

# PRESS RELEASE

## New Reports Shed Light on German Official Development Assistance (ODA) in Afghanistan

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The Rosa Luxemburg Foundation in Geneva (RLS) is excited to present a crucial report that analyses the impact and scope of German Official Development Assistance (ODA) in Afghanistan (2001-2021) offering a critique of the institutional set-up and systemic limitations during the NATO war in Afghanistan.

### Key Report Highlights

- 1. Militarization of Afghan life:** The report shows how ODA was implemented in a militarized environment blurring the line between military and development projects.
- 2. Institution-building:** The study uncovers how the German ODA funding logic in Afghanistan engendered the incorporation of Afghanistan in the multilateral system of capitalist development, while simultaneously creating systemic dependencies.
- 3. Monitoring and Evaluating ODA:** Based on interviews the report reveals the closed-loop system of overseeing ODA-funded projects through "monitoring and evaluation" (M&E) tools, that are not geared towards critically questioning indicators of "successes" and "failures."

**"The report shows that German ODA during the war in Afghanistan perpetuated uneven development, created dependencies and parallel governance structures that were ultimately geared towards the interests of occupying forces - not that of Afghans and Afghanistan."**

Dr Annika Schmeding and Dr Paniz Musawi Natanzi  
Arqaam GmbH

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Alongside this report, RLS is happy to release of another study that examines global implications of Afghan migration and ODA from 2001 to 2021. It redefines migration norms and explores the complex link between conflict and migration, moving beyond simplistic refuge narratives.

### Key Report Highlights

- 1. Migration Definitions:** The study explores international treaties and organizational perspectives on the diverse spectrum of "migration."
- 2. War-Migration Nexus:** Beyond refuge, the research delves into the intricate relationship between war and migration.
- 3. ODA's Influence:** The study critically analyzes German ODA's impact on migration dynamics during the intervention.
- 4. Migration Repository:** A repository compiles the literature examined in the study. It can be accessed here.

**"Migration research reveals that Afghan migration is multifaceted and does not conform to traditional push and pull factors nor cost-benefit analytical lenses. Migration is an integral fact of life, not an exceptional condition that bequests settlement or an eventual resolution."**

Dr Tobias Marschall,  
Research Associate, Geneva Graduate Institute



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**About** The Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung is a progressive, international, non-profit organization that fights for citizen education as well as democratic and social rights for all.