

G20 leaders agree to help Afghanistan

14th October, 2021



The G20 is a group of 19 rich countries plus the European Union. It meets to talk about and act on major world problems. It has just met to discuss the future of Afghanistan. Leaders of the G20 promised to stop Afghanistan falling into

deeper economic chaos. Since the Taliban took over Afghanistan in August, the economy has almost collapsed. Germany's leader Angela Merkel said it was essential to help Afghanistan. She said if the country's financial system collapsed, no humanitarian aid could be given. She added: "To look on as 40 million people descend into chaos because there's no financial system must not be the goal of the international community."

The G20 leaders will involve the Taliban in sending humanitarian aid to Afghanistan. Mario Draghi, the Italian prime minister and current leader of the G20, said: "It is very hard to see how you can help people in Afghanistan without involving the Taliban." The EU said it would increase the amount of aid it gives the country to \$1.15 billion. The IMF and World Bank said they would also provide aid but did not say how much. The Taliban's acting foreign minister, Amir Khan Muttaqi, said: "The international community needs to start cooperating with us." He said the aid would help the Taliban to stop insecurity in the country. He said it would also help the Taliban to "engage positively with the world".

Sources: bbc.com / arabnews.com / theguardian.com

Writing

It is essential to give Afghanistan as much aid as possible. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

group / problems / the future / chaos / economy / leader / financial system / goal / humanitarian aid / leader / IMF / World Bank / foreign minister / insecurity / world

True / False

- 1) There are 19 countries in the G20. T / F
- 2) The G20 meets to talk about financial problems only. T / F
- 3) Germany's leader warned of an inability to give aid to Afghanistan. T / F
- 4) Germany's leader said the international community needs a new goal. T / F
- 5) Italy's prime minister said the G20 should talk to the Taliban. T / F
- 6) The EU said it would give \$1.15 billion in aid. T / F
- 7) The World Bank said it would give over one billion dollars in aid. T / F
- 8) The Taliban said aid would help it to engage with the world. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. rich | a. require |
| 2. act | b. caved in |
| 3. promised | c. present |
| 4. collapsed | d. collaborating |
| 5. descend | e. take measures |
| 6. involve | f. supply |
| 7. current | g. wealthy |
| 8. provide | h. fall |
| 9. cooperating | i. vulnerability |
| 10. insecurity | j. vowed |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about Afghanistan?
- b) What has happened in Afghanistan this year?
- c) Why does Afghanistan need so much aid?
- d) How is your country's economy?
- e) How can you help the people of Afghanistan?
- f) Should the world be doing more to help Afghanistan?
- g) What would happen if Afghanistan descended into chaos?
- h) What advice do you have for Taliban leaders?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. The G20 is a group | a. also provide aid |
| 2. talk about and act on | b. collapsed |
| 3. falling into deeper economic | c. community |
| 4. the country's financial system | d. in the country |
| 5. the goal of the international | e. with the world |
| 6. sending humanitarian | f. major world problems |
| 7. they would | g. minister |
| 8. The Taliban's acting foreign | h. of 19 rich countries |
| 9. help the Taliban to stop insecurity | i. aid |
| 10. engage positively | j. chaos |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about the G20?
- Should rich countries give more help to poor countries?
- What is the job of the IMF and World Bank?
- What do you know about the Taliban?
- What do you think Afghanistan will be like in 10 years?
- How can the Taliban 'engage positively' with the world?
- What questions would you like to ask the head of the G20?

Spelling

- susidsc the future of Afghanistan
- the economy has almost oaedspllc
- it was inltessea to help Afghanistan
- descend into schao
- there's no ianncfail system
- the goal of the international ummitycno
- The G20 leaders will ilnveov the Taliban
- necrtru leader of the G20
- nrseacei the amount of aid
- The Taliban's acting groifen minister
- stop ysircuetin in the country
- engage ptyiiolesev with the world

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. e	3. j	4. b	5. h
6. a	7. c	8. f	9. d	10. i

Role Play

Role A – Afghanistan

You think Afghanistan is the country most in need of help. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their countries aren't as high on the list. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): Somalia, Lebanon or Myanmar.

Role B – Somalia

You think Somalia is the country most in need of help. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their countries aren't as high on the list. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): Afghanistan, Lebanon or Myanmar.

Role C – Lebanon

You think Lebanon is the country most in need of help. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their countries aren't as high on the list. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): Somalia, Afghanistan or Myanmar.

Role D – Myanmar

You think Myanmar is the country most in need of help. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their countries aren't as high on the list. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): Somalia, Lebanon or Afghanistan.

Speaking – Help

Rank these with your partner. Put the countries that need help the most at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| • Lebanon | • Afghanistan |
| • Ukraine | • Syria |
| • Myanmar | • South Sudan |
| • Yemen | • Somalia |

Answers – True False

1 T	2 F	3 T	4 F	5 T	6 T	7 F	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.