

**APPEAL ON BEHALF OF MIDDLE EASTERN CHRISTIANS, YAZIDIS  
AND OTHER RELIGIOUS MINORITIES**

***We thank President Trump for his leadership in directing U.S. aid reforms to end the marginalization of the religious minorities that had been targeted by ISIS for genocide. As Vice President Pence affirmed in a widely publicized speech on October 25, much of the \$2 billion in US aid for Iraqis since 2014 was channeled through the UN and has bypassed these Christians and other minorities. To correct this gross injustice, the administration recently announced new policies for direct aid programs through the State Department and USAID, in addition to the continuation of an unspecified portion of U.S. aid funding for these minorities through the UN.***

***We now urge President Trump to immediately appoint within the U.S. National Security Council an interagency coordinator to oversee and expeditiously facilitate the various programs supported by the U.S. government to help these Middle Eastern minorities. Such a role could be filled by a Special Advisor to the President for International Religious Freedom, a post that was created by Congress under the International Religious Freedom Act in 1998 but which has never before been filled.***

***Such a measure should be taken without delay. The situation now facing these minority communities is extremely urgent. Iraqi and Syrian Christianity, in particular, is experiencing a mass exodus spurred by a sense of abandonment and despair. The eradication of this ancient community's presence would fulfill a key ISIS objective and would render empty our own nation's solemn vow following the Jewish Holocaust of "Never Again."***

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title and Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email or phone contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_