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Európsky parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

Federica Mogherini

High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission

Brussels, 27 March 2019

Dear High Representative,

We, undersigned Members of the European Parliament, are writing to you concerning the latest raids of schools in Mezar-I Sherif, Herat and Shibirgan provinces and general situation about the CAG Educational NGO and its staff in Afghanistan.

As a result, we were informed by several sources and human rights organizations that these schools and their staff have been under extreme pressure in Afghanistan due to the political spill over of the current political developments in Turkey. 6 schools, including dormitories in Mezar-I Sherif, Shibirgan and Herat have been raided by police forces after midnight just to enable Turkish government supported Maarif Foundation to take over the schools illegally.

Cag Schools in Afghanistan have been giving very successful high-level education for the last 23 years and have heavily contributed to Afghan education by having more than 8 thousand enrolled students. We separately support Cag Educational NGO intensified efforts and success for girls' education in Afghanistan, which is one of the core problems in the country.

These schools and their staff proved themselves to be of major importance, contributing to education and social co-existence in Afghanistan.

We, therefore, urge you and the EEAS, notably through the EU Delegation to Afghanistan, to use all the means at your disposal to ensure a safe atmosphere for CAG Educational NGO and its staff in Afghanistan.

Yours sincerely,

Ana Gomes (S&D)

Patricia Lalonde (ALDE)



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