



Public hearing on 27 February 2023

**on “The stabilisation phase and the role of the alliance partners from 2002 to 2008:
Civilian-military stabilisation – Operational implementation and impact”**

Key questions for the experts:

Questions for Ambassador Hermann Nicolai:

- As an instrument and a concept, did the Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT) stand the test as an operational means of civilian-military cooperation within the networked approach? What were the factors in the PRTs' success or the reasons for its failure?
- What lessons can be derived from the experiences and the concept of the PRTs? Are there better options for an operational implementation of the networked approach?
- How was it possible to ascertain the impact of the work of the PRTs on the ground and was the use of resources required for this appropriate? Did setting up the PRTs make acceptance of the NGOs more difficult and how could this be prevented in future?

Questions for Lieutenant General Bernd Schütt:

- What insight from your role at the time as PRT commander would you draw from your time in Afghanistan? How well did the Afghan reality square with the political mandate at the time?
- Were the forces, capabilities and resources required at the time to implement your PRT mandate appropriate and balanced? What was the desired impact? What was the development of the security situation in northern Afghanistan at the time and what role did the PRTs play?
- What obstacles and difficulties emerged for example in terms of obtaining an overview of the situation, communication and coordination, as well as cooperation between departments and with other local and international actors, particularly the USA as the dominant power in the military operations?
- What lessons would you propose for future civilian-military stabilisation operations, particularly for Germany's contribution?

Questions for Ms Sima Samar:

- How was the human rights situation in Afghanistan, especially for women, in the first years of the government under President Hamid Karzai? What measures/activities were undertaken by the Afghan government at the time to promote the intra-Afghan peace process and how was Afghan civil society involved in this process? What was your assessment of the activities of the Karzai government at that time to promote democracy, the rule of law and human rights and how do you assess these measures today for the intra-Afghan peace process?
- How did efforts by international actors to support democracy, human rights and the rule of law in the early years of the Karzai government impact the intra-Afghan peace process? Were the international contributions to stabilisation and peacebuilding oriented by the expectations and needs of the civilian population and was Afghan civil society involved? What role did Germany play at this time in supporting the intra-Afghan peace process?
- What were the challenges for the Afghan, German and international partners in the early years of the Karzai government? What lessons should the international community, and Germany in particular, draw from the failure of their involvement in Afghanistan?