

سفارت و نمایندگی جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان روم - ایتالیا EMBASSY & MISSION *of* THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC *of* AFGHANISTAN Rome - Italy

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوريت سفارت او نمايندگي روم - ايټاليا

## In the Name of Almighty God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

President Anastasio, Director Scaini, President Di Nunzio, Ms. Valentini, Distinguished Speakers and Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

## Good afternoon.

First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude for inviting me to this valuable Webinar titled "The Exponential Evolution of the Phenomenon of Terrorism". Please accept my sincere apology for not being able to personally join your Webinar due to prior engagements. However, I will be at your full disposal both in person and virtual in your upcoming events. My appreciation also goes to my dearest friend Sarah for notifying me about this webinar and agreeing to read this short speech.

At this juncture, I would also like to thank the government and the people of Italy, particularly the brave Italian Armed forces, for all their sacrifices rendered both in blood and treasure in Afghanistan. Rest be assured, these sacrifices will not only be cherished by the people of Afghanistan, but it will be marked as immortal in the contemporary history of Afghanistan. We are also indebted for Italy's contribution in evacuation and providing home in Italy for many Afghans through the humanitarian corridor.

This afternoon as you are all participating at this webinar, a genocidal terrorist attack hit a massive crowd of young ethnic Afghan Hazara students, especially girls while taking a university entrance exam at Kaaj Academy located in Dashte Barchi of Kabul, Afghanistan. May Almighty God open the gates of paradise to those that were killed, and we wish a speedy recovery for those wounded, fortitude, and eventual closure for the families of the innocent that were killed.

## Dear Friends,

Since the illegitimate takeover of power by the Taliban in Afghanistan, my country has seen another surge in terrorists' activities. Though the UN, US, EU, and other states have condemned, and at times, have send fact-finding missions



to investigate these crimes against humanity, but the international community's engagement with the Taliban regime has failed due to not utilizing their soft, hard, and smart power accordingly. This sort of engagement has further emboldened the Taliban, their indigenous and non-indigenous affiliates inside Afghanistan, as well as other terrorist organizations around the world to further perpetuate this phenomenon.

In fact, immediately after the Taliban takeover of power in Afghanistan, in a series of interviews, I indicated: 1. Contrary to our American friends claim that the Americas Long War Has Ended, the World's Most Complex Against Global Terrorism, has begun starting from Afghanistan; 2. There are no moderate Islamist terrorists, they are all radical and some might be considered opportunistic and pragmatic; 3. If we do not engage with the Taliban under our own terms and conditions and utilize our powers to exert pressure on them, this phenomena will increase exponentially in the next decade and the world soon will witness far worse terrorist incidents then of the Sept. 11, 2002 attack; and 4. The Doha Agreement signed between the US and the Taliban group is deemed the turning point in contemporary history of international relations, where for the first time legitimacy was given to terrorist group.

Using Afghanistan situation under the Taliban terrorist group as a case study and as an academic correlate, I would like to provide the following premises as it relates to the exponential evolution of the phenomenon of terrorism:

<u>**Premise One-**</u>Today's Struggle is: the West against the Taliban, their terrorist affiliates inside and outside Afghanistan, and states and non-state actors that either sponsor terrorism and/or have ill national interests toward the domination of the world democracies.

**<u>Premise Two-</u>** The so called false and bombastic claim to victory by the Taliban against the US, EU, and NATO, questions our US, EU and NATO partner's military, economic, political, diplomatic, and utility as well as their wisdom, resolve and will in addressing and fighting against the upcoming future conflicts around the world.

<u>**Premise Three-</u>**Terrorist Organizations given political and physical space, in this case Taliban overseeing the state structure, having access to money, enjoying free movement around the world, possessing military weapons, gaining non-official form of diplomatic recognition, and controlling the territory of Afghanistan, shall embolden other terrorist groups to overthrow legitimate and democratic</u>



governments around the globe to assume power, especially governments in Central Asia and in North Africa.

<u>**Premise Four-</u>**The so-called victory by the Taliban, shall lead to Home Grown Terrorism around the world.</u>

<u>Premise Five-Emerging Democratic movements and constitutional democracies</u> around the world shall become discouraged and distanced from other world democracies, especially from the US and EU, because democratic values and human rights enshrined in the living constitution of Afghanistan was ignored and the people of Afghanistan were abandoned by the West.

<u>**Premise Six-**</u>States that house and espouse terrorist organizations by wanting to deflect their own domestic problems, specifically shift terrorist niches from their own territory to a neighboring country, will further support the creation and financing of terrorist client states around the world.

**Premise Seven-**As Afghanistan will become the center of illegal drug production and trade, terror financing, money laundering, and human trafficking being run by a state cartel known as the Taliban, this will have an adverse effect on Europe and North America such as an increase in migration and human and narcotic trafficking.

<u>Premise Eight-</u> In case of the diplomatic recognition of Taliban, where most of their leaders are on the UN Sanction list and US Blacklist, this will embolden the terror groups around the world not only to propagate their views and show that democracy has failed, but also continue their terrorist activities without any impunity and free of movement restrictions around the world.

Hence, it is my belief that we as responsible members of this global community must act fast to coalesce our efforts to not only provide awareness through such webinar platforms, but must also lobby with civil society, media, think tanks and various international organizations to echo our sentiments against terrorism with all its forms and manifestations. We must continue to seek a principled negotiated settlement with the Taliban and groups alike, but if these efforts fails, we must eliminate these groups that have assumed state power and root out those that are on the verge of doing so.

## Thank you.