



November 13, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write to thank you for your strong and decisive action to designate Nigeria as a Country of Particular Concern for the grave violations of religious freedom occurring in the country, particularly the targeting of Christians in horrifying numbers. We commend your recognition of the major threat and devastation facing Christians in Nigeria from radical Islamists and a government that has taken little action to protect them, as well as your clear-eyed statements placing all available Presidential actions on the table to ensure that action is taken soon. You saw the evidence, you listened to the cries of the persecuted, and you acted.

As you have stated, Christians are targeted and murdered for their faith by the thousands in Nigeria, more than in all other countries combined. These attacks come from terrorist groups like Boko Haram, IS-West Africa, and the Fulani militants. While the Nigerian government has failed to bring any of these groups to justice, it has especially failed to counter or prosecute the Fulani militant groups attacking Christians in the Middle Belt region, where the attacks are the worst. Beyond the mass killings, millions have been forced to flee their homes; many are kidnapped and trafficked, particularly young girls, who are often forced to convert to Islam and forced into sham marriages; and many suffer at the hands of Nigeria's draconian blasphemy laws that mandate the death penalty and inspire widespread mob violence.

Nigeria should remain on the Country of Particular Concern list until it demonstrates real commitment and verifiable evidence of improvement on four levels:

- 1) Increased security for Christian populations, particularly in the Middle Belt, with the deployment of additional military and law enforcement units trained to be proactive in fighting militants, along with responding to early warnings from communities so that resources can be quickly marshalled, and reviewing and publicly acknowledging past failures to act;

515 KING STREET, SUITE 300 | ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314 U.S.A.

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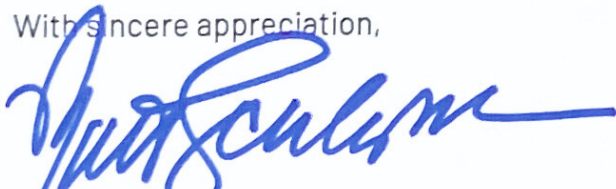
- 2) Ending impunity for those responsible for attacks against Christians, and ensuring that attackers are fully and quickly prosecuted;
- 3) Facilitating the safe return of internally-displaced persons to their homelands, and assisting in the rebuilding and security of these communities; and
- 4) Ceasing enforcement and initiating the repeal of the country's Sharia blasphemy laws, releasing all individuals imprisoned or detained for blasphemy-related offenses, and prosecuting mob attacks.

President Trump, we also commend your strong stance to defend all persecuted Christians against grave atrocities and serious violations of their God-given right to religious freedom. While the U.S. should defend religious freedom for all people, we agree that the threat to Christians worldwide is particularly severe, that Christians are the most persecuted religious group on the planet, and that the scourge of the persecution of Christians has been ignored by too many for too long.

We see atrocities and grave violations being committed worldwide, from Nicaragua to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan, from Algeria to Syria to China, and in so many other places. And we see countries that have traditionally been stronger defenders of religious freedom beginning to falter, whether in Europe or in South Korea or elsewhere.

The U.S. should stand as a beacon for the fundamental right to religious freedom and a voice for persecuted Christians globally, because if we do not stand, no one else will. That is why we ask that you continue to make the defense of religious freedom internationally a core U.S. foreign policy priority, and that you continue and even elevate your defense of persecuted Christians worldwide. We as a country now have the chance to turn the tide against the global persecution of Christians, and with your leadership, we stand ready, willing, and able to do all we can to help in this great effort.

With sincere appreciation,



The Honorable Matt Schlapp
CPAC Chairman



The Honorable Mercedes Schlapp
CPAC Senior Fellow

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Kyle Abts
Executive Director
International Committee on Nigeria

Jane F. Adolphe
International Catholic Jurists Forum
Founder & Executive Director

Mirna Barq
President
Syrian Christians for Peace

Timothy R. Busch
Founder
Napa Institute

Ann Buwalda
Executive Director
Jubilee Campaign USA Inc

Alejandro A. Chafuen Ph.D.
President
International Freedom Foundation

Mary Ann Glendon
Professor of Law, emerita
Harvard University

Ernest Custalow
Senior Pastor
Grace Church of Fredericksburg

Richard Ghazal Esq.
Executive Director
In Defense of Christians

Dr. Gary Hollingsworth
Interim President
Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of
the Southern Baptist Convention

Rick Joyner
Senior Pastor
Morning Star Ministries

Kelly Kullberg
Co-founder & General Secretary
American Association of Evangelicals
(AAE)

Dede Laugesen
President
Save the Persecuted Christians

Alexei Laushkin
Founder
Kingdom Mission Society

Katie Mahoney
Board Certified Health and Pregnancy
Coach for Stanton Wellness
Stanton Public Health

Rev. Pat Mahoney
President
The Christian Defense Coalition





Sarah E. Makin
Former Deputy Assistant to the President
Senior Director on the White House National
Security Council
Senior Advisor on International Religious
Freedom

Faith J. H. McDonnell
Director of Advocacy
Katartismos Global

Troy A. Miller
President & CEO
National Religious Broadcasters (NRB)

Jessica W. Moerman
Church Planter
Grace Capital City

Scott Morgan
Co-Chair
Africa Working Group International
Religious Freedom Roundtable

Penny Nance
President & CEO
Concerned Women for America

Jenny Noyes
New Wineskins Missions Network
Executive Director

Rev. Camille Ntoto
Founder
Africa New Day

Rev. Eve Nunez
President/ CEO
Help4kidz & Prayer House DC

Kristina Olney
Executive Director
The Remembrance Society

Tony Perkins
President
Family Research Council
Former Chair
U.S. Commission on International
Religious Freedom

Kelsey W. Reinhardt
President & CEO
CatholicVote

Juan Carlos Riofrio
Lecturer at the Columbus School
of Law International and Special
Academic Program
The Catholic University of America





Samuel Rodriguez
New Season-Lead Pastor
NHCLC President/CEO

Stephan Strang
Founder
Charisma Media

Dr. Gloria Puldu Samdi
Executive President
Leah Foundation

Patricia Streeter
Co-leader
Anglican Persecuted Church Network

Timothy Samuel Shah
Shah Distinguished Research Scholar in
Politics,
University of Dallas
Director of Strategic Initiatives
Center for Shared Civilizational Values

Dr. Katrina Lantos Swett
President
Lantos Foundation for Human Rights
& Justice

Nina Shea
Hudson Institute
Senior Fellow and Director Center Religious
Freedom

Mary Thomas
CEO
Faith & Freedom Coalition

Dr. Gregory H. Stanton
Chair
Genocide Watch
Founding President
The Alliance Against Genocide

Mark Tooley
President
Institute on Religion and Democracy

Kristen A. Ullman
President
Eagle Forum

John Stonestreet
President
Colson Center

Kristen Waggoner
President & CEO
Alliance Defending Freedom & ADF
International





Steven Wagner
President
Solidarity with the Persecuted Church

Travis Weber
Vice President for Policy & Government
Affairs
Family Research Council

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Member of Congress 1981-2015
and former USCIRF Commissioner

Wendy Wright
Christian Freedom International
President / CEO

*CC: The Honorable Vice President Vance
The Honorable Marco Rubio
The Honorable Pete Hegseth
The Honorable Mike Waltz*

