
Abolishing the War on Terror & Building Communities of Care: A Grassroots Policy Agenda

Executive Summary

Link to the Full Agenda: <http://bit.ly/AbolishWOTAgenda>

Justice for Muslims Collective, HEART Women & Girls, Vigilant Love, the Partnership to End Gendered Islamophobia, Project South, Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM), the Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans (PANA), and the US Campaign for Palestinian Rights (USCPR) collaborated together to build a grassroots policy agenda with demands that are rooted in grassroots and community-based organizations that work with African, Black, Muslim, Middle Eastern, Arab, and South Asian communities across the country. Our **“Abolishing the War on Terror, Building Communities of Care”** grassroots policy agenda is rooted in divesting from the War On Terror and investing in community. It’s a labor of love, a product of lived expertise, and a model for community care. As grassroots groups who have been on the frontlines of defending our communities and fighting state repression, we firmly believe a critical intervention is necessary that calls for the abolition of the War on Terror, rather than focusing on neoliberal reforms. As the Biden Administration, alongside a new Congress sets the course for the next four years, we are calling for abolishing the War on Terror and reinvesting resources into structures of community care.

Divesting Trillions from Violence, War, Imperialism & Dismantling the War on Terror infrastructure:

- The repeal of all harmful and punitive policies and executive orders passed by the Trump Administration.
- Ending the US War on Terror, including the use of the War on Terror framework to advance militarism and occupation in countries around the world and in the US.
- Ending wars and imperialism abroad and arms sales to dictatorships and occupying powers.
- Ensuring COVID-19, pandemics and climate disasters aren’t being used to further expand the national security and War on Terror infrastructure.
- Ending the carceral national security state.
- Reparations for victims and their families targeted under the War on Terror globally and at home.
- Providing free medical care to those in the United States and globally who have been harmed due to the War on Terror.
- Dismantling settler-colonialism and supporting the LandBack campaign.

Re-Investing Trillions into Community Care & People-centered systems:

- Invest in anti-poverty initiatives, climate justice, disability justice, economic justice, housing justice and reproductive justice.
- The prioritization of COVID19 relief efforts that include eviction moratoriums, cancel all rent, cancel all forms of debt, and offer monthly adequate stimulus checks that are sufficient enough to cover the living costs of families and individuals who have lost employment or are underemployed, and have been impacted by COVID19. Make available accessible housing units to homeless people with disabilities. In addition, ensure there are safe and dignified working conditions for all workers, especially our frontline essential workers. Muslim, African, Arab, Middle-Eastern, and South Asian workers are essential and frontline workers. This includes ensuring that all Americans, irrespective of citizenship status, are included within pandemic relief efforts at the federal, state, and local level.
- Rooting out systemic poverty and inequality, particularly in public health efforts. This includes calls for universal free healthcare and special attention to how COVID19 vaccinations will reach communities of color who have been often targets of medical racism. This includes ensuring that vaccination processes are inclusive of people with disabilities who fall into lower age limits. While vaccinations are in progress, make sure that hospitals are not denying medical treatment to people with disabilities and are not making the decision on who has the best quality of life to save.
- #FreeThemAll: Ending the use of immigration enforcement to incarcerate immigrants and migrants. Ending deportations, detentions, and mass surveillance of all of our communities. This includes shutting down Guantanamo Bay permanently, and acknowledging US complicity in supporting the jailing of children, political prisoners and others around the world, including in Palestine. This includes the liberation of people with disabilities who are kept in psychiatric facilities against their will, abolishing congregate settings for people with disabilities and making sure all individuals can live in community settings.
- The abolition of all prisons, jails, and detention centers that currently imprison a disproportionate amount of African, Black, Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, South Asian community members, especially migrants and refugees.
- The investment of unrestricted funds into the community to ensure access to food, accessible shelter, education, and other necessities, and the end to all conditional funding through the Department of Homeland Security and affiliated bodies.
- Investing in community-led and driven justice, supporting community-led mutual aid efforts, community led living for people with disabilities, and community-led transformative justice efforts.

