

RESOLUTION

In support of the world-wide campaign on #StopHazaraGenocide in Afghanistan

While condemning the systematic and targeted attacks on Hazaras in Afghanistan, in particular the recent attack at Kaaj Educational Center in Kabul in which 56 students, most of whom were female, were killed and at least 115 were injured on 30 September 2022, we gather in solidarity with the Hazara community who are subjected to genocide in Afghanistan.

As part of the world-wide campaign to **#StopHazaraGenocide**, which has, as of 6 October 2022, mobilized more than five million supporters on Twitter alone, we present the following specific demands to the international community:

- We call on the United Nations and the broader international community to recognize the systematic attacks
 against the Hazaras in Afghanistan as a crime of genocide. These attacks bear the hallmark of all elements
 of the crime of genocide as per the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of
 Genocide.
- 2. We call on the United Nations to urgently form a Commission of Inquiry into the genocide of Hazara people in Afghanistan. The Commission should have the full mandate to investigate, gather information and report to the United Nations on their findings and to recommend specific measures to stop and prosecute the crimes of genocide against Hazara people in Afghanistan.
- 3. We call on all countries in the international community to take urgent measures for the protection of the Hazaras in Afghanistan, including by creating an internationally assisted and monitored self-defence mechanism.
- 4. We call on the International Criminal Court to open a case on the atrocities faced by the Hazara people in Afghanistan and to investigate genocide against Hazaras.
- 5. We call on all countries to prioritize the resettlement of Hazara refugees as a special group of highly vulnerable people under serious threat of genocide in Afghanistan.

Context:

The current spate of systematic attacks on Hazaras fulfil elements of the definition of genocide. These attacks have been specifically targeting Hazaras across Afghanistan and in all aspects of their public lives.

The Hazaras have long faced relentless systematic violence based on membership in an ethnic and belief group. Under the Taliban regime in the late 1990s, Hazaras faced at least nine cases of massacres. In one instance, the Taliban massacred over 2000 Hazaras in Mazar-e Sharif according to *Human Rights Watch*. Although, other sources have recorded the number of victims in this single instance with over 15,000. According to a recent study, the Hazaras of Afghanistan have endured nearly 300 attacks since 2002. These attacks, however, have a longer history.

These attacks amount to the crime of genocide, and fulfil the elements described in Article II of the *Genocide Convention* of 1948. This had led international organizations like the *US Holocaust Memorial Museum* and *Genocide Watch* to raise the alarm on Hazara genocide. While we honour the victims of widespread violence in Afghanistan from all ethnic groups, the Hazaras face such systematic attacks merely based on ethnicity and faith, and because Hazaras strongly and openly adhere to human rights, especially women's rights, freedom of speech and education.

Since August 2021, genocidal attacks against the Hazaras have increased significantly, with an emerging pattern of targeting Hazara youths. These systematic attacks have made it difficult for the Hazara people to exist, as the Hazaras are attacked in educational centres, places of worship, hospitals, sporting facilities, public gathering, highways, wedding halls and schools. Therefore, we believe that the Hazaras are enduring a continued genocide in Afghanistan. **Media:** worldhazaracouncil@gmail.com