



# Fulfilling America's Promise:

## Options to make U.S. humanitarian protection pathways viable for at-risk Afghans

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Tens of thousands of at-risk and U.S.-affiliated Afghans who are eligible for humanitarian protection in the United States remain in danger inside Afghanistan or in third countries. Despite overwhelming popular support to fulfill America's promise to protect these Afghans, the U.S. is falling tragically short.

In a **new report**, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), InterAction, and Human Rights First lay out several options available to the Biden Administration to provide these Afghans **viable humanitarian pathways out of Afghanistan and third countries and into the U.S.**

### The U.S. government has already stated its commitment to protect several groups of at-risk Afghans, which include:

- Those affiliated with the U.S. government and their family members
- Religious minorities
- Human rights activists
- Journalists
- Women and girls
- LGBTQ+ individuals, and others

### The report outlines how the administration can bring these at-risk Afghans to safety.

- **For Afghans in Afghanistan, the U.S. should:**
  1. Screen for their eligibility for immigration pathways to the U.S. remotely,
  2. Work with international organizations in Afghanistan who can meet in-person with eligible Afghans, and then
  3. Issue consular appointments in third countries that, with the assistance of the U.S., can clear the path for Afghans to enter a third country.
- **For Afghans in third countries, the Administration must take immediate steps to:**
  - Speed up safe transit to overseas U.S. facilities for continued processing, and
  - Expedite access to the U.S. through pathways such as the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) Program, and humanitarian parole.

In the past, the U.S. has assisted people fleeing imminent danger from countries without a formal and physical diplomatic U.S. presence, and it can do so again. Through a unified and coordinated executive branch response, **the Biden administration can fulfill America's promise of safe passage to those left behind.**