



January 29, 2017

Dear Members:

The International Association for College Admission Counseling (International ACAC) joins the growing number of organisations denouncing President Trump's Executive Order of January 27, 2017, barring "entry of all refugees to the United States for 120 days, [barring] Syrian refugees indefinitely, and [blocking] entry into the United States for 90 days for citizens of seven predominantly Muslim countries: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen." This unconstitutional and discriminatory ban is in direct opposition of values that International ACAC holds dear, namely that we value diversity and inclusion and welcome all persons, regardless of age, gender, sex, race, color, nationality, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or disability or handicap.

In this time of uncertainty for the future of our students holding a passport from one of these seven countries and considering higher education in the US, we encourage our members to engage with one another to offer assistance as students find those plans in disarray. We urge members from colleges and universities outside the United States who are still accepting freshman and transfer applications to make that information available on the International ACAC Facebook and by [submitting information here](#), which we will make available on our home page. Please use both channels as not all members are engaged in the Facebook community.

We also encourage our US-based members and our members who are US citizens living abroad to lobby their Congressional Representatives and Senators to denounce this blatantly discriminatory and unconstitutional ban on immigration. You can find the contact information for your Representatives [here](#) and your Senators [here](#). We ask our colleagues in NACAC and its twenty-two other state and regional affiliates to join us in these actions. We also urge our members who are citizens of other countries to lobby their governments to join in denouncing this action.

As a professional organisation, we are committed to providing opportunities for members to come together in our shared work and, to that end, will go forward with our plans to gather at Case Western Reserve University this coming July. We believe it is important to stand strong in the face of this type of discrimination and to make our voices heard on behalf of our members and the students they represent and serve. We recognise that not all of our members may be able to attend as a result of the recent actions of President Trump and we will engage and support them through our Regional Institutes and Regional Networks (more information on both initiatives to follow shortly).

Please be assured that the Leadership Team and the Executive Board are monitoring this situation closely and as things unfold, will be in communication with our full membership as information becomes available. We commend our members for their concern and support for students in the seven affected countries and around the world. In these difficult and uncertain times it is important we work together as a community and do all we can to make our voices heard.

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Johanna Fishbein, President-Elect, International ACAC  
Joe Giacalone, Past-President, International ACAC  
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