

Call for the Human Rights Defenders Network (HRD+) to combat the spread of the culture of immunity against war crimes and human rights violations in Afghanistan by some governments around the world.

STOP NORMALIZING IMMUNITY FOR WAR CRIMINALS AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATORS!

Some governments have been attempting to grant immunity to individuals who are on international blacklists for committing human rights violations and war crimes, despite facing legal, political, and economic sanctions from the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). These individuals are being granted travel visas and the freedom to travel between countries, a move strongly criticized by HRD+.

Committee 1988, based on decisions from the UNSC, is demanding all UN member states take serious action against these individuals, refraining from granting them immunity and legal freedom in their territories. This principle is rooted in international law and requires the global community to adhere to it.

HRD+ is expressing deep objection to the Russian government for inviting Taliban ministers of education and higher education to the country. The Taliban administration has denied Afghan girls and children their fundamental right to education for over 1000 days, which HRD+ views as a historical crime. The decision by Russia, a member of the UNSC, to invite Taliban ministers for negotiations goes against human rights standards and ethical values in global and regional government relations.

HRD+ criticizes the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia for inviting and hosting Taliban leaders who have a dark and terrifying history of terrorism. We strongly condemn this irresponsible act and demand the UN sanctions and monitoring committee to take decisive and deterrent action. If not, citizens of the world will lose trust in their ability to uphold human rights.

We urge human rights activists, institutions, and monitoring mechanisms in Afghanistan to declare their position on the innocence and immunity of war criminals and human rights abusers separately, and ask world governments to adhere to accepted international human rights standards as outlined in the conventions.

We expect media and civil society in Afghanistan, both within and outside the country, to align with human rights defenders in advocating for the prohibition of immunity against war crimes and human rights abuses. They should initiate national and global campaigns and launch national prosecution efforts in this regard.

We demand human rights defenders globally to speak out loudly against the immunity and normalization of war criminals and human rights abusers, both nationally and internationally. No one has the right to stay silent in the face of crimes against humanity. We will express our disgust and hatred towards those who normalize such crimes and will not remain silent in this important arena.

In hopes of respecting human dignity in Afghanistan and ensuring the rule of law in the light of human rights values.

HRD+