

YOUR NAME: Anna Grace Calhoun

YOUR YEAR: 4

YOUR GTA: Jule Voss

Supporting Assignment 1: Your Chosen Crises 2022

SUBMIT ON Gradescope BY 2:00 on Thursday 1 Sept AND PRINT and STAPLE AND BRING ONE COPY TO THE NEXT CLASS

If you have any questions please email to GTAs: Noah Strike noah.strike@virginia.edu and Jule Voss jmv2nd@virginia.edu

PART 1: Humanizing Crisis

DIRECTIONS: The podcasts below include first-hand accounts of individuals who have been impacted by recent humanitarian crises. Please listen to one of the following podcasts. Choose what you have time for and what you are most interested in. Then, type answers to the questions beneath.

AFGHANISTAN	The Fall of Afghanistan (25 min) https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/16/podcasts/the-daily/afghanistan-taliban-kabul.html
SYRIA	Episode 2: Abdullah's Story (39 min) https://www.podchaser.com/podcasts/refugees-stories-podcast-535273/episodes/episode-two-abdullahs-story-20482038
VIRGINIA	Resettled Episode 5. Culture (26 min) https://dcs.megaphone.fm/VPM5374983149.mp3?key=09394565b58bb72851481684b6c0ffa3
SOUTH SUDAN/ IVORY COAST	Forced to Flee: Pencils and Pictures (31 min) https://forced-to-flee-podcast.libsyn.com/pencils-and-pictures

Which individual did you hear from?

"R" in the Fall of Afghanistan podcast.

What is the most surprising thing that this person said? What about it surprised you? (1-3 sentences)

One of the most surprising things was hearing that even after there were warnings that the Taliban was about to attack Kabul, some people carried on with their daily lives, while others expressed the fear and urge to flee that I would more expect. I think this was surprising to me as an American, because I've only ever been given the perspective of the Taliban as something to fear and flee. However, for many Afghans, uncertainty and risk of violence may be normalized to the extent that people have no choice but to carry on and the prospect of Taliban presence is surely less alarming to some Afghans than to others.

Imagine what kinds of resources/forms of support are/would have been most helpful to this person in their moment of need. What comes to mind? Think both inside and outside the context of what traditional humanitarian aid organizations typically deliver. (3-5 sentences).

It seems like clear information was one of the biggest things that R lacked. She mentions hearing about Taliban plans through informal channels (later confirmed by official sources) but notes that the response plans of American and British troops were very unclear. She also did not seem to have insight into how or whether she could be approved to be evacuated. I think clear information, contingency plans, and alerts about the most acute sources of danger would have been the most helpful in easing the fears that she expressed throughout the voice memos. I also believe that potentially more effective military planning could've allowed for evacuation/migration to happen before Kabul was under siege.

What was the overall emotive mood of this person's account? How did you feel while you were listening to it? (1-3 sentences)

I felt both sad and angry, because R expressed so eloquently the scale of what was being lost ("our history, our culture, our art, our beauty, our life") and her disappointment in the international community which claims to be defenders of freedom and democracy.

PART 2: The Formal Responses

DIRECTIONS: While reading the [Global Humanitarian Overview 2022](#) please choose 1 of the Humanitarian Response Plans or Regional Appeals profiled on pages 79-238; and type in answers to the following questions on this sheet.

What crisis did you choose?:

Libya (page 104)

If you had to give the most important details about what is happening in each of these crises to a news reporter what details would you give (e.g. what is driving the crisis, who is affected, where is it happening). Please put 3 bullets max:

- In October 2020, a ceasefire agreement was signed to end an armed conflict between rival groups aiming to control the government, but displacement, activity of armed groups, and poor infrastructure continue to create dangerous and unhealthy conditions for residents.
- There are around 213,000 IDPs in the country who face challenges like planned and often forcible evictions and lack of safe drinking water, suitable housing, and health services – COVID19 and food price increases have exacerbated such issues.
- Key vulnerable populations are IDPs, migrants, and refugees located in Bani Waleed and Rigdaleen Baladiya in the west region; Ghat and Ubari in the south; and Albayda, Tazirbu, Derna and Jalu in the east.

If you had to give the most important details about what is happening in the international response to the crisis you chose to a news reporter what details would you give (e.g. who is responding? What are they doing? What is a challenge they are facing? How much money is needed to respond?) Please give only 3 sentences max:

- The humanitarian community has focused mainly on settling and getting basic services, including due process and COVID19 vaccines, to migrants and refugees in order to stabilize the country.
- The number of people needing humanitarian assistance in Libya decreased 38% between 2021 and 2022, but remaining challenges include completing preparations for potential conflict reemergence and navigating the lack of operational partners on the ground and safe storage facilities.
- The HRP funding request is \$75.3M; this will fund a variety of projects from January to May 2022.

Why is this crisis of interest to you? (2-3 sentences):

I wanted to learn more about this crisis because it's one of the ones I've heard the least about in the news. I'm also interested in the role humanitarian aid plays in post-conflict stabilization efforts, so it was intriguing to read that the UN has set up response plans for if larger scale fighting breaks out again.

Find one additional article on the crises you chose. Tell me another piece of information about the crises or response from this source? (3-4 sentences):

When I went to find an article, the top results all referenced fighting that broke out in Tripoli over the past few days, demonstrating that the UN's concerns about violent outbreaks are legitimate and well-founded. Armed confrontations between rival groups over the past several years have often sparked government shutdowns, which have at times reduced oil exports (Libya's primary source of revenue) by up to half. The UN noted that as oil revenues rise, humanitarian needs will fall, so if the most recent fights trigger a shutdown, their estimated need may increase. This is an instance where volatility and new developments on the ground quickly change need and the UN's ability to meet it.

PART 3

After the first few classes and reading the syllabus please let us know if you have any questions. Also please let us know of any concerns, hopes, or aspirations you have for this class that you could share with the GTAs and me that would help me design lectures etc.?

No questions! I would love to learn more about ways that humanitarian organizations are trying to become more long-term thinkers and what relationship military/peacekeeping forces and government-led conflict resolution efforts have with what we traditionally think of as "humanitarian actors."