

Pakistan's Afghan Return Policy

Date	Policy	Enacted Rules and Regulations
1990s-2000	Repatriation Initiative	- The government of Pakistan urged repatriation of Afghan refugees
2001	Foreigners Act, 1946 enacted	- Undocumented Afghan refugees were termed as illegal and became subject to deportation
2003	Tripartite Agreement with the Government of Afghanistan and UNHCR	- Established a framework to facilitated voluntary return to Afghanistan
2007	Since 2007, Afghan refugees have been granted an exemption from the general provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946 through registration under the PoR card scheme.	- Undocumented Afghan refugees are considered illegal immigrants and are at risk of arrest and deportation under Sections 14A and 14B of the Foreigners Act, 1946.
2009	The Refugees Affected and Hosting Areas Development (RAHA) initiative was launched	- Prevent asylum space for Afghan
2010 - 2012	The Afghan Management and Repatriation Strategy (AMRS)	- Address the repatriation and management of Afghan refugees. - Voluntary repatriation remained the core component of the strategy
2011	Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR),	- Focused on voluntary repatriation as well, but also on sustainable reintegration, and support to host communities to reduce refugee fatigue.
2017	Comprehensive Policy on Voluntary Repatriation and Management of Afghan Nationals	- The policy mandates stricter enforcement of immigration laws along the Afghan-Pakistan border. Registered refugees must surrender their PoR cards before returning to Afghanistan, obtain a visa to re-enter Pakistan, and their stay period is extended until December 2017.
2019	UNHCR and the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan initiated the SSAR Support Platform	- Encouraged voluntary return
2023	Pakistan's caretaker government ordered all illegal immigrants to leave the country by 1 November or face deportation.	- Forced deportation of over 1.5 million Afghan refugee since November 2023.

Iran's Afghan Return Policy

Date	Policy	Enacted Rules and Regulations
2000	Article 48 Establishment of Foreign Nationals Executive Coordination Council	- Foreigners not in possession of work permits leave the country by March 2001
2001	Prohibition of foreign national employment	- Employment of foreign nationals became subject to a heavy fine - Businesses that employed Afghan refugees were subject to cessation
2002	Tripartite Agreement with the Afghan Government and the UNHCR for the Afghan Refugee Return	- Encourage Afghan refugees to return to Afghanistan - UNHCR provided material assistance to those Afghan refugees who voluntarily opted to return to their country - Return campaign to motivate Afghan refugees to return to Afghanistan
2003	- Regulations about Accelerating Afghan Repatriation - Closure of higher education for Afghan refugees	- Restriction on hiring Afghans without work permit - Restriction on rent housing for Afghans without documentation - Amayesh cardholders required to give up their card to gain higher education – obtain a student visa
2007	Declaration No-Go-Areas	- Several provinces are partially or completely designated as no-go areas for foreigners - No-go areas exist in 28 out of 31 provinces – either partially or completely - Afghan refugees are required to obtain written permission to travel to restricted areas
2017	Headcount of the Undocumented Foreigners	- Afghan refugees with expired documents and without documents were registered - 804,000 undocumented Afghans were provided with headcount slips, which provided Afghan migrants in Iran a temporary protection
2021	Close door policy	- Refused to handle additional Afghan refugee burden - Harassment, arbitrary detention and deportation of Afghan migrants