



SISTERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER
Rise Up AND Act for Justice

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A Miserable Response by the Trump Administration to the World's Refugees on Eve of International Day of Peace *Congressional Action Required*

Just days away from the International Day of Peace on September 21, President Trump again has cast aside normal concern for others by again slashing the number of refugees that America will accept in Fiscal Year 2019 to 30,000 - the lowest level in U.S. history.

This drastically low number will leave tens of thousands of vulnerable refugees without a chance at safety and without peace. This is a gross disparity to the TWENTY TWO MILLION REFUGEES WORLDWIDE, more than half of whom are children. The United States must allow and accept no fewer than 75,000 refugees next year.

"Refugees are more than just a global figure; they are families torn apart, children who have witnessed profound violence, and people seeking a chance to rebuild their lives and raise a family in safety. Protecting vulnerable populations is not a zero-sum game; we can and should protect refugees and others fleeing violence or persecution. What's more, refugee resettlement facilitates U.S. diplomatic, national security and foreign policy interests," said Lawrence E. Couch, director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

Additionally, the White House has not performed its due diligence. It is required under U.S. law to consult with Congress prior to setting the annual refugee admissions number. President Trump and his Administration have not done so.

"Reopen our doors, Mr. President, to the world's refugees. We are a welcoming people whose collective heart is not content as others suffer," said Couch. "This paltry number is in direct contrast to the attitudes and beliefs of most Americans. Where is this Administration's empathy and compassion?"

[The National Advocacy Center](http://www.gsadvocacy.org) educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, victims of human trafficking, victims of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in over 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.

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