

# Commentary on candidate evidence

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each section of this course assessment component.

## Candidate 1

### A. Identifying and demonstrating factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of the issue, showing an awareness of different points of view

#### Background and framing of issues and alternatives

The candidate clearly identifies the issue of whether the West has failed Afghanistan. This is explained in detail. The candidate does not provide alternative points of view within their introduction however, they do so later in the assignment. While they suggest that it is an important issue, they do not explain why this is the case, nor do they link to political concepts. The candidate is awarded **4 marks** for this section.

#### Knowledge and understanding which supports the analysis of the issue

The candidate uses a range of information to support different aspects of their analysis. They focus on four aspects of the issue: removal of troops, position of women, support for asylum and the validity of the West's reasons for leaving Afghanistan. The knowledge and understanding points use appropriate social science terminology and are linked to the analysis given throughout the assignment. They make effective use of examples to support their writing and therefore, **5 marks** were awarded for this aspect of knowledge and understanding.

In total, the candidate was awarded **9 out of 10 marks** for knowledge and understanding.

## B. Analysing information in a structured manner

The candidate makes limited analytical comments and was awarded marks for the following:

- A developed analytical comment is made on the consequence of the US doing nothing to help Afghanistan even though the Taliban were returning to previous levels of violence, with evidence to support this. **(2 marks)**
- An analytical comment is made on the inconsistency between the peace deal agreed and the reality of what happened. **(1 mark)**
- An analytical comment is made on the link between the impact of the West having abandoned Afghani women and the inability of the United Nations to take legal action. **(1 mark)**
- An analytical comment is made on the implication of the healthcare system on women's deaths. **(1 mark)**
- A developed analytical comment is made on the success of the UK government resettlement scheme supporting Afghans, further justified by a link to a similar Canadian scheme. **(2 marks)**
- An analytical comment is made linking the decision of the US to leave Afghanistan to the political concept of democracy. **(1 mark)**
- An analytical comment is made interpreting the reason for the West leaving Afghanistan due to the number of lost lives amongst their own people. **(1 mark)**

In total, the candidate was awarded **9 out of 14 marks** for analysis.

## C. Communicating information from, and referring to, political sources

The candidate refers to several political sources throughout. While they do not explicitly reference the House of Commons library, they do use the information from this source about the Afghan Citizens' Resettlement Scheme to support their analysis.

In total, the candidate was awarded **2 out of 2 marks** for political sources.

## **D. Drawing a detailed and reasoned conclusion(s) about the issue**

The candidate makes a conclusion on the extent to which the West has abandoned Afghanistan. This conclusion is sophisticated and insightful, weighing up various factors that they have discussed in the assignment and concluding that Afghanistan is currently in a very worrying position.

As a result, the candidate was awarded **3 out of 4 marks** for conclusions.

In total, the candidate was awarded **23 out of 30 marks** for the assignment.