



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Advocates for Human Rights Condemns President Trump’s Executive Order to Halt Immigration

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (April 21, 2020)

The Advocates for Human Rights condemns President Trump’s intention to halt immigration. On Monday, *The New York Times* reported that [President Trump said he would sign an executive order to temporarily halt immigration to the U.S. as the coronavirus outbreak continues to spread. Trump campaigned on shutting down immigration.](#) From 2017’s Muslim Ban to last month’s order to illegally turn back asylum seekers without a hearing the administration has been ready to exploit any opportunity to isolate the United States.

By focusing on jobs, the president’s tweet plays into xenophobic tropes. But the facts are clear: [459,000 people immigrated to the United States last year; 22 million Americans filed for unemployment last month. At a time when the administration should be focusing on public health,](#) safety and real economic issues, it is scapegoating immigrants yet again. “The administration’s immigration policy has consistently ignored federal law, international treaty obligations, fundamental human rights, and its impact on the human beings involved, including the immigrants, their families and the broader community,” said, Robin Phillips, executive director of The Advocates for Human Rights.

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About The Advocates for Human Rights

Envisioning a world in which every person lives with dignity, freedom, justice, equality, and peace, The Advocates for Human Rights works to change systems and conditions that cause human rights abuses. The Advocates investigates and exposes human rights violations; represents people seeking asylum; trains and assists human rights defenders; and develops partnerships and mobilizes volunteers to address some of the most pressing issues of our time. www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org.