Trump Administration Proposes Rule to Gut the Asylum Process

The Homeland Security Department (DHS) and the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) have proposed another unlawful and immoral rule, Procedures for Asylum and Withholding of Removal; Credible Fear and Reasonable Fear Review, that would create insurmountable barriers for asylum seekers and destroy an asylum system already under attack by the Trump administration. This new rule violates US and international human rights law and the values that lie at the heart of our faith.

The rule would, among other things:

- Allow immigration judges to summarily deny applications before the asylum seeker even has a hearing;
- Redefine the asylum standard so that fear of harm by a known persecutor will not qualify as grounds for asylum, thus eliminating asylum for those fleeing gender, domestic or gang-related violence;
- Raise the legal standard for passing a “credible fear” interview, which serves as the basis for whether an asylum seeker is allowed into the United States to pursue a protection-based claim;
- Allow denial of asylum for discretionary factors, such as entering the United States between ports of entry or transiting through a third country.

People of faith are called to speak up loudly and clearly. We need to stop the administration from ending asylum and other vital protections for people in need.

Three Actions to Take Today:

1. Submit a Personal Comment: Use CLINIC’s new click-to-comment tool to submit a unique comment by 1 p.m. ET on Wednesday, July 15th. Please make sure you edit the template comment to put it in your voice and explain why you care about asylum seekers. Identical comments will be discarded.

2. Amplify on Social Media: Pledge to get three other people to submit their own comments! You can share the comment portal with your colleagues or share this sample post on social media:

   My faith called me to submit a comment opposing the administration’s plan to end asylum. I am pledging to get three others to speak out for those seeking safety too! Join me: https://p2a.co/vRu15hT #Comments4Asylum #Faith4Asylum

3. Write a Personalized Letter: Send a letter to the administration about why the US must protect asylum seekers. More resources available here.

Additional resources include:

- Asylum Stories:
  - Already vulnerable migrants in Juarez endangered by COVID-19 pandemic
  - “Out of sight, out of mind:” Six stories of asylum seekers and migrants under MPP
  - Seven Migrant Protection Protocols stories from Estamos Unidos: Asylum Project
- Interfaith Immigration Coalition Faith4Asylum Resources
• Justice for Immigrants Asylum Resources
• #Comments4Asylum Interfaith Toolkit