
5 GLOBAL ISSUES THAT MATTER IN 2020

A lot is at stake in 2020 at the local, state and national level. So before you mail in your ballot or head to the voting booth, here are five global issues that you need to know about.



U.S. ROLE IN THE WORLD

Today's world is facing a series of unprecedented challenges, from complex humanitarian crises in Myanmar and Venezuela, ongoing nuclear threats in Iran and North Korea, and of course, COVID-19. In an increasingly interconnected global economy, the United States cannot afford to tackle challenges, big or small, alone. Future administration must commit to working with international organizations like the United Nations in order to directly advance U.S. values and interests around the world.



WOMEN AND GIRLS

The equality, health and safety of women and girls are paramount, particularly given the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on the population. In the coming years, the next administration must double down on efforts to ensure girls and women can attend school, access health care, receive equitable employment opportunities, be offered equal pay, and live a life free of violence. The next four years are critical, and the U.S., the United Nations and other multilateral partners must take decisive action in order to protect their future.



GLOBAL HEALTH

The COVID-19 pandemic sweeping the globe has demonstrated the stark reality of our global, interconnected community: an infectious disease anywhere has the potential to become a threat in every corner of the planet. Strengthening global health is an international imperative that not only saves lives, stabilizes country economies, and helps detect diseases that have the potential to become outbreaks, but also protects American lives and investment opportunities. While decades of bipartisan support have brought about impressive gains in areas like childhood vaccinations, malaria prevention, and water and sanitation, weakened health systems brought on by the pandemic, humanitarian disasters and climate change threaten progress. The next administration must continue to lead to create a world we want.



DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Democracy and human rights are under threat in 2020, with the fight for fundamental freedoms around the world more important than ever. Numerous crises have been exacerbated by COVID-19, which has the potential to wreak havoc on already fragile situations in places like Myanmar and Venezuela. A retreat from the UN Human Rights Council has also abdicated the United States' voice and historic leadership role. In order to effectively address the current climate, any future administration must immediately re-engage with international bodies such as the Council and work to strengthen and reform these agencies when needed.



CLIMATE

The climate crisis is the ultimate global problem that requires a global solution. As polar ice caps melt at an unprecedented rate, sea levels are rising here in the U.S. and around the world. Weather patterns are increasingly volatile, breaking centuries-old temperature records, unleashing ferocious storms and floods across the world, and disrupting global food supplies. The 2017 withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Climate Accord threatens to leave the U.S. and the rest of the world in a precarious position to address the growing crisis. The next administration must prioritize how to get things back on track.

VOTE
*like the world
depends on it*