



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 23, 2021**

**The Advocates' Society Voices Support for the Evacuation of Judges and Lawyers in  
Afghanistan**

The Advocates' Society expresses its profound concern for the safety of legal professionals working in Afghanistan following the return of Taliban rule.

As an association of 5,500 advocates and judges throughout Canada, we stand in solidarity with our colleagues in the legal community in Afghanistan, many of whom have risked their lives in their choice of occupation.

The Advocates' Society is particularly alarmed by reports of grave danger faced by Afghan women judges. Due to their essential work in the justice system, over 250 female judges and their families now face a serious and imminent threat to their safety.

The Advocates' Society adds its voice to the chorus of groups and individuals calling on the Government of Canada to evacuate Afghan judges, human rights advocates, and other at-risk populations who wish to leave the country. The Advocates' Society further voices support for the Canadian Government's special immigration program to resettle women leaders and human rights defenders, among other vulnerable groups, and implores the Government to continue to work with all possible speed to bring these individuals to safety.

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