



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America
A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION



Thursday, November 16, 2017

The Honorable Rex Wayne Tillerson
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Tillerson,

On behalf of nearly 7,000 Americans, we are writing to humbly ask you to continue working with the United Nations to protect and promote human rights, both at home and abroad, by fighting human trafficking and advancing the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

We know you have an enormous portfolio of competing issues, but perhaps no issue is more important than the cause of universal justice, freedom of expression, and equality. As you seek to strengthen and expand America's role in the world, we hope you will view a strong U.S.-UN partnership and the recently-adopted Sustainable Development Goals as key tools for achieving these and many other critical foreign policy goals.

We firmly believe that the Sustainable Development Goals are a vital opportunity to focus global policy efforts on intrinsically American ideals: a commitment to ending modern slavery, achieving dignity for all, and guaranteeing fundamental freedoms, among many others. By leveraging these 17 global goals, the United States can hold itself to an even higher standard for advancing human rights and ensure our values reach beyond our borders.

We thank you for your time and attention to this matter and look forward to continuing to work with you, as we did earlier this year at the State Department's annual Model UN conference.

Sincerely,

Hon. Teta V. Banks
Chair
United Nations Association of the USA

Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson, L.H.D.
International President
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.