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Date: January 21st,

JOINT STATEMENT

Joint Statement: The immigration policies of the current U.S. government must be based on absolute respect for human dignity and human rights.

“Politics, if carried out with a fundamental respect for the life, liberty and dignity of all persons, can truly become an eminent form of charity”
Pope Francis

As the Franciscan Network for Migrants of the Americas, Franciscans Action Network, Franciscans International, JPIC COFRAMEX (Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Commission of the Franciscan Conference of Mexico), Quixote Center y Las Américas Immigrant Advocacy Center, WE EXPRESS our concern regarding the executive orders on migration policy signed by President Donald Trump on January 20th, which will have a negative regional impact on migrants and individuals in need of international protection.

The Trump Administration’s methods of migration control promote extreme actions of national security that violate the human rights of migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless persons. Likewise, mass deportations without due process fail to account for the unique circumstances and needs of the migrant population, being a discriminatory practice that stigmatizes individuals and disregards the value that diversity brings to a democratic and pluralistic society.

In this manner, immigration detentions punish people fleeing from systematic and systemic violence in their home countries, violence which is replicated during transit along the U.S. border route, stripping the migrant population, asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless persons of their dignity.

WE EXPRESS our concern for those who see migration as their only opportunity to improve their living conditions, are forced to leave their countries due to circumstances beyond their control, and therefore, face double punishment.

As the Franciscan Family, **WE URGE** Donald Trump to honor the United States' long-standing tradition of representing freedom, hope, and opportunity by ensuring that migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless persons—many of whom face extreme hardship—are not left stranded. Rather, we implore the Trump Administration to promote more humane and humanizing migration policies, while fostering dialogue between state governments, in order to promote cooperation strategies and sustainable and comprehensive solutions,





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based on a culture of peace and absolute respect for the rights and dignity of all persons. We are all part of the human family. We are all brothers and sisters.

WE URGE all U.S. organizations, from free legal clinics to government agencies and programs, to strengthen their networks and coalitions to provide an immediate and effective response to the needs of vulnerable migrants subject to international protection, especially those at risk of detention, deportation and a limited access to basic services.

Furthermore, **WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT** based in the gospel to:

1. Foster dialogue and advance actions that uphold the dignity of individuals while ensuring absolute respect for the human rights of migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless persons.
2. Proactively respond to the call made by Pope Francis in the ("*Fratelli tutti*") by uniting civil society, governments, the Church, and academia to address migration challenges while embracing the principles of welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating each of our migrant brothers and sisters.

Peace and good.

The Franciscan Migrant Network of the Americas is a network formed by:

RFM México: Equipo México; Albergue Frontera Digna, Piedras Negras; Comedor San Francisco de Asís para Migrantes, Mazatlán; Casa INDI. Hogar y Comedor de los pobres, Monterrey, Nuevo León; Casa Franciscana Guaymas A.C; Comedor Itinerante Franciscano, Monterrey, Nuevo León; La 72, Hogar Refugio para Personas Migrantes, Tenosique, Tabasco; HFIC México (JPIC), RFM Guatemala: Casa Peregrina del Migrante "Santo Hermano Pedro", Guatemala; Equipo Guatemala. RFM Honduras. RFM El Salvador, RFM Panamá. RFM Colombia. RFM Brasil. RFM Chile, RFM Estados Unidos: Equipo de Estados Unidos de América; Iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepción de Durham, Carolina del Norte (USA).

Colaboradores de incidencia: Quixote Center, (Estados Unidos). Franciscans Action Network (Estados Unidos), Franciscans International, (Ginebra) y Las Américas: Immigrant Advocacy Center (México-USA)

