АУҒАНСТАННАН ШЫҒАРЫЛУЫНЫҢ САЛДАРЫ (АУҒАН БЕЙБІТШІЛІК ПРОЦЕСІ) Хамиди Салахуддин<sup>1</sup>

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Аңдатпа. Бұл мақала халықаралық күштердің Ауғанстаннан толық көлемде шығарылуының салдарына, сондай-ақ көмек көрсетуді тоқтатуға арналған. Осыған байланысты бұл жұмыстың мақсаты Ауғанстандағы халықаралық күштердің қатысуының маңыздылығын анықтау болып табылады. Біз сондай-ақ халықаралық күштер шығарылғаннан кейін Ауғанстан қайтадан террористердің баспанасына айналуы мүмкін және бұл ауғандықтар мен бүкіл аймақ үшін олардың дамуына үлкен қауіп төндіруі мүмкін екенін ескере отырып, елдің мүмкін болатын болашағына жасалған талдауды ұсынғымыз келеді.

Ауғанстандағы халықаралық күштердің 19 жыл ішінде Ауғанстандағы қауіпсіздік саласындағы ахуал және саяси проблемалар жақсарған жоқ, керісінше нашарлады. Бейбітшілік процесінің басталуымен және халықаралық әскерлердің Ауғанстаннан толық шығарылуымен және олардың үкіметпен және Ауған ұлттық армиясымен әскери және қаржылық ынтымақтастығының тоқтатылуымен Ауғанстан үкіметі аймақ пен әлемге үлкен қауіп төндіретін "Талибан" экстремистік қозғалысының салдарынан қайтадан құлдырауы мүмкін деп айтуға болады.

**Тірек сөздер**: АҚШ, Ауғанстан Ислам Республикасы, НАТО, бейбітшілік процесі, Ислам мемлекеті, терроризм

Статья поступила 25.03.2021