



**HUMAN RIGHTS**  
DEFENDERS PLUS



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Human Rights Defenders Plus

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## **HRD+ Statement on the deplorable situation of Afghan refugees and migrants in Pakistan**

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The government of Pakistan has decided to deport Afghan refugees and migrants from that country. Following this decision, the Pakistani government has so far detained hundreds of immigrants (including immigrants with legal residency documents) in different cities across the country. In many cases, Pakistani police have beaten large numbers of immigrants and not only insulted and humiliated these people, but also detained them in special shelters. Reportedly, those detained are treated like criminals, their health and nutritional conditions are alarming, and these people are deprived of the most basic human rights. Meanwhile, children, the sick, the elderly, and women are in poor condition and in urgent need of legal and humanitarian assistance.

The Human Rights Defenders Plus (HRD+), which is closely monitoring the situation, calls on all regional and international institutions dealing with refugee and migrant issues, in particular the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to intervene in this matter with immediate measures and to stop the Government of Pakistan from this inappropriate and inhumane treatment as soon as possible.

Due to the lack of legitimate government and social justice, widespread poverty, war, and gender apartheid, Afghan migrants have left their country in search of safer destinations and sought asylum. HRD+ calls on human rights institutions at the national, regional, and international levels, particularly the United Nations Human Rights Council, to send a delegation to Pakistan as soon as possible, including the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights situation of Afghanistan and other related human rights institutions, to discuss and negotiate this matter with Pakistani authorities. HRD+ also calls on the member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to fulfill their responsibility to resolve the problems of Afghan immigrants in Pakistan and provide urgent and sustained assistance.

In some cases, the governments of Iran and Pakistan use immigrants politically to achieve their political goals in the region. HRD+ calls on the United Nations missions in Pakistan and Afghanistan to appoint a working group of legal, sociological, political, and economic researchers to address this crisis and provide realistic mandates to the region's governments, international institutions, and organizations dealing with immigration issues. HRD+ also appeals to the member states of the Refugee Convention, in particular the member states of the European Union, to support this request.

**Hoping that the human dignity and human rights of all refugees and immigrants around the world will be respected**

**Human Rights Defenders Plus (HRD+)**