

TRUMP'S REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT MORATORIUM

Current as of Jan 2017

The president signed an executive order on Friday, January 27th to shut down the refugee resettlement program and ban all immigrants from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. **If you or your family have questions about your immigration status, are currently abroad, are considering travel abroad, or are being detained at an airport please contact TIRRC at 615-414-1030. Please contact TIRRC if you have family who is in the refugee resettlement pipeline.**

TOP 10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 1 The President issued a complete shutdown of the refugee resettlement program for 120 days.** The moratorium blocks refugees from all countries, even those who had made it through the vetting process and were scheduled to arrive in the U.S. soon.
- 2 Refugees already in the U.S., may be required to undergo additional screening before they can adjust their immigration status.** It remains to be seen what—if any—impact this order might have on your legal status or your ability to further adjust your status when you are eligible to do so. Please consult an attorney or trusted organization like TIRRC before you adjust your immigration status.
- 3 Family reunification will be limited.** This executive order may limit the ability of a refugee currently in the U.S. to file for family reunification in the immediate future. We will know more about this as the executive order is implemented.
- 4 The President has barred the resettlement of Syrians indefinitely.** Syrian refugees will not be admitted until the president lifts the ban on Syrians.
- 5 The number of refugees admitted will be dramatically reduced.** If and when the resettlement program recommences, the president will only allow 50,000 refugees to resettle in the U.S. for this fiscal year—this is the lowest number in the history of the program. For this fiscal year 30,000 have already arrived—that means only up to 20,000 more will be allowed to enter if and when the program begins again. In the last fiscal year, the refugee ceiling was set at 110,000.
- 6 States and cities will have more power to decide how many (or whether) refugees will be allowed in their communities.** If we want to continue welcoming refugees to Tennessee, we'll need to make sure that our elected officials hear from us and represent our values of compassion and welcome.
- 7 This order serves to divide refugee communities based on where they are from or how they worship.** The Trump administration intends to redesign the way that people are approved to come into the country and institutionalize faith and national origin-based discrimination. For example, preference will be given to Christian refugees from the Middle East.
- 8 You belong here.** The president's actions this week might embolden people in your community to act on their hate or bias. Don't let anyone tell you that you don't belong here. Despite these troubling policies, it has become even more important to not panic, and understand that you still have rights. Please report any incidents of hate, harassment, or discrimination by calling our hotline: 615-414-1030.
- 9 We're going to fight back and defend the lifesaving work of refugee resettlement and to stop policies that discriminate against people based on where they are from or how they worship.** It is more important than ever that we come together to defend our rights and our communities. And we need you to join us! Become a TIRRC member today: www.tnimmigrant.org/membership or call 615-414-1030.
- 10 Follow TIRRC for more information and resources.** We'll have more information about this executive order and what it might mean for you and your family. Be careful of misinformation that may spread in the community as a result of these policy changes.



TRUMP'S REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT MORATORIUM & MUSLIM BAN

The president signed an executive order on Friday, January 27th to gut the refugee resettlement program and institute a backdoor ban on Muslim immigrants.

Right now, no refugees are being allowed entry into the United States – no matter how far along in the resettlement process they are.

The United States is also denying entry into the country to any non-citizen from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. This ban on entry applies to all immigrants and non-immigrants (including students with visas, legal permanent residents/green card holders, tourists, and any visa or non-visa holder) from these countries.

If you or anyone in your family is from one of the 7 countries banned and have questions about your visa, are currently abroad, or are being detained at an airport please call TIRRC at 615-414-1030. Please also contact us if you have family who is in the refugee resettlement pipeline.

TOP 10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BAN:

1

President Trump is turning his hateful campaign promises into hateful policies. Some people thought that President Trump wouldn't follow through on his campaign promises about a Muslim ban, but the executive orders show he is committed to doing everything in his power to institute a backdoor ban on Muslim immigration and bring the refugee resettlement program to a grinding halt.

2

We're going to fight back and defend the lifesaving work of refugee resettlement and to stop policies that discriminate against people based on where they are from or how they worship. The first week of the Trump presidency has been devastating for immigrant and refugee communities. It is more important than ever that we come together to defend our rights and our communities. And we need you to join us! Become a TIRRC member today: www.tnimmigrant.org/membership or call 615-414-1030.

3

The President issued a complete shutdown of the refugee resettlement program for 120 days. In the midst of the largest displacement of people since World War II, President Trump just announced that America will close its doors. The moratorium blocks even the refugees that had made it through the vetting process and were scheduled to arrive in the U.S. soon.

4

The President has barred the resettlement of Syrians indefinitely. Even if the president restarts the resettlement program in 120 days as the order outlines, the order states that Syrian refugees will not be admitted until the President lifts the ban on Syria.

5

A dramatic reduction in refugee resettlement. In response to the global refugee crisis, former President Obama set the 2017 resettlement numbers to 110,000 refugees. In his order, President Trump slashed that number to 50,000 refugees – the lowest in the program's history.

6

A ban on entry to the United States for foreign nationals who are from several Muslim-majority countries for 90 days. Anyone from Iran, Sudan, Syria, Libya, Somalia, Yemen, and Iraq who is not a citizen of the United States is being denied entry to the United States for the next 90 days – even if they have visas or green cards. There is potential for more countries to be added to the list of countries. If this affects you or your family call 615-414-1030.

7

Restructuring the visa and resettlement programs to institutionalize discrimination. The Trump administration intends to redesign the way that people are approved to come into the country. We expect they'll try to institutionalize the faith and national origin-based discrimination that underscore today's actions. For example, the order makes clear that refugees fleeing religious persecution will be given preference. In practice, this will mean giving preference to Christian refugees from the Middle East.

8

States and cities will have more power to decide how many (or whether) refugees will be allowed in their communities. Tennessee has been leading the way on anti-refugee policy. In fact, before Trump's election our legislature voted to sue the federal government in an effort to stop refugee resettlement. If we want to continue welcoming refugees to Tennessee, we'll need to make sure that our elected officials hear from us and represent our values of compassion and welcome.

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You belong here. The president's actions this week might embolden people in your community to act on their hate or bias. Don't let anyone tell you that you don't belong here. Despite these troubling policies, it has become even more important to not panic, and understand that you still have rights. Please report any incidents of hate, harassment, or discrimination by calling our hotline: 615-414-1030.

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Follow TIRRC for more information and resources. In the coming days we'll have more information about this executive order and what it might mean for you and your family. If you or your family are from one of these targeted countries and have questions about your status or travel abroad, please consult an attorney or a trusted organization. TIRRC can help direct you to proper resources. Be careful of misinformation that may spread in the community as a result of these policy changes.