## <u>Press Releases: Consultations With the</u> <u>European Union on the Afghan Peace</u> <u>Process</u>

Media Note Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC March 22, 2019

U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad and EU Special Envoy for Afghanistan Ambassador Roland Kobia met in Washington, D.C., for consultations on the Afghan peace process, on March 21-22, 2019. They agreed that bringing an end to Afghanistan's war and achieving peace must be the key objective, and that violence should cease. To benefit all Afghans, the region, and the world, they further underscored that any peace agreement should uphold the rights of all Afghans, in particular those of women, minorities, and children, and ensure Afghan soil is not used by international terrorist groups or individuals against any country. Both sides underscored their respect for the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Afghanistan.

The United States and the European Union will continue their close coordination. They encourage all countries to support the current peace process, inclusive intra-Afghan talks, and lasting development and reconstruction in Afghanistan.

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