



# National Council of Churches in Australia



AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES  
REFUGEE TASKFORCE

17 August 2021

The Hon Scott Morrison MP  
Prime Minister of Australia  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

By Email: [Scott.Morrison.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Scott.Morrison.MP@aph.gov.au) and [john.kunkel@pm.gov.au](mailto:john.kunkel@pm.gov.au)

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the National Council of Churches in Australia and the Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce, we write to you regarding the people of Afghanistan.

With the Taliban now in control of Kabul, the situation is increasingly desperate for the many Afghan refugees in Australia who are on Temporary Protection Visas or in immigration detention. It may never be safe again for them to return to Afghanistan.

We are also particularly concerned for women and girls, and for those who worked in different capacities to support western government and NGO efforts inside Afghanistan.

As Churches, we appeal to you to:

- Grant permanent protection or citizenship to all Afghan people seeking asylum and refugee status currently living in Australia or in immigration detention.
- Declare a new humanitarian intake of 20,000 Afghan refugees (matching the Canadian commitment just announced).
- Assist Afghan Australians with urgent family reunion applications for relatives who are in imminent danger.

We come as part of our commitment to ongoing dialogue with you and ask that you agree to help at this critical time.

Yours faithfully

Elizabeth Stone  
General Secretary  
National Council of Churches in Australia

Rob Floyd  
Chairperson  
Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” Matthew 25:40

Anglican Church

Antiochian  
Orthodox Church

Armenian  
Apostolic Church

Assyrian Church  
of the East

Chinese Methodist  
Church

Churches of Christ

Congregational  
Federation

Coptic  
Orthodox Church

Greek  
Orthodox Church

Indian  
Orthodox Church

Lutheran Church

Mar Thoma Church

Religious Society  
of Friends (Quakers)

Roman Catholic Church

Romanian  
Orthodox Church

Salvation Army

Syrian  
Orthodox Church

Uniting Church

7/379 Kent Street Sydney

☒ Locked Bag Q199  
Sydney NSW 1230

☎ (+61 2) 8259 0800

E: [secretariat@ncca.org.au](mailto:secretariat@ncca.org.au)

🌐 [www.ncca.org.au](http://www.ncca.org.au)

ABN 47 000 391 104