**Amnesty International and Donald Trump**

Essentially, Amnesty International - here in the UK or in the US or elsewhere as a global movement takes no view on President Trump, or any other elected politician in principle.

What we have and will speak continue to speak out about, including on social media but also rallies and demonstrations and also through press work and appeal letter etc, is harmful and disrespectable language which could border on or go into abusive, racist or xenophobic language and rhetoric.

We will have and will speak out on some of the key policy initiatives that President Trump has announced (his selective travel ban for a number of countries, and the suspension of refugee intake for certain groups, ponder or commented on (including waterboarding and torture).

We call this "Trump Watch":

"During President Trumps first weeks in office, he has pushed through a series of repressive executive orders that threaten the human rights of millions at home and abroad.

Refugees have been banned from entering the US.

People from seven Muslim-majority countries have been banned from entering the US.

Orders have been given to build a wall along the Mexican border.

The Dakota Access pipeline, which will violate the rights of Indigenous peoples, has received the go ahead.

The 'global gag rule' will decrease women's access to sexual health services abroad and cut funding for programmes to help prevent violence against women.

And the list goes on.

We won't let hate win

Now is not the time to stand on the sidelines and watch. Now is the time to act.

It won't be easy and it won't be quick, but we need your support more than ever in the coming weeks, months and years if we're to overcome the discrimination and bigotry we've seen from the Trump administration so far.

From the women's marches around the world to the lawyers and protesters turning up at airports across the US to support those detained because of the travel ban - the resistance has shown its strength. When we stand together, we're more than just individuals: we're a powerful movement of people of all genders, all ages and all backgrounds.

This is the plan.

Whether it's out on the streets, on social media, in the corridors of power or in countries around the world, we will do everything we can to stop President Trump's dangerous policies.

Together we will:

1.Call out misogyny, racism and discrimination when we see it - exposing it through the media, publishing research and reports.

2.Bring public attention to any policies that pose a risk to our hard-won human rights 3.Put grassroots pressure on politicians especially with the UK government and US politicians.

Be a part of it

Sign up to Trump Watch for breaking news, expert analysis and urgent actions you can take to fight President Trump's assault on human rights around the world."

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/action/fight-your-rights-join-trump-watch>

We have also , around the work and in the UK - including in a major rally in Newcastle recently - joined demonstrations against President Trump's  Executive Order blocking refugees and travellers with passports from seven Muslim-majority countries, which has been suspended since by the US federal courts.

"On 28 January President Trump issued an Executive Order blocking refugees and travellers with passports from seven Muslim-majority countries.

The ban is cruel, inhumane, and violates international law.

With the stroke of a pen, the President banned Syrian refugees from the USA indefinitely and prevented anyone (including refugees) from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen from entering the USA for 90 days.

He also halted the US refugee resettlement programme for 120 days, and indicated that when this restarts the US will slash the maximum number of refugees it will receive from 110,000 to 50,000.

These countries all have one thing in common: most people seeking asylum from these countries are trying to escape serious human rights abuses like torture and mass murder. For most, returning home is not a choice.

Slamming the door shut is not the answer.

The US has a rich history of helping refugees rebuild their lives safely and with dignity. For centuries, the US has welcomed hundreds of thousands of refugees whose lives have been torn apart by war, and those ruthlessly hounded because of who they are or what they believe in.

This ban takes a sledgehammer to that tradition and sets an appalling precedent when the world is in the middle of a global refugee crisis and many countries are looking for ways to shirk responsibility to help them.

As the global refugee crisis escalates, we need world leaders to share responsibility for hosting and assisting refugees, rather than slamming the door shut.

The decision has caused chaos and anger around the world, leaving people stranded at airports while others were detained on arrival in the US."

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/actions/donald-trump-muslim-refugee-travel-ban?gclid=CP3XgKi6o9ICFQ-NGwodJM0Hlg>

The Newcastle upon Tyne and Wearside Amnesty local groups, as well as the Amnesty UK section and the Amnesty international movement at large, will continue to campaign on these key issues, including with regard to the US administration.

We will continue to call on the British government to defend international law and to intercede with President Trump on these key human rights issues (including on the Death penalty) in all opportunities open to them, and in any interactions they choose to pursue. Amnesty International also reserves the right to bring legal challenges where and when necessary, or support others doing so.

Oftentimes, senior politicians are not leader by followers. In either case, we need to hold them to account and pursue a wider human rights education approach with the general population, which will be the voters that elected politicians need to enter or be returned to office. Politicians abroad  and their administrations / governments tend to take note of how they are perceived by other governments and parliaments, as well as the general public in countries abroad. They will most certainly be concerned about how they are perceived in their own country by the general population, as well as the press and social media. This is where we as Amnesty International come in as a genuinely international movement.

Richard Kotter

Chair, Newcastle upon Tyne local group