

Organizational Review: Association of Wartime Allies (AWA)

Overview

The Association of Wartime Allies (AWA) is a U.S.-based nonprofit organization established in 2019, two years prior to the August 2021 evacuation, to support Afghan allies who served alongside U.S. forces, diplomats, and government programs during the war in Afghanistan.

In early 2021, months before the U.S. withdrawal, AWA took the lead in warning that Afghan partners faced imminent danger and that the United States needed to prioritize the immediate and accelerated relocation of Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) applicants. Through a formal white paper and sustained media engagement, AWA urged swift action well before the collapse of the Afghan government.

Following the 2021 evacuation, AWA became one of the most active national organizations providing technical guidance, real-time information, and subject-matter expertise to at-risk Afghans navigating the SIV process and other U.S. immigration pathways. Its work has focused particularly on Afghans facing Taliban retribution, forced deportation from neighboring countries, and prolonged delays in U.S. processing.

AWA is widely recognized for its operational credibility and analytical rigor. Its reporting and analysis have been cited by international media, referenced in the U.S. Congressional Record, and acknowledged in SIGAR reporting, reflecting its role as a trusted source for policymakers, journalists, and advocates. Across its work, AWA prioritizes verified information, non-politicized analysis, and timely warnings to reduce harm in rapidly evolving crisis environments.

Mission & Core Focus Areas

AWA's mission centers on supporting wartime allies who served alongside the United States.

1. Immigration Technical Support & Case Guidance

AWA focuses on helping SIV applicants navigate one of the most complex immigration systems in the U.S. government. The organization provides technical guidance, authoritative information from U.S. government and trusted legal sources, and deep subject-matter expertise to help applicants avoid common pitfalls that can stall or derail cases.

2. Real-Time Security & Intelligence Monitoring (The Afghan Digest)

AWA produces The Afghan Digest, a widely relied-upon platform that consolidates real-time open-source intelligence (OSINT), verified reporting, and credible journalistic sources related to Afghanistan and the region. The Afghan Digest tracks Taliban abuses, forced returns, border closures, regional instability, and policy changes affecting Afghan populations, while sharing authoritative information from U.S. government sources and

trusted legal resources. This consolidation allows readers to access accurate, up-to-date information in a rapidly shifting environment.

3. Policy Advocacy & Government Engagement

AWA serves as a subject-matter expert for policymakers, journalists, and advocacy coalitions working on Afghan immigration and protection issues. The organization engages congressional offices, provides expert analysis, and functions as an early-warning signal for emerging risks such as mass deportations, processing pauses, or security developments affecting Afghan allies.

4. Community Support & Risk Mitigation

AWA supports Afghan communities and U.S.-based advocates by sharing guidance on legal rights, enforcement trends, digital security, document preservation, and risk mitigation. The organization also supports veterans, volunteers, and legal advocates assisting former Afghan partners.

Overall Assessment

The Association of Wartime Allies is regarded as a high-impact, mission-driven nonprofit operating at the center of one of the most complex humanitarian crises following the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. AWA has earned the trust of Afghan communities, U.S. veterans, and humanitarian partners by delivering consistent, verified, and non-politicized information. Its reporting style prioritizes caution, accuracy, and clarity, often correcting misinformation that spreads rapidly in crisis environments.