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"Afghanistan's Crisis at the Third Doha Summit: Alarming Signs for the Future"

"Examining Exploitation of Minerals, Women, and Humanitarian Issues, and Geopolitical Dynamics with Iran and Russia Amid UN Ineffectiveness"

Introduction: The recent United Nations summit in Doha aimed to address the escalating crisis in Afghanistan, yet the outcomes fell short of expectations. This report examines the complexities and challenges faced by the UN in navigating Afghanistan's crisis, amidst a backdrop of exclusion of Afghan voices and entrenched strategic rivalries among global and regional powers.

Afghanistan has tragically become a battleground where global powers like the United States, Britain, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia, alongside regional rivals such as Iran, Russia, and China, vie for influence. This geopolitical competition has had devastating consequences over the past 45 years, with Pakistan, supported by the US and its allies, playing a pivotal role in exacerbating Afghanistan's turmoil. Pakistan's dual role, as both a breeding ground for terrorism and a strategic ally in the region, underscores the intricate political landscape shaped by rivalries between major powers.

Diplomatic Sensitivities and Regional Dynamics

The United Nations faces a delicate balancing act in Afghanistan, attempting to navigate relations with the Taliban and various regional powers amidst

entrenched strategic rivalries. The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) strives to mediate amidst diverging interests and historical complexities, yet progress remains slow and contentious.

The Doha summit, however, has been criticized for sidelining the Afghan people from crucial decisions about their future. Instead, Afghanistan serves as a playground where global powers and their regional rivals compete for influence. This strategic rivalry has had dire consequences over nearly half a century, with Pakistan, aided by the US and its allies, causing irreparable harm to Afghan civilians. Pakistan's ambiguous stance as both a terrorism hub and a close ally to major powers like the USA and China underscores the volatile regional dynamics. Moreover, the longstanding rivalry between India and China further complicates the political landscape, amplifying the challenges faced by Afghanistan and its people.

The UN's Role and Western Influence: Criticism of the UN and Human Rights Concerns

Critics argue that the UN has been ineffective in safeguarding vulnerable populations in Afghanistan, particularly women and minority groups. Many Afghan people, especially women, feel excluded from critical decisions in Doha, underscoring broader criticisms of the UN's commitment to democratic values and human rights in conflict zones like Gaza-Palestine.

While the UN's agenda in Afghanistan ostensibly focuses on environmental, drug, and humanitarian issues, underlying motives reveal a Western-driven push for appointing a special representative. This agenda, influenced by U.S. strategic interests, challenges the UN's impartiality and its ability to address Afghanistan's internal conflicts autonomously.

Financial Support and Strategic Interests

The financial backing of the Taliban by the USA, estimated at \$40 million per week, raises significant ethical and strategic concerns. This financial support is closely intertwined with strategic interests, which undermines claims of promoting human rights, fighting terrorism, and fostering democracy in war-torn nations like Afghanistan. Such dynamics have led to the term "cryptocracy" being used to describe the situation, where the real leaders are hidden or unknown. This funding, juxtaposed against the backdrop of donor countries' calls for human rights and democracy, raises serious questions about the true priorities and motivations behind international support in Afghanistan.

Conclusion

The third Doha meeting, like its predecessors, risks concluding without tangible results. The United Nations' ongoing struggle to effectively manage Afghanistan's crisis reflects broader challenges in impartial conflict resolution. As global and regional dynamics continue to complicate efforts, urgent attention is needed to address the plight of Afghan women and other vulnerable groups amidst ongoing human rights violations and geopolitical manoeuvring.

The political game played by external actors in Afghanistan has had devastating consequences for its people, particularly its women. The deep-seated rivalries and strategic interests at play demand a concerted effort by all involved countries to find a sustainable solution to Afghanistan's longstanding crisis.