



Afghanistan - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on 17 August 2012

Information on the stability of the Afghan government.

In August 2012 *The Guardian* states:

“Afghanistan's parliament has voted to remove the country's two top security ministers from their jobs, a move that could disrupt the handover from western to Afghan troops, and destabilise a government already under pressure over corruption.” (The Guardian (4 August 2012) *Afghan parliament votes ministers out*)

A report issued in August 2012 by *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* notes:

“Afghanistan's parliament has moved to address cracks in the main pillars of national security. Now President Hamid Karzai is left to make sure his fragile government is not undermined. The legislature's votes of no confidence in Defense Minister Abdul Rahim Wardak and Interior Minister Bismullah Mohammadi on August 4 were unexpected, and have the potential to cause far-reaching upheaval.” (Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (10 August 2012) *The Afghan Government's Crisis Of (No) Confidence*)

This document also states:

“Karzai's government is under mounting pressure both domestically and from the international community to tackle rampant corruption.” (ibid)

A publication in July 2012 by *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* points out that:

“Afghanistan's next presidential elections are currently scheduled to take place in 2014 – the same year as NATO-led international combat troops plan to withdraw from the country. Earlier this year, Karzai discussed the possibility of bringing the elections forward to 2013. Speaking at a press conference in April, Karzai said he wasn't sure whether Afghanistan would be able to handle "the complete return of international forces to their homes from Afghanistan and the holding of the presidential election at the same time.” (Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (12 July 2012) *Karzai challenges Taliban chief to run for Afghan president*)

References

The Guardian (4 August 2012) *Afghan parliament votes ministers out*
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/aug/04/afghan-parliament-votes-ministers-out?INTCMP=SRCH>
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<http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain?page=printdoc&docid=5000254ae>

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This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

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European Country of Origin Information Network
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