



January 31, 2017

The African Studies Program at the University of Washington statement on President Trump's Executive Order banning entry of citizens from Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen.

As African Studies faculty and scholars who “study the world” we oppose this discriminatory, ineffective, and unnecessary Executive Order and request that President Trump rescind it immediately.

We join colleagues across the world in speaking against this Executive Order that is an affront to U.S. constitutional and human rights principles and American values that we cherish including freedom of religion and compassion and support for the world's most vulnerable and beleaguered peoples. This order has had an immediate and profoundly negative impact on students, faculty and staff at our University and so many people around the country and the world. We strongly oppose restricting travel based on nationality or birthplace, a policy that punishes people for being born in a certain country.

We are dedicated to supporting all international members in our community and call on the current administration to continue offering asylum to people fleeing war and persecution. We reject the notion that this xenophobic order will protect national security or increase safety, and we stand with the many organizations and people around the world who have spoken out against this counterproductive action.

Sincerely,

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