



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 8, 2025

Faith Leaders Urge President Trump to Act on Behalf of Persecuted Christians and Minorities in Syria

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, the Danbury Institute’s chairman, Dr. Scott Colter, joins dozens of Christian leaders from across the United States in sending a joint letter to President Donald J. Trump requesting that he encourage Syria’s new president, Ahmed al-Sharaa to protect Christians and religious minorities currently suffering serious persecution and distress. The Syrian president is scheduled to visit the United States, Monday, Nov. 10.

Signed by more than 70 prominent Christian and faith leaders representing tens of millions of believers across the United States, this letter demonstrates a strong and unified coalition seeking to appeal to President Trump on behalf of those being persecuted for their faith.

In the letter, the faith leaders express gratitude for President Trump’s past leadership in promoting religious freedom—particularly his decisive action in designating Nigeria as a “Country of Particular Concern” under the International Religious Freedom Act—and urge similar action to protect vulnerable communities in Syria.

“You are the only major world leader fighting for religious freedom,” the letter states. “We need you once again to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.”

The signatories call upon President Trump to secure President al-Sharaa’s commitment to providing a humanitarian corridor from Hader to Suwayda in southern Syria, enabling safe aid delivery and civilian evacuation amid worsening violence, starvation, and deprivation in the region.

The letter was spearheaded by Matthew Faraci, Senior Advisor for Jewish and Israel Affairs for the National Association of Christian Lawmakers. Signatories include Dr. Jack Graham, Senior Pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church; Rob McCoy, Senior Pastor, Godspoke Calvary Chapel of Thousand Oaks; Dr. Ben Carson, Vice Chair, Religious Liberty Commission; Sam Brownback, Former Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom; Ralph Reed, Founder & Chairman, Faith & Freedom Coalition; Ryan Helfenbein, Founder & Executive Director, Standing for Freedom Center; and Kelly Kullberg, General Secretary, American Association of Evangelicals among many others from across denominational and organizational lines.

The full text of the letter can be read below.

November 7th, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We, the undersigned faith leaders representing tens of millions of American Christians, extend our sincere gratitude for your recent leadership in combating Christian persecution in Nigeria. Your designation of Nigeria as a Country of Particular Concern under the International Religious Freedom Act is a decisive measure that upholds global religious liberty.

You are the only major world leader fighting for religious freedom, and we need you once again to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

With the visit of Syria's new President, Ahmed al-Sharaa, scheduled for November 10, 2025, we urge you to address directly the massacre of Christians, Kurds, Druze, and Alawites in Syria, notably in the greater Suwayda area. These religious minorities face ongoing violence, death, displacement, starvation, and water and medical deprivation, all while innocent women and children are held hostage by ISIS terrorists.

We are grateful for your Administration's recent announcement that you are urgently rushing humanitarian aid to southern Syria, and—as winter approaches—more needs to be done to prevent the impending catastrophe.

Mr. President, we respectfully request that you secure President al-Sharaa's commitment to opening a secure humanitarian corridor from Hader to Suwayda in southern Syria.

This corridor will enable safe and secure aid delivery and civilian evacuation, signaling the new government's commitment to minority rights and stability.

Your advocacy for the persecuted inspires us.

We stand ready to support your efforts and pray for fruitful discussions. As Ambassador Mike Huckabee once wrote to you, "You were ordained for such a time as this."

With Deepest Respect,

Dede Laugesen

President & CEO, Save the Persecuted Christians

Sam Brownback

Former Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom

Tony Perkins

President, Family Research Council

Jason Rapert

Founder & President, National Association of Christian Lawmakers

Matt Crouch

President, Trinity Broadcasting Network

Patrick G. Brown

CEO, Western Journal

Dr. Alveda King

SPEAK FOR LIFE

Stephen Strang

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Senior Pastor, Prestonwood Baptist Church

Dr. Ben Carson

Vice Chair, Religious Liberty Commission

Kimberly Fletcher

Founder & President, Moms for America

Ralph Reed

Founder & Chairman, Faith & Freedom Coalition

Rob McCoy

Senior Pastor, Godspcak Calvary Chapel of Thousand Oaks

Kevin Sorbo

Director, Actor, Producer

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President & CEO, National Religious Broadcasters

Samuel Rodriguez

President & CEO, NHCLC

Frank Turek

President, CrossExamined.org

Kelly Shackelford

*President, CEO & Chief Counsel
First Liberty Institute*

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Founder, Wallbuilders

Tim Barton

President, Wallbuilders

Mario Braminick

President, Latino Coalition for Israel

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US House of Representatives, Fmr. Member, Ohio

Lucas Miles

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President & CEO, Family Policy Alliance

Victor Marx

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Candidate for Governor of Colorado 2026*

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Founder & CEO, IKNOWGOD.US

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Founding Pastor, Calvary Chapel Chino Hills

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Founder, Global Vision Bible Church

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Founder & CEO, Well Versed

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Religious Freedom Litigator

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Director, Camp Constitution, Plaintiff "Shurtleff v Boston"

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Jerry Newcombe

Executive Director, Providence Forum

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Senior Pastor, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church

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President, Global Strategic Alliance

Dr. Jeff Myers

President, Summit Ministries

Lorenzo Sewell

Senior Pastor, 180 Church

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