



Release: With Violence Plaguing Yemen, Advocates Request that the Biden Administration Extend and Redesignate TPS for Yemen

Yemen Continues to Experience Armed Conflict and Extraordinary Conditions

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Washington, D.C. — As Yemen continues to experience armed conflict and extraordinary conditions that make safe return to Yemen impossible for Yemenis in the United States, a coalition of 107 organizations is [urging](#) the Biden-Harris Administration to extend and redesignate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Yemen.

“The ongoing humanitarian crisis in Yemen continues to cause immeasurable destruction,” said Abed Ayoub, National Executive Director of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC). “The continued attacks on civilians, widespread hunger and disease have created an inhospitable situation on the ground. It would be inhumane for the US Government to force Yemenis to return to a country where their very lives are at risk. President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas have a moral obligation to redesignate TPS for Yemen, and ADC stands with our partners, allies, and communities in demanding an 18-month redesignation and extension.”

Yemen’s TPS designation is set to expire on March 3, 2023. But, as the 107 signatory organizations state in their [letter](#) to Biden, “Yemen continues to experience armed conflict and extraordinary conditions that make safe return to Yemen impossible for Yemenis present in the United States.” The new round of fighting that broke out on October 3, 2022, between Yemeni Houthis and the Saudi Arabia-led coalition has again put Yemeni lives at risk, underscoring the dangers that U.S.-based Yemenis would face if deported.

“Ongoing conflict in Yemen has created one of the world’s worst humanitarian crises, causing widespread hunger, disease and attacks on civilians,” said Krystina François and Carolyn Tran, Co-Executive Directors of Communities United for Status and Protection (CUSP). “It is immoral and cruel for the United States to force Yemenis to return to an unsafe country where their lives are at risk. Redesignating TPS for Yemen is a moral obligation and, in fact, the bare minimum for this administration. We stand together with advocates and communities calling on President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas to extend and re-designate Yemen TPS for 18 months.”

Yemen is in its eighth year of a war. According to the United Nations, the conflict had claimed an estimated 377,000 by the end of 2021. As the war continues to afflict the country, the letter states, “redesignating and extending TPS protections for Yemenis in the United States remains of paramount importance for Yemenis presently in the United States. Failure to do so would be paramount to a death sentence for the [1,400] Yemenis currently under TPS.”

“The ongoing conflict in Yemen more than qualifies for temporary protected status under the Immigration Act of 1990,” said Adam Beddawi, Federal Policy Manager at the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC). “NNAAC remains steadfastly committed to the protection and advancement of all Arab and Middle Eastern and North African, or MENA, individuals. Yemeni nationals in the United States remain under threat due to the persistence of

the civil war in Yemen, which has exacerbated food insecurity, perpetuated a cycle of violence, and claimed nearly 400,000 lives since its start in September of 2014. Temporary protection would keep in line with historical precedent and is the least that the Department of Homeland Security can do for these vulnerable populations. NNAAC and its coalition partners call on the DHS to redesignate and extend for 18 months the temporary protected status for Yemen as part of a broader effort to honor the dignity and humanity of the Yemeni community in the United States, for whom much more is required."

The UN estimates 19 million Yemenis are specifically in need of food assistance, including 7.3 million coping with emergency levels of hunger that affect children in particular.

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.

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