

Statement for International Day to Combat Islamophobia  
Islamic Society of North America

March 17, 2025

Following the International Day to Combat Islamophobia on March 15, the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) stands united in remembrance of the tragic events of March 15, 2019, in Christchurch, New Zealand, where 51 Muslims lost their lives and many more were injured in a senseless act of hatred. Today, we reaffirm our commitment to combating Islamophobia and all forms of discrimination, bigotry, and xenophobia.

We commend the global recognition by the United Nations General Assembly of March 15 as a day to not only remember the lives lost but to foster dialogue and promote a deeper understanding of the diversity of religious beliefs. UN Secretary-General António Guterres has repeatedly condemned the continuing acts of anti-Muslim hatred and bigotry around the world, targeting not only Muslims but other communities also.

The U.S. National Strategy to Counter Islamophobia and Anti-Arab Hate outlines four priority areas, including raising awareness, enhancing security for vulnerable communities, tackling discrimination, and fostering solidarity among different communities. These provide a comprehensive framework to combat hate. We believe that the acknowledgment of our shared humanity is vital in strengthening unity across all communities in our pursuit of justice and equality.

We urge continued collaboration between civil society, government agencies, and private sectors to uphold and protect the rights of all marginalized communities. The commitment to sustainable action beyond today is essential to ensuring that no individual faces the pain of discrimination or violence based on their identity.

As we reflect on the past, we also look forward to a future where all individuals, regardless of their faith, can live with dignity and respect. ISNA remains steadfast in its mission to build bridges of understanding, promote interfaith dialogue, and take actionable steps against hate.

In closing, let this day serve as a reminder that combating Islamophobia is not just a goal but a shared responsibility. Together, we will strive for a world where tolerance and acceptance triumph over hate and division.