



Afghanistan Independent Bar Association in Exile

Statement of the Afghanistan Independent Bar Association in Exile On the Forced, Illegal, and Inhumane Expulsion of Afghan Migrants by the Islamic Republic of Iran

Brussels, July 2, 2025

With deep regret and grave concern, the Afghanistan Independent Bar Association in Exile strongly condemns the widespread and organized wave of arrests, pressure, and forced deportations of Afghan migrants by the Islamic Republic of Iran in recent weeks. These actions not only violate the principles of international law but also constitute a blatant breach of human rights norms, particularly the rights of asylum seekers and migrants in vulnerable situations.

Among those deported are many individuals who face serious risks of persecution, torture, and even death at the hands of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. Returning such individuals to a place where their life and freedom are in danger is in direct violation of the principle of **non-refoulement**, one of the fundamental tenets of international humanitarian law.

Furthermore, the Iranian government has deported these migrants by force without providing them a fair opportunity to settle their legal obligations, vacate rented homes, withdraw bank deposits, or receive their legal wages and benefits. Such actions violate their property rights, labor rights, and the right to fair legal recourse.

On behalf of the Afghan legal community, we call for the following:

1. **Immediate cessation of forced deportations** and assessment of refugee claims in accordance with international standards, particularly the Geneva Convention;
2. **Respect for the principle of non-refoulement** for migrants facing serious security threats;
3. **Legal opportunity for migrants to settle financial, property, banking, and contractual matters before leaving Iran;**
4. **Active involvement of international organizations**, especially the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in monitoring, documenting, and preventing further violations of migrants' rights;
5. **International pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran** to honor its obligations toward refugees and migrants under international law.

The Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA) in exile seeks to preserve the identity of the AIBA and its members, while safeguarding the achievements made over the past 20 years. It is committed to providing legal services to lawyers and defending the rights of citizens, with a particular focus on protecting the rights of women.

Address: Rue Abbé Cuyper 3 - 1040 Etterbeek Brussels Belgium

Email: info@aibaie.org

Website: www.aibaie.org

انجمن مستقل وکلای مدافع افغانستان در تبعید



په تبعید کی دمدافع وکیلانو خپلواکه ټولنه

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Call for Cooperation from Iranian Bar Association

We respectfully request the Iranian Independent Bar Association, as well as other legal professionals and equivalent institutions in the Islamic Republic of Iran, to engage with us in a spirit of humanitarian and legal responsibility. We urge them to assist in documenting these violations, providing legal advice to migrants, pursuing their violated rights, and raising public and international awareness of this alarming situation. The cooperation of committed legal institutions and lawyers in Iran can play a crucial role in alleviating human suffering and preventing further violations of Afghan migrants' rights.

We declare that the international community and human rights organizations must not remain silent in the face of this humanitarian tragedy. Afghan migrants are among the victims of ongoing political and security crises in the region, and they deserve dignity, compassion, and support—not rejection and humiliation.

For Media Inquiries, Contact:

Email: Info@aibaie.org

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