
“NATO Agrees on Afghan Security Transition in 2013”

Respond to the following questions in complete sentences. In some cases more than one sentence may be required to answer the full question.

1. Explain the purpose of the NATO meeting.
2. Explain why Pakistan is important to the solution in Afghanistan.
3. President Obama and other world leaders discuss the conflict in Afghanistan as “irreversible.” Why is this the case?
4. The leaders at the summit mentioned they are not abandoning Afghanistan. What, instead, are they doing to maintain ties to the country?
5. The article mentions that President Obama opposed the war in Iraq from the beginning but not the war in Afghanistan. Explain why this was the case.
6. The article mentions that the Taliban is still a presence and threat. Explain how this plays into the NATO plan to withdraw by 2014 (and maintain a limited presence after that time).
7. President Obama is running for reelection. How important is ending U.S. involvement in Afghanistan to him and the American people who will be voting in this election? Explain.
8. In your opinion, will the U.S. ever be able to completely leave Afghanistan? Explain.