

2. Actors of persecution or serious harm

COMMON ANALYSIS
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For general guidance on the country guidance approach to actors of persecution or serious harm, see 'EUAA, Actors of persecution or serious harm in *Country Guidance: explained*, February 2026'.

The contents of this chapter include:

- 2.1. Taliban *de facto* authorities and affiliated groups
- 2.2. Resistance groups opposing the Taliban
- 2.3. Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP)
- 2.4. Other actors
- 2.5. Regional actors

In Afghanistan, a wide range of different groups and individuals can be considered as actors of persecution or serious harm, and a clear distinction between State and non-State actors within the meaning of Article 6 QR may be difficult to make. Applicants might be at risk of persecution or serious harm by more than one actor.

The following sub-sections highlight the main actors of persecution and serious harm in Afghanistan as well as their areas of control/activity, in a non-exhaustive manner.

For further information on human rights violations committed by different State and non-State actors and their relevance as potential exclusion grounds, see 7. Exclusion.

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