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DHS to Begin Screening Aliens' Social Media Activity for Antisemitism

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WASHINGTON— Today U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will begin considering aliens' antisemitic activity on social media and the physical harassment of Jewish individuals as grounds for denying immigration benefit requests. This will immediately affect aliens applying for lawful permanent resident status, foreign students and aliens affiliated with educational institutions linked to antisemitic activity.

Consistent with President Trump's executive orders on <u>Combatting Anti-Semitism</u>, <u>Additional Measures to Combat Anti-Semitism</u> and <u>Protecting the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats</u>, DHS will enforce all relevant immigration laws to the maximum degree, to protect the homeland from extremists and terrorist aliens, including those who support antisemitic terrorism, violent antisemitic ideologies and antisemitic terrorist organizations such as Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, or Ansar Allah aka: "the Houthis."

"There is no room in the United States for the rest of the world's terrorist sympathizers, and we are under no obligation to admit them or let them stay here," said DHS Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Tricia McLaughlin. "Sec. Noem has made it clear that anyone who thinks they can come to America and hide behind the First Amendment to advocate for anti-Semitic violence and terrorism – think again. You are not welcome here."

Under this guidance, USCIS will consider social media content that indicates an alien endorsing, espousing, promoting, or supporting antisemitic terrorism, antisemitic terrorist organizations, or other antisemitic activity as a negative factor in any USCIS discretionary analysis when adjudicating immigration benefit requests. This guidance is effective immediately.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, please visit <u>uscis.gov</u> or follow us on <u>X (formerly Twitter)</u> , <u>Instagram</u> , <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

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