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One Year or Five Years, US and Taliban Spar Over Afghan Pullout

Taliban struggling to get US to commit to a timeline Posted on [March 6,](#)

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Negotiations on getting US troops out of Afghanistan have a [number of key issues](#), but the most complicated is shaping up to be the timeline for the US withdrawal of all troops from Afghanistan.

The Pentagon's current proposal is a five year drawdown. This has been repeatedly broached by both sides, with various timelines [from one year to five years](#) considered. The Taliban is pushing hard to [have this all done within](#) a year.

Though the US seems to be okay in theory with withdrawing from Afghanistan, officials also want to make it a very deliberate timeline, so they can spin this as a resolution to the war, as opposed to the military defeat that it realistically is.

It's also not clear why a slower withdrawal would be any better for this, as if anything it would keep the trickle of US troops back from Afghanistan going a lot longer, and delay the post-war era