

ACTIONS IN SOLIDARITY WITH AFGHANISTAN:

1. Keep current, Keep it alive and amplify Afghan voices

In a few weeks from now, the 'forgotten war' will live up to its name.

A non-exhaustive list of folks to follow (instagram handles)

@omar.haidari
@blingistan
@mindfullymona
@theafghan
@afgram
@burqasandbeer
@khadim96
@elyasalavi
@kabuldreams
@roya_heydari
@khyberkhan

@barialaikhoshhal
@nasimdadfar
@fatimahhossaini
@jafar_mosavi
@arash87films
@khaiber_nazimi
@aaawa
@saharfetrat1
@mooshtariiii
@shaistalatifmakes

Read

[The latest chapter in a shameful history of the US in Afghanistan.](#)

[How the world betrayed Afghanistan - The Pvblication](#)

[A new generation of Australian War Criminals](#)

[Sahar Fetrat, The storm before the hurricane - a personal essay on Afghanistan](#)

2. Donate what you can, every small effort in an distributed capacity helps

There are a lot of charities going around so be sure to give what you can to reputable ones. If you can, become a regular donor so that you go on helping when the rest of the world loses interest. Here are only some charities you can give to:

Baba Mazari Foundation (on the ground and active)

[The Kabul hospital needs consistent support](#)

[Hand to Hand Sadaqa Group](#)

[World orphan foundation](#)

[Emergency fund for afghan artists](#)

[Afghanistan National Institute of Music Emergency Fund](#)

[We oppose the white saviour complex but....Ben Quilty's UNHCR fundraiser will have impact](#)

3. Sign

Petitions have enormous potential to also speak truth to power. If you see a petition, read it, sign it, circulate it. Here are some petitions you can sign now.

www.actionforafghanistan.com.au

www.australianartsforafghanistan.com.au

4. On Monday: Call Scotty from Marketing and Marise Payne

Scotty from Marketing:

(02) 6277 7700

Marise Payne

(02) 9687 8755

TEMPLATE LETTER TO THE MINISTER:

alex.hawke.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Minister Hawke,

[1. Provide brief context on scope of information - make sure to highlight urgency of immediate action. Should be 3 - 4 sentences. An example is provided below]

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the situation unfolding in Afghanistan over the past few weeks. The situation in Afghanistan is extremely volatile, and Australia's role in the crisis cannot be ignored.

Afghan people, specifically historically disenfranchised groups like Hazara Shias, are at extreme risk under the new regime. The Taliban have a long and sordid history of targeting marginalised and minority groups within Afghanistan, including women, children, LGBTQIA+ individuals, journalists, artists, and people with disabilities. For the Afghans who assisted and worked alongside Australian forces these past 20 years, and have now been essentially abandoned, the risk to their security and potential revenge killings by the Taliban is paramount. It is not only these individuals who will now be targeted, but their families also.

[2. add a personal element. 2- 3 sentences. Personalised letters are more likely to be read. So please do not disregard the importance of this! Some helpful prompts: write about your experiences living or settling in Australia, your emotions watching the news.]

[3. List the actions you want the Minister to take.]

- **Grant permanent protection** to refugees from Afghanistan already in Australia on temporary visas. These people now face severe mental distress, fear and isolation, they cannot continue living in limbo.
- **Expand Australia's refugee resettlement program with a specific Afghan intake**, as you did in 2015 when an additional 12,000 places were offered to people fleeing Syria and welcomed any initiatives in that direction.
- **Urgent humanitarian aid** for the over 500,000 internally and externally displaced Afghans with a focus on emergency shelter, food, water, sanitation and cash assistance.
- The intake should **prioritise family members of Afghans in Australia, and members of groups that are at particular risk of persecution in Afghanistan** – including Hazara peoples, women and girls, and LGBTQIA+ people, especially artists, musicians, journalists and those most outspoken against the Taliban.
- **Support and sustain development pathways for Afghan artists, creatives and academics** through arts councils and not-for-profit organisations in Australian and globally.

[4. Finish by reiterating the urgency of the situation. Add something to pad their ego if you can stomach it. An example is provided below, do not hesitate to personalise it as you see fit]

I am deeply upset at the failure of our government to ensure that upon departing from Afghanistan, the relevant support networks were not in place to prevent these catastrophic events. I urge you to, utilise your position as a leader among our community, and represent the calls from your constituents and ensure that Australia supports Afghans now in their time of need. We ask that Australia keep its promises primarily to those Afghans and their families who are now at extreme risk for helping us, and to Afghanistan itself. We cannot stand by and watch one of the biggest humanitarian crises of our time unfold without doing our utmost to help.

I look forward to your prompt response and thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Post code