1. Women’s and CSO’s Role in Peace Process

- The women in Afghan parliament have organized a program to organize online meetings with parliaments of other countries for the aim of discussing issues and supports for an inclusive peace in Afghanistan. This time an online conference was held between members of Afghan Parliament and UK parliament to have discussion about the issues of women, challenges and demands in order to have an inclusive and meaningful peace in Afghanistan. In this meeting about 30 ambassadors of OSCE participated in a Parliamentary Town hall for inclusive peace, had their concrete support in solidarity with Afghan Women & ANSDF.

- A press conference entitled "Women's Concerns in the Peace Process" was conducted in several provinces that was organized by Women in the peace process coalition WIP, in which women expressed the main concerns and demands for urgent ceasefire through a joint declaration that includes the opinion of women from 34 provinces.

2. Peace talks in the Country

- It is likely that the Istanbul meeting will be held after Ramadan, some sources involved in this process pacify that all parties are disappointed with the outcome of this meeting and it is possible that Istanbul meeting may not be held at all.

- The Taliban has sent letters to a number of Afghan political leaders, calling on them to enter into direct talks with the group, sources familiar with the matter told TOLOnews on Wednesday.

- Attaullah Salim, Deputy of the High Council for the National Reconciliation (HCNR) said Wednesday that the Taliban has shared a draft of a peace plan with the council. Addressing a ceremony marking the anniversary of the Mujahidin victory, Salim stated that he hopes the integration of the HCNR’s plan with the Taliban peace plan could lead to “a common vision for peace in Afghanistan.”

- US peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad said on Tuesday he still believes peace is possible in Afghanistan and that keeping US forces in the country did not make sense.

- The U.S. special envoy for Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad said on Tuesday that President Joe Biden’s administration would press for “meaningful participation” for women and minorities in ongoing peace talks.

3. The Region

- Pakistan’s envoy Mohammad Sadiq, leading a delegation from Islamabad, has arrived in Kabul for discussions with Afghan leaders on peace, security and related matters, Pakistan’s ambassador to Kabul, Mansoor Ahmad Khan, confirmed on Twitter on Sunday.

- US-Forces commander in Afghanistan General Austin Scott Miller said the evacuation of some bases has already started in Afghanistan. “We will turn over the bases primarily to the Ministry of Defense and other
Afghan forces,” Miller told reporters in a press conference in Kabul on Sunday.

- Warning of NATO Commander-in-Chief in Afghanistan: We have informed the Taliban that a return to violence will be harmful for Afghanistan. Scott Miller Commander-in-Chief of NATO forces in Afghanistan during a press conference in Kabul told that the Taliban attack on foreign forces after May first would be this groups’ mistake and would be dealt with severely.

- The Pakistani delegation led by special envoy Mohammad Sadiq during their two-day visit to Kabul has assured the Afghan government of the meaningful participation of the Taliban at the Istanbul summit.

- The Pentagon is reportedly sending around 650 troops to Afghanistan in the coming days to protect US forces as they withdraw from the country, CNN reported Tuesday, citing several defense officials.

- John Kirby, US Pentagon spokesman, said that the US will not provide air support to the Afghan security forces after the American forces withdraw from the country.

- US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Tuesday that no one is interested in a civil war in Afghanistan, but added that it might be a possible scenario once the US military leaves the country.

- In discussing his order to withdraw American troops from Afghanistan, US President Joe Biden said on Wednesday that the withdrawal will not endanger national security but will demonstrate “American leadership” by halting the cycle of endless armed conflict.

### 4. Ongoing Violence

- Ahmad Fawad Amiri, a government employee at the Presidential Palace, was killed in an attack by unidentified gunmen in Kabul on Saturday evening, a source said.

- Data collected by TOLOnews shows that 19 civilians and security force members were killed and 32 more were wounded in security incidents—including Taliban attacks in eight provinces—in less than 24 hours.

- Waris Achikzai, a commander of Kandahar's police special forces, was killed in a blast in Maiwand district on Sunday night, a source said.

- At least 16 people were wounded after a rocket landed at Kunar governor's office in the city of Asadabad on Monday morning, Iqbal Saeed, provincial governor, said.

- At least five people including former Taliban member were killed in an attack by unidentified gunmen in the eastern province of Nangarhar on Monday night, the provincial governor Zia-ul-Haq Amarkhil said.

- Six people were wounded in a blast that targeted a vehicle carrying the employees of the country’s power distributor, Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS), in the eastern province of Nangarhar on Thursday morning, DABS said in a statement.

- During the current week April 25-29, at least 26 civilians and security forces were killed and 62 more were injured in different incidents at different parts of the country.