

ACT NOW: The U.S. Refugee Program at Risk



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.

Many U.S. politicians have begun to cite the tragic events in Paris and Beirut as a reason to put safe haven further out of reach for refugees.

But at this critical moment, when there are more refugees and displaced persons than at any time since World War II, we must protect refugees and asylum seekers, not scapegoat them.

Here's how you can help make sure this message is heard:

STEP ONE: Look up the contact information of your Member of Congress and Senators at <https://www.opencongress.org/people/zipcodelookup>

STEP TWO: Call or write your two Senators and your Member of Congress with this sample script and supplemental talking points. Add your own personal reasons why your Jewish values and history motivate you to support refugees.

I'm a constituent from [City] and I support refugee resettlement in the U.S. As your constituent, I urge you to keep the door open to refugees as we witness the largest refugee crisis since World War II.

It is critical that Congress maintain its historic support for refugee resettlement and provide robust funding for the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program to ensure adequate support for refugees and the communities that welcome them.

Please oppose and speak out against any measure that would halt or restrict resettlement or funding for any group of refugees.

- As a rule, refugees are victims of terrorism, not perpetrators of terrorism. It is imperative that we are able to tell the difference and help those who have suffered.
- The U.S. government handpicks the refugees who resettle here, and refugees are the most thoroughly vetted people to come to the United States.
- All refugees resettled in the United States undergo rigorous security screenings by the Department of Homeland Security, FBI, Department of Defense and multiple intelligence agencies, including biometric checks, forensic testing, medical screenings and in-person interviews.
- This is not an either/or situation. The United States can continue to welcome refugees while also continuing to ensure national security. We must do both.