



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

January 30, 2017

AIEA Statement: Response to January 2017 U.S. Executive Order on Immigration

In response to the recent presidential executive order on immigration, the Association of International Education Administrators stands in solidarity with all who are impacted by these changes in policy. Universities in the United States and indeed around the world have reacted with alarm to the new policies which contradict the values of openness, intellectual engagement and understanding which have long been hallmarks of higher education. In addition to the human tragedies the measure inflicts, the blanket prohibition for entry to the United States from these countries will have pernicious and lasting effects that will degrade security in the United States and around the world.

AIEA is dedicated to the proposition that international engagement and exchange, particularly through institutions of higher education, is an important cornerstone of international security policy. Our association actively engages leaders from around the world in projects of dialogue and exchange that have important social, cultural, economic and political benefits leading to: increased understanding, bridge building between disparate perspectives, and the solving of a range of problems that challenge global peace and prosperity.

We believe that international educators cannot be neutral in this case; we call for our colleagues to continue to advocate for the flow of people and exchange as vital to the continued advancement of knowledge and discovery, as well as greater human security and cultural understanding.