



Education International
Internationale de l'Éducation
Internacional de la Educación
Bildungsinternationale

STATEMENT

Education International invokes international law in opposition to U.S. immigration ban

Head Office

5, Bd du Roi Albert II
1210 Brussels, Belgium
Tel +32 2 224 06 11
Fax +32 2 224 06 06
headoffice@ei-ie.org
<http://www.ei-ie.org>

President

Susan Hopgood

General Secretary

Fred van Leeuwen

Education International is deeply concerned over the Executive Order signed by President Donald J. Trump on January 27th prohibiting the entry into the United States of Muslim citizens of seven countries: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. The Order directly affects approximately 25,000 people holding student and work visas, and as many as 500,000 people who are permanent legal residents of the United States, including lecturers and researchers.

Education International is of the view that the measure is discriminatory. Mr Trump's Order also defies the important democratic values that have guided the United States' role in the international community for many decades. Furthermore, the Executive Order is in violation with international standards protecting the rights of immigrants and refugees.

Education International fully supports its member organisations in the USA, the National Education Association (NEA) and the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), who oppose Mr Trump's Order, and, according to the AFT, "the racist and xenophobic logic that underlies [the Executive Order], the havoc [the administration has] created in the lives of those affected, and the damage [the Order has] done to America's standing in the world and to [US] national security".

Considering that some Education International member organisations are based in countries whose citizens are prohibited entry into the United States, the Executive Order effectively restricts the possibility of holding global EI conferences in the United States.

Education International is examining possibilities to challenge the measure with the international agencies entrusted with the implementation of the appropriate international conventions.

Brussels, 31 January 2017