



**68 ORGANIZATIONS CALL ON STATE DEPARTMENT TO END DELAYS ON TPS**  
*The State Department has not embodied its role in developing TPS recommendations*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—Today, 68 local, state, and national organizations led by the Temporary Status and Deferred Enforced Departure Administrative Advocacy Coalition ([TPS-DED AAC](#)) [wrote to](#) the Secretary of State Antony Blinken to request that the State Department end delays and immediately review, at a minimum, Cameroon, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Lebanon, and Mauritania for a TPS designation.

This letter comes in response to reports of the State Department obstructing immigrants from certain countries from receiving life-saving humanitarian protection under Temporary Protected Status. This includes failing to issue country conditions reports in a timely fashion and a lack of support for TPS designations that experts find 1) clearly warranted under the law and 2) in the service of vital domestic and foreign policy interests.

**Yanira Arias, National Campaigns Manager at Alianzas Americas, said:** "There are real consequences when humanitarian protections are turned into a question of politics. Every moment of delay is a cost to human life as we watch our community members and loved ones be deported to life-threatening situations. Thousands of people in the United States live every day under the threat of being forced back to dangerous conditions, and it is completely unacceptable to delay life-saving protection. We demand better."

**Daniel Tse, Asylum Task-Force and Black Immigrants Bail Fund Coordinator at Haitian Bridge Alliance and Founder of the Cameroon Advocacy Network, said:** "Recently, the Biden administration was able to quickly designate TPS for Ukraine and Afghanistan within a week. Other countries experiencing various armed conflicts and humanitarian crisis have been begging for TPS protection for years now. It is past due to provide protections for these individuals. Protection delayed is protection denied. Human Rights Watch report documented how Cameroonian asylum seekers deported from the U.S. were arbitrarily detained, tortured, sexually abused, and assaulted by state agents. The double standard by the administration has proven that we are willing and able to quickly provide protection for immigrants as long as they are not of the minority."

**Lisa Parisio, Director of Advocacy at the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., said:** "Congress created TPS to provide humanitarian protection to immigrants in the U.S. who cannot safely return home due to conflict, environmental disaster, and other life-threatening conditions. Good policy demands that TPS be used broadly and boldly to keep families together, provide people with a measure of stability, build stronger communities and economies, and promote a U.S. foreign policy rooted in human rights for all. TPS delays and otherwise politicizing these decisions are deadly. The State Department must immediately, meaningfully, and transparently engage with stakeholders and Members of Congress about its role in the

failure to designate TPS for Cameroon, Ethiopia, and other countries where safe return is impossible.”

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*The TPS-DED AAC is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS and DED. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.*