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**January 13, 2020**

"The real question is why are we, together, creating a world that none of us as individuals would ever choose? Nobody gets up and says, 'How can I heat the planet today?' But what is it that isn't encouraging us to participate in the creation of the world we do want?"

—Frances Moore Lappe

**January**

**Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month**

**Catholic Poverty Awareness Month**

Jan.16 National religious Freedom Day

Jan. 18 Walk for Life

Jan. 18 Women’s March

Jan, 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Jan, 27 International Day of Commutation in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

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**TAKING ACTION**

**Be a voice for the voiceless
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***Support the NIAC (National Iranian American Council)***

It has been a long and hard week for our community with the anxieties of a looming war, feeling vulnerable at home, a tragic plane crash, and threats to our cultural heritage at the hands of our President. In such times of distress, we are reminded of the importance of unity and community. NIAC has been working around the clock to ensure that the concerns of our community and our voices are heard.

That’s why we are protecting our heritage by saying #HandsOffPersepolis. Iran is home to a culture and civilization that spans 2500+ years and hosts many of the world’s great cultural sites. **Senator Ed Markey has introduced an important** [resolution](https://click.everyaction.com/k/13778126/143559140/-1589677651?s=20&nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9UU00vVFNNRUEvMS82ODczNCIsDQogICJEaXN0cmlidXRpb25VbmlxdWVJZCI6ICIwMWIwZGFkMC1mZTMzLWVhMTEtYTFjYy0yODE4Nzg0ZDA4NGYiLA0KICAiRW1haWxBZGRyZXNzIjogImRzbWl0aEBjc2psYS5vcmciDQp9&hmac=y_hZmkgLc6ZFWVZFYWxnLclCAy2m-HJBBIeXMry_B9w=&emci=fb7d53b4-f133-ea11-a1cc-2818784d084f&emdi=01b0dad0-fe33-ea11-a1cc-2818784d084f&ceid=1037372) **(S.Con.Res 32) to protect Iran’s historical sites in response to Trump’s threats against them and to uphold our commitment to international law.** Add your voice in support of this measure [**here**](https://click.everyaction.com/k/13778127/143559141/1987187250?nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9UU00vVFNNRUEvMS82ODczNCIsDQogICJEaXN0cmlidXRpb25VbmlxdWVJZCI6ICIwMWIwZGFkMC1mZTMzLWVhMTEtYTFjYy0yODE4Nzg0ZDA4NGYiLA0KICAiRW1haWxBZGRyZXNzIjogImRzbWl0aEBjc2psYS5vcmciDQp9&hmac=y_hZmkgLc6ZFWVZFYWxnLclCAy2m-HJBBIeXMry_B9w=&emci=fb7d53b4-f133-ea11-a1cc-2818784d084f&emdi=01b0dad0-fe33-ea11-a1cc-2818784d084f&ceid=1037372) to encourage your Senators to sign on.

***Support the Arctic Reserve***

**The administration is seeking to overturn the plan’s protections by opening millions of acres in and around Teshekpuk Lake to oil and gas development. This reckless effort to sell off additional areas of the Western Arctic Reserve to fossil fuel companies is being done without regard for the harm it will likely cause to this ecologically sensitive area, the people who live there, and our climate.**

The Western Arctic Reserve is the largest tract of wild and undisturbed public land in the U.S., providing vital habitat for hundreds of species, including migratory birds, brown bears, caribou, threatened polar bears, walruses, and beluga whales. Alaska Native communities across this region have sustained themselves for thousands of years with wild foods harvested from the Western Arctic Reserve’s lands and waters.

[TAKE ACTION](https://secure.earthjustice.org/site/R?i=9Ufvdr6Tdr0eg6pbR-SvDQ)

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**INFORMATION/RESOURCES**

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***Targeting El Paso***

How did El Paso, Texas, come to be a testing ground for some of America’s most divisive immigration policies?  FRONTLINE investigates in “*Targeting El Paso*.” It begins with the mass shooting and then address the immigration issues and policies affecting El Paso.

[https://to.pbs.org/2ZMuDgI](https://t.co/qWqa66kdIq)

***What is next for the Middle East***

Escalating U.S.-Iran tensions will reverberate throughout the Middle East—especially in Iraq. USIP’s [**Sarhang Hamasaeed**](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=943b4cddeb4ff75cbe99526aeba9e931f9930b61e4810d622a0c2ebe5071e61933932d2d806e8c22aa2e3ca8481e0cc1495328fb766f42b0) and Dr. [**Elie Abouaoun**](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=943b4cddeb4ff75c6315758e1a9b3036b12c75d76791388859e86d1135009729819a6f92ff6237e835783908f2c3b011821927306294a2bb) explain what this means for Iraq and the region.

[Read the Q&A](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=943b4cddeb4ff75c1f1b20ece68afa7ffe2017f4ef19b8d19b8caeb6e6304076427a76ea615148a89c48a4b6ca5bf36d79e74a78961bdae4)

[***UN chief calls for international dialogue, cooperation***](http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/memhCCjbkDDjrjnoCieTdfCicNiBqo?format=multipart)

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is urging all world leaders to de-escalate tensions, exercise restraint and revive international cooperation, noting that geopolitical tensions around the globe are at the highest seen in a century. "This cauldron of tensions is leading more and more countries to take unpredicted decisions with unpredictable consequences and a profound risk of miscalculation," Guterres says.

***Australian Wild fires-A Suggestion from Notional Geographic***

As travelers—especially those of us who have marveled at the beauty of Australia—it's good to ask what we can do to help. Our partners at ABC News [have suggested](https://email.nationalgeographic.com/T/v40000016f817a0cd5ba44def4bbe5cfc0/08212ba360b04ff10000021ef3a0bcc9/08212ba3-60b0-4ff1-8f8d-68a911edcbbb?__dU__=v0G4RBKTXg2GtTHJDsy7ii3waBSrIwMXGZJ7x_OARFKFQAIe3mwx22JG_r9Sy1LWLGyMVrrFIdudbYjwKGAKz6iTAgyV5XAM3SbSN-FzJU9XXpFWtSFRxbGw4nHcgLdnvWYAVcbDlQyQtE1-NmUBscmA==&__F__=v0fUYvjHMDjRPMSh3tviDHXIoXcPxvDgUUCCPvXMWoX_0IA9a7wNY25vOJmtDKkPYUBKcieZhQgRa7AZe47LqYpmpZDQDkSbZgxqn-w7x1go1xORqeU2Q5G1YXwxyc9zQ1QisYUMLu-cbnIvjqWQNRrrgqss9oxqPQfe2aTbBVqg5WzRh4LkgfgZ6cu4kAfym-NwugOu9_EEHHSYIA_k1fV1KEtu8e42XLxXIxUacoY-oYgp-fU2jmh8Yt_Kk6NXtKf_9lWsSuKsC9_S-_csHbT9iVJ9tqtnh3DzTAJhzkA4oDc_y9OXdVpBqQsz5aNPr7bz-gjOS1KgjlSrNJh3qMLo4oqOl0_F_NBZWWGvxaegq212UEWwUhAWiNN8wheGQh) donating to [Australian Red Cross' Disaster Relief and Recovery](https://email.nationalgeographic.com/T/v40000016f817a0cd5ba44def4bbe5cfc0/08212ba360b04ff10000021ef3a0bcca/08212ba3-60b0-4ff1-8f8d-68a911edcbbb?__dU__=v0G4RBKTXg2GtTHJDsy7ii3waBSrIwMXGZJ7x_OARFKFQAIe3mwx22JG_r9Sy1LWLGyMVrrFIdudbYjwKGAKz6iTAgyV5XAM3SbSN-FzJU9XXpFWtSFRxbGw4nHcgLdnvWYAVcbDlQyQtE1-NmUBscmA==&__F__=v0fUYvjHMDjRPMSh3tviDHXIoXcPxvDgUUCCPvXMWoX_0h_ycLATMmA0E0ElzUwytff1IaGRZ0MbAhu6aktMltB30JacjoeIBMuQD2bJxigFtnpFY3jo9saNoJO68e4X0lpxS12wI58ycFLi3RBIHgGIW58SJvzkmvfBTiDGGRxdry-nXERnaFjas8KCfLpkmiBN5B_4tT9WdXZfiqtCgNmmto45LqPkJq9dlfPkfTfAWeLf7I6TFHoPqHKCP8yWgQToSdDZoXhLGIXDWHNpBASRRzglUKdvgIp31yu6ILm2VO5idML7XOwA==) or to [WIRES](https://email.nationalgeographic.com/T/v40000016f817a0cd5ba44def4bbe5cfc0/08212ba360b04ff10000021ef3a0bccb/08212ba3-60b0-4ff1-8f8d-68a911edcbbb?__dU__=v0G4RBKTXg2GtTHJDsy7ii3waBSrIwMXGZJ7x_OARFKFQAIe3mwx22JG_r9Sy1LWLGyMVrrFIdudbYjwKGAKz6iTAgyV5XAM3SbSN-FzJU9XXpFWtSFRxbGw4nHcgLdnvWYAVcbDlQyQtE1-NmUBscmA==&__F__=v0fUYvjHMDjRPMSh3tviDHXIoXcPxvDgUUCCPvXMWoX_0JoZLAZABQF4yFC-76_QKZB0TcpCiLyF4FLmjwNbDvNXD-m7hHaIrZ_Ao3AouNnfjbPoh0k7o9zt7w2ZpjUlHV1NO7dxGJGR6Pt2sG63kYxpaT9t1kyWhXy1s7SnQi5LcuSLGmEnPas7TDgELBYPDEkEEDXRwHU6AYdUCx24C2mDIDcvazpTbuasaUlaZ7IAf-H43pR4_E9TOuSi-EPlgN7YmcL2hfXMeN1rl9YS-uTbuwSFRrZpE_), an organization committed to wildlife in Australia; or you can donate to [local fire brigades](https://email.nationalgeographic.com/T/v40000016f817a0cd5ba44def4bbe5cfc0/08212ba360b04ff10000021ef3a0bccc/08212ba3-60b0-4ff1-8f8d-68a911edcbbb?__dU__=v0G4RBKTXg2GtTHJDsy7ii3waBSrIwMXGZJ7x_OARFKFQAIe3mwx22JG_r9Sy1LWLGyMVrrFIdudbYjwKGAKz6iTAgyV5XAM3SbSN-FzJU9XXpFWtSFRxbGw4nHcgLdnvWYAVcbDlQyQtE1-NmUBscmA==&__F__=v0fUYvjHMDjRPMSh3tviDHXIoXcPxvDgUUCCPvXMWoX_0JoZLAZABQF-bYwVNzZQ8ytS0-ymxJa5FriL4XtHMs9tQmnRBcUMSyLrkA7g8oO-XnjMg4i4kRNgtBki-1K9GzTsAY9yft30U0QCOo6sK1YgtOFG5yTGYCBkoPWAEN9HPmk9Ugdnt9o7F0RhGvPNjNXtHtv3Sw9Ck-hUcUAylJSMYqr5EyidlrGGDN80NL_q65mt21Cd-zIa2yEmJX7dBjG8XXtgVdPSPilCoBUTgaWjkhCUTGOdaP2NBhy19B_XRvbbRjw8vbeckd_rXXoYjKMW9Xcd68aoqQtIox-hdiwA==). To support people affected by the fires, Fast Company [suggests](https://email.nationalgeographic.com/T/v40000016f817a0cd5ba44def4bbe5cfc0/08212ba360b04ff10000021ef3a0bccd/08212ba3-60b0-4ff1-8f8d-68a911edcbbb?__dU__=v0G4RBKTXg2GtTHJDsy7ii3waBSrIwMXGZJ7x_OARFKFQAIe3mwx22JG_r9Sy1LWLGyMVrrFIdudbYjwKGAKz6iTAgyV5XAM3SbSN-FzJU9XXpFWtSFRxbGw4nHcgLdnvWYAVcbDlQyQtE1-NmUBscmA==&__F__=v0fUYvjHMDjRPMSh3tviDHXIoXcPxvDgUUCCPvXMWoX_0JoZLAZABQFwhlsGcskOuCOhiUNQ9HU_RfHtS9omYCPN877Y6WDLdmNinTUf_oYxMFEnELza1V_uXHNt2uIorg8WMWnQwQKot0GI8yDA4E8eIPSHJXIAQdrdMtC5ae0sRj9vb91exCYFbNGHguSB-Bnpy7iQB_Kb43C6A6738QQcdJggD-TV9XUoS27x7jZcvFcjFRpyhj6hiCn59TaOaHxi38qTo1e0p__2VaxK4qwL39L79ywdtP2JUn22q2eHcPNMAmHOQDigNz_L05d1WkGpCzPlo0-vtvP6CM5LUqCL9TJo2QG1ltiw3U9ykroXtfVHVnpBDgTYgf_UOWeolxaI03zCF4ZCE=) donating to the [Salvation Army’s disaster appeal](https://email.nationalgeographic.com/T/v40000016f817a0cd5ba44def4bbe5cfc0/08212ba360b04ff10000021ef3a0bcce/08212ba3-60b0-4ff1-8f8d-68a911edcbbb?__dU__=v0G4RBKTXg2GtTHJDsy7ii3waBSrIwMXGZJ7x_OARFKFQAIe3mwx22JG_r9Sy1LWLGyMVrrFIdudbYjwKGAKz6iTAgyV5XAM3SbSN-FzJU9XXpFWtSFRxbGw4nHcgLdnvWYAVcbDlQyQtE1-NmUBscmA==&__F__=v0fUYvjHMDjRPMSh3tviDHXIoXcPxvDgUUCCPvXMWoX_0JoZLAZABQF9TMkdx6yXdJY6KWdWL4GUgHRNykKIvIXhz2uGS3FHB5fVLnDDGFNCJ0jR3hiVsKQnEAIugBvl_ZLV5ITFxGTns7ndhZOAZbo4Px7Uqo2TFUdCQROjGQegJWzRh4LkgfgZ6cu4kAfym-NwugOu9_EEHHSYIA_k1fV1KEtu8e42XLxXIxUacoY-oYgp-fU2jmh8Yt_Kk6NXtKf_9lWsSuKsC9_S-_csHbT9iVJ9tqtnh3DzTAJhzkA4oDc_y9OXdVpBqQsz5aNPr7bz-gjOS1KggfOVTjco8lW6aP0pL0cSAMA_FP-WHef8NBACjIqwewm2iNN8wheGQh) or the [bushfire appeal fund](https://email.nationalgeographic.com/T/v40000016f817a0cd5ba44def4bbe5cfc0/08212ba360b04ff10000021ef3a0bccf/08212ba3-60b0-4ff1-8f8d-68a911edcbbb?__dU__=v0G4RBKTXg2GtTHJDsy7ii3waBSrIwMXGZJ7x_OARFKFQAIe3mwx22JG_r9Sy1LWLGyMVrrFIdudbYjwKGAKz6iTAgyV5XAM3SbSN-FzJU9XXpFWtSFRxbGw4nHcgLdnvWYAVcbDlQyQtE1-NmUBscmA==&__F__=v0fUYvjHMDjRPMSh3tviDHXIoXcPxvDgUUCCPvXMWoX_3g3dRD1DWLuBvQKG_CNQ-2BVezlk6u8rxzX6UlH5wdV4hUBHh-IRVU5Y7hQpPpTGSm5tZKHdcufavnYMW8wTjniL7gnoRac6kFLmjwNbDvNXD-m7hHaIrZ_Ao3AouNnfjbPoh0k7o9zt7w2ZpjUlHV1NO7dxGJGR6Pt2sG63kYxpaT9t1kyWhXy1s7SnQi5LcuSLGmEnPas7TDgELBYPDEkEEDXRwHU6AYdUCx24C2mDIDcvazpTbuasaUlaZ7IAeUTR-saDoVofd_BwQ26_Nj1CHFCwjLEOyWK_jp7NaXNsHeigwONdWX) set up by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The fires have made Australia's declining koala population even more vulnerable; consider a donation to the [Port Macquarie Koala Hospital](https://email.nationalgeographic.com/T/v40000016f817a0cd5ba44def4bbe5cfc0/08212ba360b04ff10000021ef3a0bcd0/08212ba3-60b0-4ff1-8f8d-68a911edcbbb?__dU__=v0G4RBKTXg2GtTHJDsy7ii3waBSrIwMXGZJ7x_OARFKFQAIe3mwx22JG_r9Sy1LWLGyMVrrFIdudbYjwKGAKz6iTAgyV5XAM3SbSN-FzJU9XXpFWtSFRxbGw4nHcgLdnvWYAVcbDlQyQtE1-NmUBscmA==&__F__=v0fUYvjHMDjRPMSh3tviDHXIoXcPxvDgUUCCPvXMWoX_0JoZLAZABQFxKhqDkJo1IP_6esvCUcB7bpf7UbbXcxZgpgu0DdW6AGB2GMJ387QMZU6tgvrbTnVf6fWTwxC5VyD3_3xim2xPsFLmjwNbDvNXD-m7hHaIrZ_Ao3AouNnfjbPoh0k7o9zt7w2ZpjUlHV1NO7dxGJGR6Pt2sG63kYxpaT9t1kyWhXy1s7SnQi5LcuSLGmEnPas7TDgELBYPDEkEEDXRwHU6AYdUCx24C2mDIDcvazpTbuasaUlaZ7IAeg-WPAH-h_e7qaOymoTRdDku0HKl-rFDkGP9OIgvDMzGLNr6jzc-57), which rescues koalas in regions across New South Wales.

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***Words to Ponder***

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What is power after all? Every one of the power elite's overwhelming advantages depends on people obeying orders. This obedience depends on the legitimacy of the system. This legitimacy is a matter of collective perception, and we have the power to change people's perception."

—Charles Eisenstein

"There is no substitute for action. And what rich countries are doing, they are creating an illusion of action by just talking. When we demand action, they offer reports. When we demand money, they offer workshops. That is not going to help people who are suffering right now."

—Harjeet Singh

"The climate crisis has already been solved. We already have all the facts and solutions. All we have to do is to wake up and change. And why should I be studying for a future that soon will be no more when no one is doing anything whatsoever to save that future? And what is the point of learning facts in the school system when the most important facts given by the finest science of that same school system clearly means nothing to our politicians and our society?"

—Greta Thunberg

"Technologically, the scientists have helped to reduce disease, to improve communication, but also they are increasing the devastating power of the weapons of war, the power to murder vast numbers of people with one blow. The scientists are not going to save mankind, nor are the politicians . . . the crisis is not a matter of economics, of war, the bomb, the politicians, the scientists; the crisis is within us, the crisis is in our consciousness."

—Jiddu Krishnamurti