

Muslim American Civil Society
Coalition Letter to President-Elect Biden



December 21, 2020 [**Coalition List and Letter Updated as of January 17, 2021**]

Dear President-Elect Biden:

We, the undersigned Muslim American civil society organizations, congratulate you on your historic election as our 46th President. Muslim Americans overwhelmingly supported you and helped secure your victory in key swing states, like in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Georgia. We are committed to working with you and your Administration to heal our country and build it back better.

You ran for President to end the spread of hatred and division and to restore the soul of America. The Muslim American community has been the target of hatred and division for a long time. In recent polling, 60% of Muslim Americans reported experiencing discrimination, and half of Muslim American families reported that their children have been bullied in school for their faith. That is not the America we aspire to be. As you have said, we must do better.

Muslim Americans have been a part of the American story since ships first brought enslaved Muslim Africans to our shores. Today, we are at the frontlines of fighting the COVID pandemic, in working for racial justice, in educating the future leaders of America, in cultivating moral virtues, and in developing the technologies that will power our economy for the rest of this century. At this pivotal juncture in our history, Muslim Americans are a necessary part of building America back better. We must be a *visible* part of that effort.

We welcome [your commitment](#) to addressing key issues of concern for Muslim Americans, and we laud your pledge and actions to ensure that your Administration looks like America, including having Muslim Americans at every level of your Administration. That noble goal must include Muslim Americans in high profile roles, including a Muslim American in your Cabinet. No Muslim American has ever been appointed as a Cabinet Secretary or Deputy Secretary, and only rarely have we been represented at the Under-Secretary level or on the federal bench. That lack of visibility in public service helps to perpetuate our marginalization. We respectfully ask that you select a Muslim American to serve in your Cabinet, and ensure that Muslim Americans are appointed to Senate-confirmed positions across all of the major departments and agencies of the federal government, as well as the judiciary.

We respectfully request the opportunity to meet with you at the soonest possible date to discuss these issues further, and we appreciate the meeting with your personnel staff scheduled for this month. Thank you for your leadership. We look forward to partnering closely with you and your Administration to heal our nation's divisions.

Sincerely,¹

1. All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS)
2. America Indivisible
3. American Learning Institute for Muslims (ALIM)
4. American Muslim Bar Association (AMBA)
5. American Muslim Health Professionals (AMHP)
6. Association of Muslim Scientists, Engineers, and Technology Professionals (AMSET)
7. El-Hibri Foundation
8. EMGAGE
9. Global Deaf Muslim USA
10. Illinois Muslim Civic Coalition
11. Imam Mahdi Association of Marjaeya (I.M.A.M.)
12. Imamia Medics International
13. Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU)
14. Islam in Spanish
15. Islamic Medical Association of North America (IMANA)
16. Islamic Networks Group (ING)
17. Islamic Relief USA
18. Islamic Society of Central Florida
19. Islamic Society of Greater Houston (ISGH)
20. Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)
21. Islamic Speakers Bureau (ISB) Atlanta
22. Ismailis Rise Up
23. Justice For All
24. KARAMAH - Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights
25. Masjid Muhammad, The Nation's Mosque
26. Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC)
27. Muslim Advocates
28. Muslim Alliance of North America (MANA)
29. Muslim Anti-Racism Collaborative (MuslimARC)
30. Muslim Democrats
31. Muslim Educational Trust
32. Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC)
33. Muslim Public Service Network (MPSN)
34. Muslim Wellness Foundation
35. Muslim Youth of North America (MYNA)
36. National Association of Muslim Lawyers (NAML)
37. North American Imams Federation (NAIF)
38. North Texas Islamic Council (NTIC)
39. The Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago
40. The Council of Shia Muslim Scholars of North America
41. Universal Muslim Association of America (UMAA)
42. Virginia Council of Muslim Organizations (VCMO)
43. Women in Islam, Inc.
44. Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality (WISE)

¹ Signatory organizations are listed in alphabetical order.