

The logo for Solidarity Group Afghanistan is a solid orange rectangle containing the text "SOLIDARITÄTSGRUPPE" in a smaller font above "AFGHANISTAN" in a larger, bold font, both in white.

**Date:** July 01, 2024

**Time:** 7PM – 9 PM

**Location:** Veronikagasse 10, 1170 Wien

## Gender Apartheid in Afghanistan

**Organized by:** Civic Engagement Project & Afghanistan Solidarity group

**Facilitated by:** Metra Mehran and Farhat Ariana

### Background

Afghanistan is the only country where women are systematically deprived of basic human rights through laws and policies, including the right to education, employment, freedom of movement, freedom of expression, and the practice of culture and art. They lack access to justice as laws and institutions that supported women, such as the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law, have been abolished. These have been replaced by the Taliban's Ministry of Vice and Virtue, which violently enforces draconian laws that dehumanize women and girls in Afghanistan.

This system of governance by an internationally recognized terrorist regime has dehumanized women since the Taliban's takeover in August 2021. Women from Afghanistan, both inside the country and in exile, have shared their experiences under this systematic, and institutionalized system of governance as gender apartheid. They have been advocating and mobilizing efforts to codify gender apartheid into international law. Denying a girl the right to go to school and a woman the right to work should be illegal.

### Purpose of the Event

With ongoing efforts to codify gender apartheid in international law, there is significant momentum and interest among Afghan women to make this happen. This event aims to provide a platform for women in different countries to:

- Understand gender apartheid and the codification process.
- Explore existing opportunities for advocacy.
- Learn how to effectively mobilize as the Afghan diaspora community to create social and political solidarity and support for this cause.

### Agenda

07:00 - 07:20	Introductions – Farhat Ariana
07:20 - 08:00	Presentation on Gender Apartheid - Metra Mehran
08:00 - 08:15	Coffee break
08:15 - 09:00	Breakout groups - 3 breakout groups to focus on following thematic areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• State engagement</li><li>• Austrian and Afghanistan diaspora Civil society engagement</li><li>• Youth Mobilization</li></ul>
09:00 - 09:30	Reporting Back & Summarizing action points and moving forward together
9:30	Dinner

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