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## Afghans protest US stay beyond 2014

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Hundreds of Afghans have taken to the streets in the capital Kabul to voice opposition to the presence of US-led troops in Afghanistan beyond 2014.

On Monday, about 400 peaceful protesters in Kabul vocally rejected any agreement that would allow Washington to set up permanent military bases in the country, Xinhua reported.

Afghan protesters threatened to revolt if any such agreement is reached, saying that foreign forces would cause even more unrest.

Washington has promised to withdraw all combat forces from Afghanistan in three years.

However, it has been locked in tricky negotiations with Kabul over a strategic partnership beyond 2014.

Many Afghans believe the US is putting down long-term roots at some military bases.

The killing of civilians by foreign forces has dramatically intensified anti-American sentiments in Afghanistan.

Insecurity continues to climb across Afghanistan despite the presence of nearly 150,000 US-led forces in the war-ravaged country.

The US-led war in Afghanistan, with civilian and military casualties at record high, has become the longest military conflict in US history.