



MARYKNOLL OFFICE FOR GLOBAL CONCERNS

Peace, Social Justice and Integrity of Creation

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Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns Opposes U.S. Withdrawal from Global Climate Framework

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns (MOGC) expresses its profound disappointment and grave concern regarding the administration's decision to withdraw the United States from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

As an organization representing Maryknoll missionaries in more than 25 countries, we witness the climate crisis not as a policy debate, but as a matter of survival. From intensifying droughts in East Africa to rising sea levels in the Pacific and catastrophic flooding in Southeast Asia, our missionaries work alongside communities facing life-threatening consequences of a crisis they did not create.

By withdrawing from the UNFCCC—the bedrock of international climate cooperation—the United States is abandoning its moral responsibility as a leading global power and as the world's largest historical contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. This isolationist move ignores the scientific consensus and the urgent pleas for climate justice from our global neighbors. We echo the Bishops of the Global South and Pope Leo XIV in affirming that this crisis requires effective multilateral cooperation, not a unilateral refusal to act.

"Faith requires us to be stewards of God's creation" said Lisa Sullivan, Senior Policy Office for Integral Ecology at the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns. "Withdrawing from this framework is not just a policy shift; it is a rejection of our duty to protect our common home and the future of all humanity."

We urge the administration to reconsider this decision and call upon Congress and local leaders to reaffirm their commitment to global climate action. We remain steadfast in our mission to advocate for policies that prioritize the integrity of creation and the dignity of every human person.

The Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns (MOGC) represents Maryknoll missionaries, who are Catholic men and women serving in impoverished communities around the world. The MOGC provides analysis and advocacy on issues of justice, peace and the integrity of creation that affect the countries and communities where Maryknoll missionaries serve.

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