

August 1, 2023

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Room S-221, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Room S-230, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
Room H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Room H-204, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker McCarthy, and Leader Jeffries:

We the undersigned organizations, urge Congressional leadership to unequivocally denounce white supremacist, anti-immigrant rhetoric and its use by Members of Congress, and encourage Members of your caucuses to refrain from using this dangerous rhetoric. As we approach the fourth anniversary of the anti-immigrant terrorist attack in El Paso, Texas, that killed 23 people on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, we are reminded of the deadly impact of this rhetoric.

The perpetrator of the El Paso attack was motivated by the white supremacist [“great replacement”](#) conspiracy, which he believed was being facilitated by a [“Hispanic invasion.”](#) Four years later, this same “invasion” and “replacement” rhetoric is leveraged by Members of Congress to further political agendas related to immigration and national security. They echo white supremacist claims of a “white genocide” orchestrated by a “Jewish cabal”, who use immigrants and minority populations as pawns in a nefarious plot. This rhetoric, and its related dog whistles, dehumanize migrants and asylum seekers, posing them as an existential threat that must be met with violence.

Again and again, our country has experienced hate violence inspired by this conspiratorial rhetoric. We know this because terrorists tell us this in their screeds. Driven by fears of “replacement” and “invasion,” terrorists targeted the Latino community in [El Paso, Texas](#), Black Americans in [Buffalo, New York](#), and Jews in [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania](#), and in [Poway, California](#), among other communities.

Despite this repeated violence across the US, Members of Congress continue to invoke the antisemitic and anti-immigrant conspiracy theories that have inspired multiple violent attacks. Members have referred to peaceful migrants and asylum seekers as “invaders” or as an “invasion” [90 times in their official capacity in hearings, on the floor, or in official press releases](#).

Immigration and border policy are important topics that demand Congressional discussion. We implore Senate and House leadership to not only condemn references to conspiratorial and bigoted rhetoric, including references to the “great replacement” and an “invasion,” but to encourage the Members of your caucus to refrain from using such rhetoric. We cannot allow prejudiced and inflammatory language to dominate critical policy conversations, nor to threaten the safety and liberty of our communities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Signed,

### **National Organizations**

Anti-Defamation League

Advocates for Youth

African Communities Together

American Jewish Committee

Alianza Americas

America’s Voice

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee

Asian Americans Advancing Justice

ASISTA

Asylum Seeker Advocacy Project

Autistic Self-Advocacy Network

Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network

Avodah

Bend the Arc: Jewish Action

Bridges Faith Initiative,

Bridging Divides Initiative,

Cameroon American Council

CASA

Center for Security, Race and Rights

Center for Victims of Torture

Church World Service

Coalition on Human Needs

Communities United for Status and Protection  
Community Change Action  
Global Project Against Hate and Extremism  
Grassroots Leadership  
HIAS  
Hispanic Federation  
Hope Border Institute  
Human Rights Campaign  
Human Rights First  
Immigrant Guide  
Immigrant Legal Resource Center  
Immigration Equality  
Immigration Hub  
Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti  
Interfaith Alliance  
Japanese American Citizen's League  
Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ocean Futures Society  
Jesuit Refugee Service/USA  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs  
Jewish Labor Committee  
Justice Action Center  
Keshet  
Latin America Working Group  
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund  
MANA, A National Latina Organization  
March For Our Lives  
Mi Familia Vota  
MomsRising  
MPower Change Action Fund  
Muslim Advocates, Muslim Public Affairs Council  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Disability Rights Network  
National Education Association  
National Employment Law Project  
National Immigrant Justice Center  
National Immigration Forum  
National Immigration Law Center  
National Immigration Project  
National Network for Arab American Communities  
National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

National Organization for Women  
National Partnership for New Americans  
National Urban League  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
Newtown Action Alliance  
Nicaraguan American Legal Defense and Education Fund  
Oasis Legal Services  
Oxfam America  
People Power United  
Presente.org  
Quixote Center  
Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team  
Society for Humanistic Judaism  
Southern Border Communities Coalition  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
The Border Network for Human Rights  
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights  
The Sikh Coalition  
UndocuBlack Network  
UnidosUS  
Union for Reform Judaism  
United We Dream  
Veterans for American Ideals  
Voto Latino  
We Are All America  
#WelcomeWithDignity  
Western States Center  
Witness at the Border  
Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights  
22nd Century Initiative

### **State/Local Organizations**

#### Arizona

Coalición de Derechos Humanos  
Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project  
Tucson Jewish Museum and Holocaust Center

## California

Al Otro Lado  
Alliance San Diego  
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights  
Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project  
Immigrant Defenders Law Center  
Indivisible Media City Burbank  
Program for Torture Victims  
Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network  
Sisters of Mercy Solidarity Committee  
Venice Resistance

## Colorado

Jewish Community Relations Council Colorado

## D.C.

Ayuda

## Florida

Family Action Network Movement  
Florida Immigrant Coalition  
Jewish Federation of Broward County

## Georgia

Congregation Bet Haverim  
GALEO Impact Fund  
Georgia Interfaith Public Policy Center  
Islamic Speakers Bureau of Atlanta  
Jewish Community Relations Council of Atlanta

## Idaho

United Vision for Idaho

## Illinois

Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford

## Indiana

Jewish Community Relations Council Indianapolis  
Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne  
Mariposa Legal

Louisiana

Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy

Maryland

Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Howard County

Massachusetts

Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action

Michigan

Strangers No Longer

Minnesota

Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota

Jewish Community Action

Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas

Nebraska-

Jewish Community Relations Council Omaha

New Jersey

Bend the Arc Jewish Action: South Jersey

Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center

New Mexico

New Mexico Dream Team

Border Network for Human Rights,

New York

Open Borders CoLAB at Cornell University

The National Federation for Just Communities of WNY Inc.

Upper East Side for Change

Jewish Community Relations Council Buffalo

Jewish Community Relations Council of Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester

Levine Center to End Hate at Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester

Make the Road New York

North Carolina

Carolina Jews for Justice

Ohio

Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Pittsburgh

Cleveland Jobs with Justice

Jewish Community Relations Council of Cincinnati

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo

Oregon

Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education

Oregon League of Conservative Voters

PCUN

Tennessee

Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Nashville

Texas

Asian Texans for Justice

Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services Inc.

El Paso Holocaust Museum

La Union del Pueblo Entero

Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center

Voces Unidas RGV

Woori Juntos

Washington

Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle

Manzanita House

Peace & Justice Action League of Spokane

Wisconsin-

Jewish Community Relations Council Milwaukee