**BIDEN WIN**

**Today the people of the United States have voted for change and progress / IPPF congratulates President-elect Joe Biden on his win.**

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) congratulates US President-elect Joe Biden on his victory.

It is hard to overstate the global damage to sexual and reproductive health and rights by the Trump Administration, and the global effort and collaboration which will be required under President-elect Biden to undo the harm.

The US Global Gag Rule remains the greatest of threats to sexual and reproductive healthcare. IPPF calls on President-elect Biden to keep to his word of [signing an executive order on his first day in office to repeal the harmful Global Gag Rule](https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/politics/policy-2020/medicare-for-all/mexico-city-policy-global-gag-rule/) aka the Mexico City Policy. Further to this, we are counting on the Biden administration to push for a permanent repeal to this policy so that the shadow of it no longer hangs over communities around the world.

IPPF refused to sign the Global Gag Rule because it would not be coerced or threatened into abandoning its support for access to vital safe and legal abortion care for women around the world.

The consequent loss of US funding for sexual and reproductive healthcare affected 53 projects in 32 countries, severely impacted proven programs that provided comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services for millions of people, especially women and girls, and marginalized communities.

IPPF Director-General Dr Alvaro Bermejo said:

*“Today the people of the United States have voted for democracy, change and progress.*

*For the past four years, the United States has been governed by macho-politics, undermining the international standing of the US and its reputation as a global leader and champion of human rights.*

*We very much look forward to working with the Biden Administration and we will be pushing for the permanent repeal of the global gag rule; and with that to ensuring that sexual and reproductive healthcare is a reality for everyone, everywhere.”*

**-ENDS-**

**TRUMP WIN**

**IPPF and its global members will continue to deliver and fight for sexual and reproductive health and rights / IPPF remains committed to fighting the rollbacks on sexual and reproductive freedoms**

For the past four years the Trump Administration has eroded and attacked sexual and reproductive freedoms both in the United States and globally. Unfortunately, with another term in office, sexual and reproductive health care for millions of people around the world remains under threat and subject to further attack from corrosive and regressive policies.

During his first term in office, President Trump signed an executive order that expanded the Mexico City Policy aka the Global Gag Rule, seeking to deny women access to safe abortion care despite it being legally available in their own countries. The Trump Administration went further than any previous US administration in withdrawing support for healthcare programs around the world in an attempt to coerce organisations such as IPPF to cooperate with it, something IPPF refused to do.

IPPF Director-General Dr Alvaro Bermejo said:

“The withdrawal of US support under President Trump for sexual and reproductive healthcare around the world has been a disaster. T*he human cost of people being denied healthcare including HIV treatment, contraception and safe abortion care, will be felt for years to come.*

*We stand with those who believe in democracy and uphold human rights, bringing care to those most in need, ensuring no one is left behind. As part of the international community, we will continue to fight for sexual and reproductive freedoms and counter corrosive attempts to deny people their rights and rob them of choice.*

*Together, we are stronger and we will continue to strengthen relationships with progressive governments, partners, and activists who have stepped in and stepped up since the Global Gag Rule was reintroduced by President Trump.”*

The next four years will see no end to the pain for women and girls both in the US and around the world cast by coercive policies from this US President. But IPPF and its members will continue to fight against those who deny people their human rights and freedoms. IPPF and its members remain committed to accelerating its fight for sexual and reproductive freedoms and healthcare for all.

**-ENDS-**