

Press Release**Russia is a Colonialist State and a Historical Enemy of Islam and Muslims like the US, and Strengthening Political Relations with this State is Extremely Worrying!**

Zamir Kabulov, Putin's special envoy, met with Afghan foreign minister during his trip to Afghanistan. In this meeting, the foreign minister of the caretaker government appreciated Russia's supportive position in regional and international meetings, and while calling Afghanistan's relations with Russia essential, he emphasized further strengthening of political and commercial relations between the two countries. Related to this trip, the Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan also visited Afghanistan and emphasized the expansion of trade relations between the two countries.

The Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir / Wilayah Afghanistan declares its political position regarding these trips as follows:

**First**, we consider the rapprochement of Afghanistan with Russia and its proxies, such as Kazakhstan – that want to strengthen their political interaction by vowing to expand trade relations – extremely worrying, and we warn the current rulers concerning the consequences of such relations both in this world and the Hereafter. In fact, Russia is not different from US, EU and China in its hostility towards Islam and Muslims. So, we must consider Russia as a colonialist state and a historical enemy of Islam and Muslims.

**Second**, as Muslims, we must not forget the horrible and historical crimes of Russia in Afghanistan, Central Asia, the Caucasus, especially Chechnya, and also in Africa. We must never forget the massacre of Muslims in Syria by the Russian government ordered by the criminal Putin. In fact, Muslims are one Ummah – their war and peace are one. Russia's crimes against the Muslims residing in Russia, Central Asia, Chechnya, Syria and Africa should be seen similar to that of their crimes against the Muslim people of Afghanistan.

**Third**, after the orchestration of Ukraine war, Russia has been under economic and political sanctions from the West. Russia and Central Asia's restorative engagement with Afghanistan is aimed at bypassing these sanctions and finding new transit and trade routes. At the same time, Russia is extremely concerned regarding the existence of Mujahidin and the idea of 'Jihad' in Afghanistan. For this reason, Russia's political interests require it to adopt a policy of close engagement and interaction with the Afghan government. While it was the same Russia that added the 'Taliban movement' in the list of 'terrorist groups' in 2003. But now according to its modified interests, it shows a new face to the current rulers. As a matter of fact, enmity and hatred towards Islam and Muslims is deeply carved in the hearts of Russian politicians.

We encourage those who pay shallow glances at the political events and actions of the countries to dive deeper by contemplating broadly on political actions and not be deceived by pleasant words, moderate positions and eye-catching policies of the colonialist states. We emphasize to our Mujahid brothers to look at political events and realities from the lens of Islamic belief, not just from that of the existing political realities and from the perspective of national interests. Because those who claim for adoption of Islam are not allowed to see political events with non-Islamic perspective.

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَّخِذُوا الْكَافِرِينَ أَوْلِيَاءَ مِن دُونِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَتُرِيدُونَ أَن تَجْعَلُوا لِلَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ سُلْطَانًا مُّبِينًا ﴾

***"O believers! Take not infidels for friends except believers. Do you wish that you may provide clear proof for Allah against yourselves?" [An-Nisaa: 144]***

Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir  
in Wilayah Afghanistan