

## **JGU's Executive University Board endorses the statement of the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) regarding the situation of university staff and students in Afghanistan and Iran**

**February 1, 2023**

JGU's Executive University Board is appalled by the further increasing repression toward students and university staff in Afghanistan and Iran and endorses the clear HRK statements from December 21 and November 16:

### **On Afghanistan:**

Commenting on the Taliban's decision to ban women in Afghanistan from accessing higher education, HRK President Prof. Dr. Peter André Alt said:

"The German Rectors' Conference strongly condemns the exclusion of women from Afghanistan's universities. With the ban on education, the Taliban are violating human rights and the fundamental freedom of women and girls, and also hindering Afghanistan's development as a nation that relies on education and participation of all citizens to address multiple economic, social, and environmental challenges."

### **On Iran:**

"At its meeting in Jena, the General Assembly of the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) expressed its dismay at the continued state-sanctioned violence in Iran against peacefully protesting citizens, among which are many students and academics. The assembly of the German university executive boards declared its solidarity with the Iranian university members and the citizens demonstrating for human rights and explicitly also for women's rights and equality in Iran. They called upon Iran's leaders to renounce the use of violence immediately, to seek dialogue, and to respect freedom of speech and academic freedom ..."

You can find the full statements here:

<https://www.hrk.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/pressemitteilung/meldung/hochschulzugang-fuer-frauen-in-afghanistan-4966/>

<https://www.hrk.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/pressemitteilung/meldung/hrk-mitgliederversammlung-verurteilt-gewalt-gegen-hochschulangehoerige-im-iran-4955/>