# Article information:

Negotiation Analysis: The US, Taliban, and the Bowe Bergdahl Exchange  
<https://www.pon.harvard.edu/daily/international-negotiation-daily/negotiation-analysis-the-us-taliban-and-the-bergdahl-exchange/>

# Article summary:

1. The exchange between the US and the Taliban of Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl for five Taliban leaders held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, represented the first public prisoner exchange of a US soldier in the thirteen year US involvement in Afghanistan.

2. Stakeholder analysis helps to identify the main and secondary parties in a negotiation. In multilateral negotiations, stakeholder analysis allows a savvy negotiation team to talk to the right party at the right time.

3. As more information comes forward in the next few weeks about the Bergdahl exchange, how this legacy will impact future operations, as well as negotiations including military actors, remains to be seen.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The negotiation analysis article titled "Negotiation Analysis: The US, Taliban, and the Bowe Bergdahl Exchange" provides a detailed analysis of the prisoner exchange between the United States and the Taliban. The article applies negotiation frameworks and theory to better understand the events that have taken place and provide insight into future negotiations. However, there are some potential biases and missing points of consideration in the article.

One potential bias is that the article focuses more on the US perspective than on the Taliban's perspective. While it acknowledges that the Taliban had core interests in obtaining a prisoner exchange and gaining prestige from seizing an American soldier, it does not explore these interests in depth or consider how they may have influenced their negotiating strategy.

Another potential bias is that the article presents a one-sided view of Private First Class Bergdahl's capture by the Taliban. It states that he willingly left his post and his fellow soldiers to go out on his own into the Afghan countryside, which has been disputed by some of his fellow soldiers who claim he deserted. The article does not explore this controversy or consider how it may have affected negotiations.

The article also misses some points of consideration, such as how cultural differences may have influenced negotiations between Western negotiators and Afghan/Taliban negotiators. It also does not explore counterarguments to its claims, such as whether Qatar's mediation was truly successful or whether excluding the Afghan government from negotiations was a wise decision.

Overall, while the article provides a thorough analysis of certain aspects of the negotiation, it could benefit from considering multiple perspectives and exploring more nuanced points of consideration.

# Topics for further research:

* Cultural differences in negotiation between Western and Afghan/Taliban negotiators
* Taliban's core interests in the prisoner exchange
* Controversy surrounding Private First Class Bergdahl's capture
* Afghan government's exclusion from negotiations
* Criticisms of Qatar's mediation in the negotiation
* Impact of the prisoner exchange on future negotiations with the Taliban

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/8d03abd6f65ed090ce3690c7be78a6a9>