



January 30, 2017

Dear Valued AIRC Community Member,

AIRC shares the deep concerns of its members, strategic partners and sponsors, and constituent student concerns over the recent travel ban and immigration restrictions enacted by the current U.S. Administration. The travel ban of individuals from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen profoundly affects administrators, advocates, and especially students who engage in international education programs in the U.S. The legality of the ban is currently in question, which has led to confusion about how students and institutions should react. Specifics regarding an enforcement ban are in many cases unpredictable, and may also be subject to a fast-changing series of rules. As such it is important to stay up to date on the news and regulations surrounding this executive order. A breakdown of the order and NAFSA's travel advisory regarding the ban can be found [here](#).

In addition, AIRC offers the following recommendations for you and your organization to consider:

- Follow NAFSA's recommendation for students from the seven countries listed on the ban who are already in the U.S. to not leave the country in the coming months. Should they choose to leave, their visas may be revoked and their re-admission to the U.S. would be in doubt.
- Connect with Congressional leadership representing your community, communicate your feelings about the ban, and articulate the importance of a diversified student population and an internationalized campus and community. A preliminary list of elected leaders and their actions regarding the ban can be found [here](#).
- Should any of your students or colleagues require legal help, refer to the websites for immigration lawyers and pro bono legal assistance found at:

Justice.gov

ACLU

[American Immigration Lawyers Association](http://AmericanImmigrationLawyersAssociation)

[Lawyers for Good Government](http://LawyersforGoodGovernment)

- Share success stories with AIRC and in local and online forums of how international students have thrived in your school and community. These

narratives are important to share, as they personalize the stories of those affected by the ban. Contact AIRC by email: Staff@airc-education.org, or connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and LinkedIn (search for American International Recruitment Council (AIRC) in groups).

· Join the #YouAreWelcomeHere [video campaign](#) started by Study Group and promoted by Jessica Sandberg at Temple University by creating a video with your colleagues and students. The campaign is aimed at current and prospective international students, and intends to remind them that their presence is valued on campus in the USA.

AIRC will continue to assist its members in any way it can. We are working with other national-level international education organizations, including [The Alliance for International Educational and Cultural Exchange](#) to form a response and course of action for the coming weeks and months.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Mike Finnell
Executive Director