



August 17, 2021

The Honorable Senator Bob Menendez
Chairman, US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

The Honorable Senator James E. Risch
Ranking Member, US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Re: Establishing the Senate Human Rights Commission

Dear Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Risch,

We, the undersigned, request your support for the establishment of the Human Rights Commission in the Senate. On March 1st, 2021, "S.Res. 80: A resolution Establishing the Senate Human Rights Commission" (S.Res. 80) was introduced by Senators Chris Coons and Thom Tillis, respectively Chair and Co-Chair of the Senate Human Rights Caucus. The adoption of this resolution would establish a nonpartisan platform for Senators to take action on matters regarding international human rights. The House of Representatives has in place the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, which has effectively brought attention to the most egregious international human rights violations. We believe that forming a similar commission in the Senate would add value to the work of the U.S Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

S.Res. 80 has the support of the following Cosponsors: Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL), Senator James Lankford (R-OK), and Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD).

We urge you to support our advocacy for the establishment of the Human Rights Commission in the Senate. We thank you for your consideration and are willing to discuss this matter further with you.

Sincerely,

Cc:
Senator Susan Collins (R-ME)
Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL)
Senator James Lankford (R-OK)
Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)

Sponsoring Organizations

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| 1. Africa Faith and Justice Network | 14. National Religious Campaign Against Torture |
| 2. Leadership Conference of Women Religious | 15. Sisters of Mercy of the Americas - Justice Team |
| 3. Franciscan Action Network | 16. World Sindhi Congress |
| 4. Friar Servants of Mary-USA Province | 17. Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns |
| 5. National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC) | 18. Union for Reform Judaism |
| 6. International Campaign for the Rohingya | 19. Red Eagle Enterprises |
| 7. United Sikhs; Jinternational | 20. Baha'is of the United States |

8. International Christian Concern
9. United Macedonian Diaspora
10. New Wineskins Missionary Network
11. Citizen Power Initiatives for China
12. The Orthodox Public Affairs Committee (OPAC)
13. Saint Nicholas Freedom Group
21. Congo Mission Network
22. International Organization to Preserve Human Rights
23. Presbyterian Church (USA)
24. Church of Scientology National Affairs Office
25. Rev Dr. Lydia Gonzalez
26. Happy Science USA Bureau