

CENTER FOR CONFLICT AND HUMANITARIAN STUDIES

Call for Chapters

Afghanistan After 2021: Beyond the Framing of Crisis and Emergency

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Afghanistan has undergone a significant political transformation following the collapse of the country's Islamic Republic regime and the Taliban's return to power in August 2021. With a population of over 40 million people, Afghanistan has once again been cast as a theatre of crises and emergency interventions, characterised by humanitarian, political, and socioeconomic challenges, as well as risks to regional and international stability. While such framings might have been needed at times, they can lead to an overreliance on a 'crisis management' approach, obscuring the country's complex and historically rooted social, political, and economic realities.

This edited volume invites critical reflections that draw not only on evidence-based analysis but also on Afghanistan's historical, structural, and regional continuities and disruptions. The aim is to situate Afghanistan and its people within the enduring patterns that have shaped the country and its neighbourhood, and to reconsider how past experiences (local, national, and transnational) – among other elements – can help offer practical solutions, illuminating our understanding of Afghanistan. Furthermore, the edited volume will centre on identifying viable entry points for building longterm peace and the prevention of yet another cycle of war and violence in the country.

Contributions are encouraged to situate Afghanistan's post-2021 realities within broader historical, regional, and thematic contexts, including but not limited to:

- State formation, theorising of governance and state
- Institutional resilience and building functioning institutions
- Social transformations (including Islam and religious actors), dynamics of the social contract
- Migration, internal displacement, and population movement/mobility across time and borders
- Local agency, development, and the realm of ideas, including on gender
- Shifting regional geopolitics and patterns of cooperation and/or conflict
- The role of international organisations and global policy frameworks
- Historical cycles of intervention, withdrawal, and Afghan adaptation

This volume welcomes submissions from scholars, researchers (including early career researchers), policy experts, practitioners, and graduate students. We especially welcome submissions by those with field-based experience or origins in Afghanistan and the broader Global South.

Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts of 350 to 500 words (in English)
- A short author biography (max. 150 words) should accompany submissions
- Abstracts should be received by 31 July2025

Please send abstracts to

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