

December 9, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C.

Presidente Andrés Manuel López Obrador  
Palacio Nacional  
Ciudad de México, México

**RE: U.S. and Mexican Catholic organizations call for immediate, complete end to Migrant Protection Protocols and fair access to asylum for all**

President Biden and President López Obrador,

We are deeply troubled by the U.S. and Mexican governments reimplementing of the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP). The undersigned U.S. and Mexican Catholic organizations working in immigration law, policy, and services urge you to work together to end MPP and the misuse of Title 42 to ensure fair access to asylum for all those seeking protection from violence and persecution.

It is shocking that the U.S. has decided to move forward with reimplementing of MPP and expand it to countries such as Haiti. The consequences this policy has on the safety, dignity, and rights of asylum-seekers arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border are immense and devastating. In his [message](#) on the 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis calls on us as Catholics to move towards an “ever wider we.” An accessible, welcoming, and just asylum system is necessary for the United States to respond to this sacred call to action.

We call on the U.S. to end this deadly policy as quickly as possible and to put forth a plan for accountability, including any and all steps necessary to ensure that MPP, or anything like it, never happens again. Like the previous U.S. administration’s family separation policy, MPP caused horrifying and permanent harm to people in deeply vulnerable situations. While the damage can never be undone, we must take immediate and concrete steps now to recognize the dignity and humanity of asylum seekers in both words and action.

In addition to MPP, Catholic organizations in the U.S. and Mexico again call on the U.S. to end Title 42. The recently-announced decision to [lift travel restrictions](#) to the United States for vaccinated individuals further emphasizes the lack of validation for this policy. Instead of turning asylum-seekers away, and perhaps sending them to their death, the U.S. should offer COVID-19 vaccines for those who have been unable to access them in countries of origin and allow their asylum cases to proceed. We hope the Mexican government will join us in this call on the Biden administration.

The Holy Father [recently spoke](#) about the need to “work together through solidarity and subsidiarity in order to build a better society and emerge better from the Covid-19 pandemic.” He says to us all: “You have the ability and the courage to create hope where there appears to be only...exclusion...With your hands, you know how to forge the dignity of each person, of families and of society.”

President Biden and President López Obrador, we hold you in prayer and call on you to create hope by removing the barriers to asylum in your respective countries, including the Migrant Protection Protocols. As Catholic organizations working on the frontlines at our shared border, we stand ready, with outstretched arms, to welcome asylum seekers.

Sincerely,

Acción de Gracia Immigration Assistance  
Adorers of the Blood of Christ (ASC), US Region  
Adrian Dominican Sisters  
Caminando Juntos - Presentation Sisters Hispanic Ministry  
Casa del Migrante en Tijuana, A.C.  
CASA REINA  
Casa San Jose  
Catholic Charities - Archdiocese of Santa Fe  
Catholic Charities Diocese of Gary - ISAAC  
Catholic Charities Diocese of Laredo  
Catholic Charities Diocese of Lubbock  
Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri, Refugee and Immigration Services  
Catholic Charities of Central Texas  
Catholic Charities of Jackson, Mississippi  
Catholic Charities of North Louisiana  
Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro  
Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigration Services  
Catholic Charities San Diego  
Catholic Charities, NY - Immigrant and Refugee Services  
Catholic Legal Services, Archdiocese of Miami  
Catholic Sister, Joyce Caulfield, OP  
Catholic Social Services of Fall River, MA  
Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton  
Centro de Derechos Humanos Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez A.C.  
Congregation of Our Lady of the Good Shepherd, US  
Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul USA  
Daughters of Wisdom (US Province)  
Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services, Inc.  
Dominican Sister, Sister Mary Carr

Dominican Sisters - Grand Rapids  
Dominican Sisters of Houston  
Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa  
Dominican Sisters of Springfield, Illinois  
Dominicans  
Esperanza Center, Baltimore MD  
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration  
Hispanic Connection of Southern Indiana  
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC  
Holy Union Sisters United States Province  
Hope Border Institute  
Ignatian Solidarity Network  
IHM Sisters Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office  
Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Clinic, Columbus School of Law, The Catholic University of America  
Instituto Libre de Filosofía y Ciencias  
Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America (IFCLA)  
Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center  
Jesuit Conference Office of Justice & Ecology  
Jesuit Refugee Service/USA  
Jesuit Social Research Institute  
Kino Border Initiative  
Leadership Conference of Women Religious  
Long Island Immigration Clinic, Sisters of St. Joseph  
Loretto  
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
NETWORK Lobby For Catholic Social Justice  
Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Project Hope-Proyecto Esperanza, Srs. of St. Francis, Tiffin, OH  
Red Jesuita con Migrantes LAC  
Sacred Heart of Mary Task Force on Immigration  
Saint Louis University Center for Social Action  
Saint Louis University Division of Diversity and Innovative Community Engagement  
Servicio Jesuita a Migrantes México  
Servicio Jesuita a Refugiados México  
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation Committee  
Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Office of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation  
Sisters of Charity of New York  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team  
Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi  
Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden, PA  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston

Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny Province of USA/Canada  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester  
Sisters of St. Joseph, Brentwood NY  
Sisters of the Humility of Mary  
Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque IA  
Sisters of the Presentation, New Windsor, NY  
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton, PA  
St. Francis Community Services  
U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph  
Westchester, IL Community of Dominican Sisters