

## Women's rights in Afghanistan

Taliban *de facto* authorities recently issued an announcement that women should only leave their homes in cases of necessity and then, with their faces covered in public. Following Taliban authorities' announcement, the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) issued a statement of deep concern<sup>1</sup>.

On this point, it should be pointed out that this is one of the numerous violations of women's rights that are taking place in Afghanistan since the Taliban took over Kabul on 15 August 2021. As the first "*gender alert*"<sup>2</sup> - issued by UN Women - revealed, violence against women, child marriages and the exclusion of girls from schools<sup>3</sup> are some of the phenomena that have acquired disturbing dimensions.

As the "gender alert" concludes, despite Taliban's assurances that rights of women and girls will be respected under Islamic law, there is a rapid reversal of their rights across all areas of life.

It seems that the country's humanitarian crisis is worsening day by day<sup>4</sup>. Recent reports revealed that a staggering 95 per cent of Afghans are not getting enough to eat, a number that jumped to almost 100 per cent in female-headed households. Within this context, UN representatives draw the attention on the importance of international solidarity and the need to support Afghans.

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1 <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/05/1117762>

2 <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2021/12/gender-alert-womens-rights-in-afghanistan>

3 <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/03/1114482>

4 <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/03/1114102>