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**May 29, 2017**

**Calendar**

**May 29, 2017 Memorial Day – see attached prayer**

**May 29, 2017 International Day of UN Peacekeepers**

**Taking Action**

**Paris Agreement**While President Trump so far has said that climate change may be a hoax, and discussed pulling out the Paris agreement, Pope Francis has emphasized that science shows us climate change is real and harming creation and the poor, taught us that we cannot place money before people, and that the only way to achieve real change is through international cooperation.

**We are praying that President Trump will be moved by his meeting with Pope Francis**, and by reading Laudato Si. Join us in [**t**](http://global.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=9a4574228876a94c19d41644f&id=992af6752e&e=85e79fda58)[**elling President Trump to stay in the Paris agreement**](http://global.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=9a4574228876a94c19d41644f&id=cf80cbb4dc&e=85e79fda58) and protect the climate.

**President’s Budget Proposal**  
**The White House has finally made it official: President Trump wants to cut the International Affairs Budget by 32 percent next year.** If the President's proposal were to pass:

* Funding for food to be sent to people who are starving would be completely eliminated;
* Funding for global health programs would be cut by 25 percent; and
* Funding for development assistance worldwide would be cut nearly in half.

This proposal becoming law would hurt people living in extreme poverty and weaken America's leadership in the world. **We cannot allow Congress to pass this budget. Click below or call 1-888-453-3211 to be connected to your senators The phone numbers below are also in the RESOURCE below.**

[**TELL YOUR SENATOR TO BLOCK THIS BUDGET**](https://act.one.org/call/mcommons_budget_response_sen/?t=9&utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&akid=9001.1885623.qOm_Pc)

**Iran – Action Requested**

NIAC Action issued the following statement in response to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee’s mark-up and passage of S. 722, the Countering Iran’s Destabilizing Activities Act of 2017, by an 18-3 vote: Relations After Iranians overwhelmingly voted for openness and engagement, Senators have effectively endorsed Trump’s calls for a provocative and dangerous approach to the Middle East. NIAC Action condemns this vote and urges the full Senate to abstain from moving the bill forward. [Read More >>](http://niacouncil.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=ec0d04df4f6d2288f04feee31&id=5f5d18760c&e=60c6415115)  
[NIAC Statement on Secretary Kerry's Sanctions Warning >>](http://niacouncil.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=ec0d04df4f6d2288f04feee31&id=450516b094&e=60c6415115)

[Take Action & Contact Your Senators to Oppose This Bill >>](http://niacouncil.us8.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=ec0d04df4f6d2288f04feee31&id=c78925d313&e=60c6415115)

**Information/Reflection**

A [video message](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001j-Of-KmJm74MGkCXZhTAZ0rwE6HYFPUISSpTpO8S9SxNSIU2C4Zb1WwfteMxnEViQrBsYvjvP-wz8DgDDoj1_7r5oEFtT-Wvy23BoNPd6iqgzuZB1K7N4m9jd-Ul83fvh-naH5xVGrIrqMTPhuiSi8fyGzBmBGze7DRN3MiJ7nY_d4yrbj0ztg==&c=M6Wi7b3aGAYWp52KKzkMJRpW_KXR6btNEgZk7eNPbhxVIIDRGZ4F7Q==&ch=Uw0KkA8CWZGlCfj-IAW0b6LxtgWYx_1G2PeOERemC_wJhdD4t3aVqQ==) marking Memorial Day from Gold Star father Khizr Khan in which he urges all Americans to "recommit ourselves to unity, liberty, justice, and finally – to an end to all wars." [A Memorial Day Message From Gold Star Father Khizr Khan and CAIR](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001j-Of-KmJm74MGkCXZhTAZ0rwE6HYFPUISSpTpO8S9SxNSIU2C4Zb1WwfteMxnEViQrBsYvjvP-wz8DgDDoj1_7r5oEFtT-Wvy23BoNPd6iqgzuZB1K7N4m9jd-Ul83fvh-naH5xVGrIrqMTPhuiSi8fyGzBmBGze7DRN3MiJ7nY_d4yrbj0ztg==&c=M6Wi7b3aGAYWp52KKzkMJRpW_KXR6btNEgZk7eNPbhxVIIDRGZ4F7Q==&ch=Uw0KkA8CWZGlCfj-IAW0b6LxtgWYx_1G2PeOERemC_wJhdD4t3aVqQ==)

**Eliminating Styrofoam**

I want to thank my state Senator Richard Bloom for introducing California Senate Bill 705 (SB705) that would eliminate plastic foam food and beverage containers at restaurants and other food service providers statewide in California.  This bill is currently working its way through Senate committees and will be up for vote soon.

**Health Care Bill**

A new [Fact Sheet](http://calbudgetcenter.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=17ca1da24a57bcb636baacea4&id=835cf0dc32&e=83159a043d) from the California Budget & Policy Center looks at the CBO's analysis of the AHCA and also discusses what this bill would likely mean for California and for Medi-Cal, the Medicaid program in our state. This analysis presents the top-line figures from the CBO score, which show that under the AHCA, 23 million fewer people nationally would have health coverage by 2026, compared to current law. In addition, the Budget Center's analysis points to the AHCA's expected impacts on California, such as the harm it would do to the health of women and veterans, among other populations, and the huge new costs that would be shifted to the state budget.  
[**Read our Fact Sheet.**](http://calbudgetcenter.us9.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=17ca1da24a57bcb636baacea4&id=6bfcebe491&e=83159a043d)

**A Syrian Family’s Story**

After war broke out in Syria, the Alsahani family watched loved ones die and their city destroyed. They fled for their lives. [**They lost everything**](http://www.e-activist.com/ea-action/broadcast.record.message.click.do?ea.url.id=937640&ea.campaigner.email=ut1W6gYjssZlrSnns4Yo3rxCZXXMB5KH&ea.campaigner.id=TyzmnwWxyu6BKFlzN0740Q==&ea_broadcast_target_id=0), including a successful business making curtains — a craft that Mohammed was teaching his son Yousef. But the Alsahanis were welcomed in Kiel, Germany, where they've begun to rebuild their lives.

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**Resources**

**The latest state refugee action tracker**

There remain 35 anti-refugee proposals filed in 19 states, and 30 pro-refugee proposals filed in 18 states. This week's major developments:

Illinois: HR 194, a resolution condemning acts of hate against Jews, Muslims, refugees, LGBTQ, and communities of color, was adopted 5/16.

As an FYI HB 45 in Texas passed the Senate. It originally, but did not ultimately, pertain to Sharia law.

In addition, the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Virginia ruled today, upholding the block on the President's travel ban: <http://www.cnbc.com/2017/05/25/federal-appeals-court-upholds-block-on-trumps-travel-ban-nbcnews.html>

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