

The Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs have the pleasure of inviting you to a seminar on:

Afghanistan: Perspectives for a Peaceful Solution
Tuesday, 11 January 2011, 14.45-17.00
Danish Institute for International Studies
Main Auditorium
Strandgade 71, ground floor, 1401 Copenhagen K

Background

Afghanistan is facing a number of key challenges: The transition of security responsibilities from foreign forces to the Afghan National Security Forces, and at some stage the exit of foreign forces; a likely reconciliation and reintegration process with insurgents and the political consequences of that; the need for progress in governance and development; the relationship with its neighbors. All at the backdrop of a prolonged conflict, that has had dire human and developmental consequences for Afghanistan and has framed international relations for the last ten years.

The debate on Afghanistan has become more and more polarized with those calling for a rapid exit of foreign troops arguing that the present military involvement is part of the problem rather than the solution; and those stating that international involvement (also military) in Afghanistan is a key requirement for peace and stability in the country, region and globally. What, in the view of the government of Afghanistan, are the perspectives for continued international involvement, the possible political solutions, and the overall benefit of the present international involvement in Afghanistan? And what can the international community in turn expect from the Afghan government in areas such as governance and development?

Dr. Zalmay Rassoul was nominated Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in January 2010. Prior to his appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs, dr. Zalmay Rassoul served as National Security Advisor of Afghanistan since June 2002. As National Security Adviser, dr. Rassoul rendered a constructive role in collaborating activities of Afghan security institutions with Afghanistan's foreign policy. Moreover, among his numerous responsibilities included conducting national threat assessments and National Security Policy. Dr. Zalmay Rassoul is a multi-linguist who speaks Pashto, Dari, English, French, Italian and Arabic.

Programme

- 14.45-15.20 Registration and Coffee
Doors will close 15.20, after which entry is NOT possible
- 15.30-15.35 Welcome
Nanna Hvidt, Director, DIIS
- 15.35-16.15 Afghanistan: Perspectives for a Peaceful Solution
Dr. Zalmay Rassoul, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- 16.15-17.00 Panel – Open Discussion
Lars Erslev Andersen, Senior Researcher, DIIS
Stine Heiselberg, PhD Candidate, DIIS

Practical Information

The seminar will be held in English.

For security reasons, doors will close 15.20, after which entry is NOT possible.

Participation is free of charge, but registration is required. The number of seats will be limited. Please use our online registration form no later than Friday, 7 January 2011 at 12.00 noon.

Registration

Yes please, I would like to register for the DIIS event mentioned above:

Full Name, Organisation, and E-mail must be filled out. If a field is not filled out, the form cannot be sent

Please await confirmation by e-mail from DIIS for participation. If you have not received a confirmation from us within 2 workdays, please contact us directly, email: event@diis.dk or telephone +45 32 69 87 51.