



Hamid Karzai International Airport, August 16, 2021.
(Photo by Haroon Sabawoon, via Getty Images.)

Migration from Afghanistan After the American Withdrawal

Thursday, November 4, 2021, at 4 pm.
via Zoom, <https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/86509495243>

In August 2021, after years of involvement in Afghanistan, the United States military withdrew chaotically, leading to a Taliban takeover of the entire country. These events endangered the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in Afghanistan who'd worked closely with the United States since late 2001. The UCSB Migration Initiative has organized a special panel with leading attorneys to discuss these developments: our presenters have helped to resettle migrants from Afghanistan for many years, but they will discuss how these most recent changes in Afghanistan have fundamentally re-shaped their work. We invite all members of the campus community to attend this important event.

Laila Ayub has been an immigration attorney whose work includes coordinating advocacy efforts and assisting in litigation and leading release campaigns for asylum seekers detained in immigration prisons. She has served as a co-coordinator of Project ANAR, the Afghan Network for Advocacy and Resources, and through that organization, she has assisted persons from Afghanistan with humanitarian parole. She is a graduate of the American University Washington College of Law.

Wogai Mohmand is an associate attorney at Morgan, Lewis, & Bockius in San Francisco, and she is a graduate of Berkeley Law. She started Project ANAR with Laila Ayub to address the urgent legal needs of Afghan migrants. She has filed numerous petitions to facilitate the reunion of Afghani families in the United States.

Roxana Moussavian is also an attorney affiliated with Project ANAR, and she is Co-Director at Pangea Legal Services, a non-profit advocacy organization in San Francisco. Ms. Moussavian is a graduate of Yale Law School, where she also participated in the Yale Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic and where she was also a Soros Fellow.

Daniel Masterson is Assistant Professor of Political Science at UC Santa Barbara. Professor Masterson finished his Ph.D. at Yale in Political Science, and he was a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Immigration Policy Lab at Stanford prior to his appointment at UCSB. His research has been focused on migration, displacement, and humanitarian policy, with a regional focus on the Middle East. He will serve as moderator for our discussion.