

## **Afghanistan Now Session**

**Tuesday 26 February 2019 at 5pm – 7pm**

Afghanistan Now is the first session on a series of conversations on human rights, religious freedom, minority issues and refugee rights which will be organised by the Edmund Rice Centre for Justice and Community Education. The session will reflect on the overall situation of Afghanistan in 2018 by focusing on the deterioration of security, human rights violations, ethnic and religious minority abuses, political and economic instability and worsening of refugee crises.

The expected outcome of the session is to raise awareness about human rights, minority rights, refugee protection and sectarian violence in Afghanistan, and to propose practical solutions to the Australian Government and non-governmental stakeholders to take into consideration these issues in dealing with the Afghan Government and non-governmental actors. The session will be of interest to those academics, humanitarian/community development agencies, civil society activists, human rights advocates, refugee supporters, students and general public who are working with the Afghan communities in Australia and following social, political and security developments in Afghanistan.

In the beginning of the session, each panellist/guest speaker will speak for 10 minutes about human rights, religious freedom, minority issues and political scene in Afghanistan followed by 60 minutes interactive discussions and Q&A.

### **Panellists and Guest Speakers:**

❖ **Phil Glendenning**

President of Refugee Council of Australia and Director of Edmund Rice Centre

❖ **Shukufa Tahiri**

Policy Officer at Refugee Council of Australia

❖ **Farhad Arian**

Program Coordinator – Research and Policy at Edmund Rice Centre

❖ **Martin Reusch**

International Human Rights Activist

For more information, please contact Farhad at [FArian@edmundrice.org](mailto:FArian@edmundrice.org) or on 02 8762 4207. Please note that light refreshment will be provided for participants.