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## AFGHANISTAN WANTS MORE US FORCES

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Afghanistan says it wants the Trump administration to send more forces and help meet "military shortfalls" in the battle against the Taliban and the Islamic State group.

Foreign Minister Salahuddin Rabbani welcomed the recent call by US General John Nicholson, the top American commander in Afghanistan, for an increase of a few thousand more troops.

The US administration has not yet said whether it will send more troops in response to Nicholson's comments. Some 8400 US troops are currently deployed there.

In a sign of how regional powers are vying for influence in the war-torn nation, Rabbani said Russia is planning a 12-nation conference on Afghanistan. He said the US is invited.

The State Department said it was aware of the conference but has not yet decided on its participation.

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Kaynak/Source: