

**JUNE  
2019**

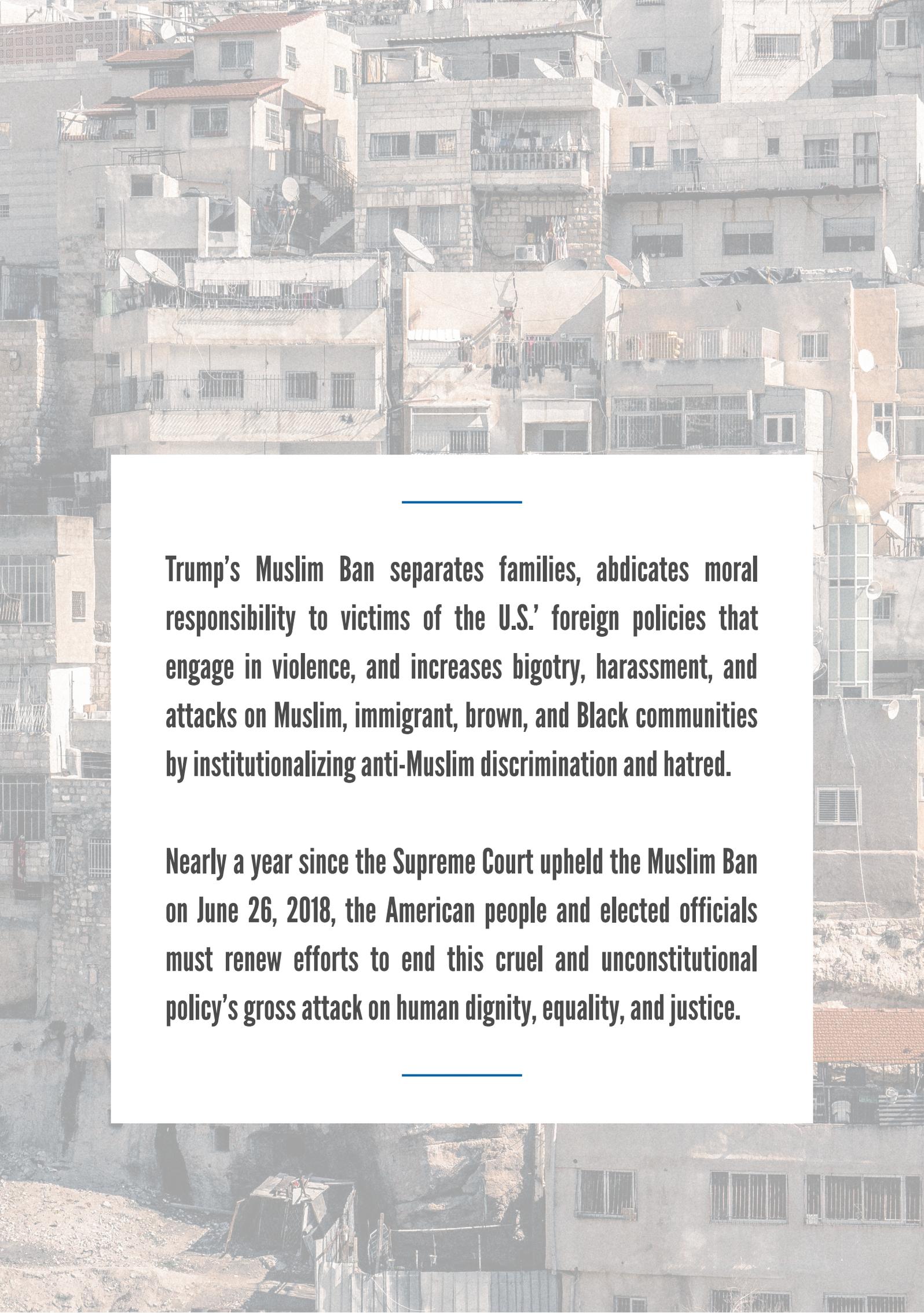
**A FOREIGN POLICY LENS**

# **THE MUSLIM BAN: Discriminatory Irresponsible Systemic**



**WIN WITHOUT WAR**





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**Trump's Muslim Ban separates families, abdicates moral responsibility to victims of the U.S.' foreign policies that engage in violence, and increases bigotry, harassment, and attacks on Muslim, immigrant, brown, and Black communities by institutionalizing anti-Muslim discrimination and hatred.**

**Nearly a year since the Supreme Court upheld the Muslim Ban on June 26, 2018, the American people and elected officials must renew efforts to end this cruel and unconstitutional policy's gross attack on human dignity, equality, and justice.**

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# CONTENTS

01

*The Muslim Ban is*  
**DISCRIMINATORY**

02

*The Muslim Ban is*  
**IRRESPONSIBLE**

03

*The Muslim Ban is*  
**SYSTEMIC**

04

**TAKE ACTION**

05

**LEARN MORE**

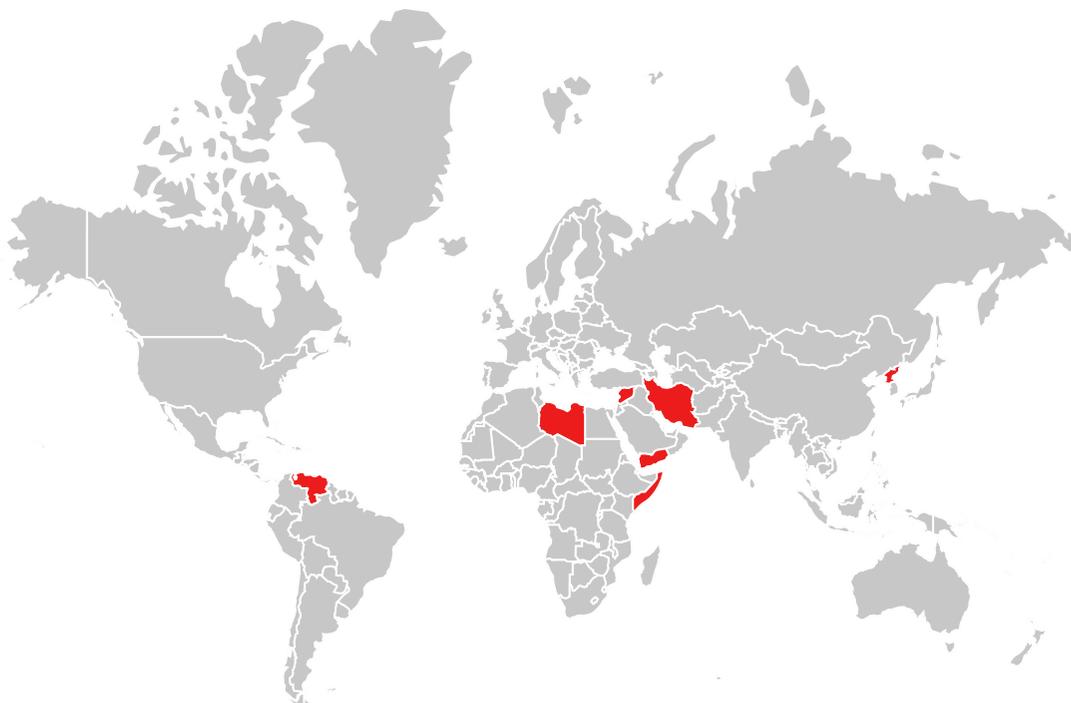


# The Muslim Ban is

# DISCRIMINATORY

**The Muslim Ban is a discriminatory policy designed to ban millions of people on the basis of religion, with devastating impact.**

- **INTENT:** Despite the addition of Venezuela and North Korea, the cosmetic changes to the Muslim Ban since its first iteration do not sanitize the bigoted intent of this policy. Justice Sonia Sotomayor (joined by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg) articulated in her [dissent](#), “Taking all the relevant evidence together, a reasonable observer would conclude that the Proclamation was driven primarily by anti-Muslim animus, rather than by the Government’s asserted national-security justifications.”
  - The Muslim Ban is a fulfillment of Trump’s campaign promise to discriminate against Muslims and perpetuate a bias-based narrative by preventing Muslims from coming to the United States.
  - Trump has continually made hateful statements about Islam and Muslims and promoted anti-Muslim sentiment and violence across the country.
- Discriminating on the basis of religion is unacceptable and numerous courts ruled all three iterations of the Muslim Ban as being unconstitutional. The Supreme Court’s decision to uphold the Muslim Ban merely replicates past unjust Supreme Court rulings, like Dred Scott and Korematsu, that mark horrific chapters in U.S. history.
- **IMPACT:** The Muslim Ban indefinitely [bars](#) nationals of five Muslim-majority countries - Libya, Iran, Somalia, Syria, and Yemen - as well as certain nationals from North Korea and Venezuela from obtaining non-immigrant and immigrant visas to the United States.
  - Muslim-majority countries are both the target and the most impacted as the ban applies only to Venezuelan nationals associated with the government and North Koreans cannot freely travel outside of their country.
  - The promised waiver exception is a [sham](#), with 98% of applications denied or pending after a process that lacks clarity and transparency.
  - The Muslim Ban inflicts irreversible harm on Muslim, brown, and Black communities. It dehumanizes millions of people on the basis of religion, denies the sick and elderly life-saving medical treatment, and deprives both young and old access to education. The ban separates loved ones and [families](#), preventing people from celebrating milestones together, mourning beside each other at funerals, or simply enjoying the comfort of family and community.



# The Muslim Ban is

# IRRESPONSIBLE

The Muslim Ban abdicates the United States' moral and international obligations to uphold universal human rights and values, including the responsibility to safeguard the people directly impacted by the U.S.' violence-centered foreign policies.

- The post-9/11 wars across the Middle East and Africa jeopardize the safety and security of civilians every day. The U.S. has a moral responsibility to protect the people endangered and harmed by these policies, not help to lock them in the devastating crises it helped create.
- The U.S. cannot deny the integral role its policies have played in inflaming the very regional crises and humanitarian disasters that people from banned countries seek to escape. For example:



## YEMEN

- Continued U.S. support of the Saudi and Emirati-led coalition's military intervention in Yemen has perpetuated the world's largest man-made humanitarian catastrophe, with [22.2 million](#) Yemenis in need of assistance, and millions at risk of famine. American-made bombs have murdered thousands of civilians, including schoolchildren.
  - Trump vetoed a bipartisan Congressional effort to end unconstitutional U.S. military involvement in Yemen, yet continues to deny Yemenis sanctuary from the war's devastating impact.



## SYRIA

- The U.S.' destabilizing 2003 invasion and occupation of Iraq led to the rise of the so-called "Islamic State" (IS), which murdered and subjugated thousands of Syrians.
  - The U.S.-led coalition's "[war of annihilation](#)" against IS in Syria led to the virtually indiscriminate bombardment of urban centers like Raqqa, resulting in at least [1,600 civilian casualties](#) and massive displacement.
  - The U.S.' disjointed policy in Syria, including its occupation of parts of the northeast and decision to train-and-equip rebel factions rather than work in good faith towards an inclusive peace settlement, helped to prolong the conflict and bloodshed.



## IRAN

- Decades of U.S. [intervention](#) and hostility towards Iran have exacerbated the country's political and economic hardship, and helped to empower hard-liners today. The U.S.' violation of the Iran deal, ongoing push towards war with Iran, and broad [sanctions](#) regime fuels humanitarian suffering by dehumanizing and traumatizing millions of Iranians, denying them access to basic needs like food and medicine, and stifling homegrown progressive movements.



## LIBYA

- The UNSC-authorized and U.S.-led intervention in Libya [failed](#), further destabilizing a country in the midst of civil war and resulting in increased violent civilian deaths and human rights abuses.



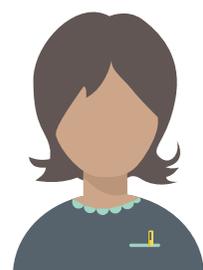
## SOMALIA

- In his first year in office, Trump dramatically [escalated](#) U.S. lethal strikes in Somalia where the U.S. has been at war for decades, and [loosened](#) civilian protections – resulting in dozens of civilian casualties, as well as damage to vital agriculture and infrastructure.

# The Muslim Ban is SYSTEMIC

**The Muslim Ban is part of a wider pattern of discrimination against Muslims, and these policies and anti-Muslim rhetoric have played a role in the increased violence against Muslim and other impacted communities at home and abroad.**

- The Muslim Ban is a deliberate effort to single out a specific demographic to embolden and legitimize the bigotry of an openly anti-Muslim administration.
  - Trump campaigned on anti-Muslim policies from the promise to ban Muslims from entering the United States to the possibility of a registry. Since taking office, Trump has stacked his administration with noted anti-Muslim zealots and recklessly endangered Representative Ilhan Omar (D-MN), one of the first two Muslim women in Congress.
  - Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has endorsed and accepted an award from ACT for America, a national anti-Muslim organization that promotes state and federal anti-Muslim legislation and organizes community opposition against the construction of mosques. Additionally, National Security Advisor John Bolton supports prolific Islamophobes and formerly chaired the Gatestone Institute, an anti-Muslim think tank that circulates and promotes anti-Muslim conspiracy theories.
- By further institutionalizing anti-Muslim hatred through the Muslim Ban and elevating white supremacists, the Trump administration has triggered an increase in racism and hate crimes against Muslims and other impacted communities.
- The continued inaccurate positioning of Muslims as suspicious proliferates a deadly othering of Muslims that has led to a global epidemic of anti-Muslim violence and dehumanization, including the indefinite detention of an entirely Muslim population at Guantanamo Bay prison, mass surveillance and drone warfare, the genocide of the Rohingya in Burma, the internment of more than a million Uighurs in China, and the massacre of worshippers in mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand.
- The Muslim Ban — along with family separation, border militarization, mass detention and deportation, turning away and harming asylum seekers, the dismantlement of the U.S. refugee resettlement program, and countless other abhorrent policies — is yet another pillar of this administration's white supremacist agenda.



## THE BOTTOM LINE

From airport protest to marches, hundreds of thousands of Americans stand in unified opposition to the Muslim Ban. Together, we must strengthen our resolve to end this discriminatory policy, reunite families and loved ones, and combat institutionalized anti-Muslim hatred in every form.



# TAKE ACTION

## URGE CONGRESS TO:

- **PASS [S. 1123](#) and [H.R.2214](#), the NO BAN Act**
  - Sponsored by Senator Chris Coons with 34 cosponsors and by Representative Judy Chu with over 120 cosponsors, the bill would repeal the Muslim, refugee and asylum bans and help prevent future discriminatory bans [by](#) amending the Immigration and Nationality Act.
- **PASS [S.246](#) and [H.R.810](#) to block the Muslim Ban**
  - Sponsored by Senator Chris Murphy with 32 cosponsors and by Representative Judy Chu with over 100 cosponsors, the bill will declare the Muslim Ban unconstitutional and block funding from being used to help implement the ban, restricting and reducing the ban's power and effectiveness.

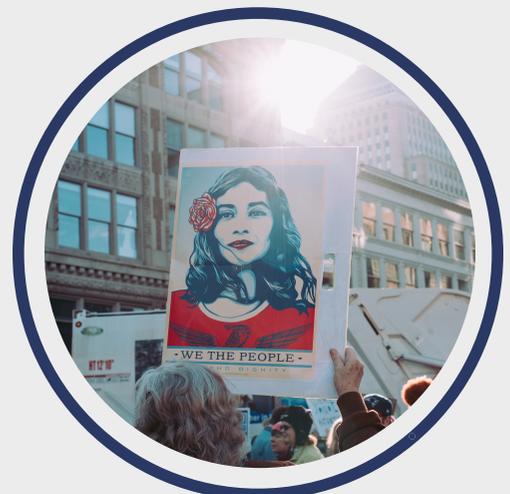


## URGE ALL 2020 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL PARTIES TO:

- Pledge to repeal the Muslim Ban, and any future discriminatory ban as one of the very first acts of any future administration.
- Include repealing the Muslim Ban as a signature issue in party platforms and during the 2020 presidential debates.

## URGE ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS TO:

- Fix the U.S.' broken and immoral immigration system to help dismantle institutionalized hatred and racism, and champion policies that safeguard and welcome, not hurt and demonize, people seeking safety, security, and opportunity.
- Commit to [ending](#) the endless post-9/11 wars that continue to traumatize, displace, and kill Muslim, brown, and Black people on a massive scale.
- Enact a constructive, equitable, and humane [U.S. foreign policy](#) that upholds all peoples' right to dignity, safety, and security.



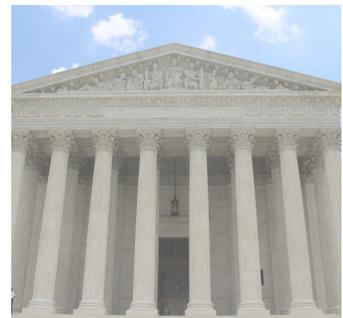


# LEARN MORE

- **ACLU:** Living with the Muslim Ban  
<https://www.aclu.org/issues/immigrants-rights/living-muslim-ban>
- **MPower Change:** Petition to Congress to #RepealTheBan and support the NO BAN ACT  
<https://act.mpowerchange.org/sign/repealtheban-nobanact/>
- **NIAC:** The Timeline - NIAC Takes On the Muslim Ban  
<https://www.niacouncil.org/endtheban/>
- **National Immigration Law Center:** Understanding Trump's Muslim Bans  
<https://www.nilc.org/issues/immigration-enforcement/understanding-the-muslim-bans/>
- **MoveOn:** No Muslim Ban Ever - How to be a Progressive Ally  
[https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.moveon.org/images/NoMuslimBanEverGuide\\_2.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.moveon.org/images/NoMuslimBanEverGuide_2.pdf)
- **No Muslim Ban Ever:** #RepealtheBan, Resources, Past Mobilizations  
<https://www.nomuslimbanever.com>
- **Coalition Letter:** Close to 400 Groups Band Together in Support of the NO BAN Act  
<https://www.muslimadvocates.org/close-to-400-groups-band-together-in-support-of-the-no-ban-act-2/>
- **Coalition Letter:** Open Letter from 127 Organizations Calling on all U.S. Political Parties to Adopt Platforms that Repeal the Muslim Ban, Reverse Historic-Low Cap on Refugees  
[https://d3n8a8pro7vnm.cloudfront.net/cairhq/pages/1125/attachments/original/1555942423/Open Letter Calling on all U.S. Political Parties to Adopt Platforms that Repeal the Muslim Travel Ban Reverse Historic-Low Cap on Refugees - April 22.pdf?1555942423](https://d3n8a8pro7vnm.cloudfront.net/cairhq/pages/1125/attachments/original/1555942423/Open%20Letter%20Calling%20on%20all%20U.S.%20Political%20Parties%20to%20Adopt%20Platforms%20that%20Repeal%20the%20Muslim%20Travel%20Ban%20Reverse%20Historic-Low%20Cap%20on%20Refugees%20-%20April%2022.pdf?1555942423)



# WIN WITHOUT WAR



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*Win Without War is a diverse network of activists and organizations working for a more peaceful, progressive U.S. foreign policy.*