

“Rebuilding Lives, Rebuilding Communities: Ensuring a Future for Persecuted Christians”

74TH U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HIGH-LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION

FRIDAY, 27 SEPT., 2019

Mr. Frank J. Gaffney, President & CEO, Save the Persecuted Christians

TRANSCRIPT

[BEGIN FILE]

FRANK J. GAFFNEY:

-- Madam Ambassador and to your excellencies for a most heartening set of remarks and presentations. It's a privilege to be representing a growing coalition and grassroots movement in this country aimed at saving persecuted Christians. What I find particularly heartening from what we've heard today is the call to act, not simply engage in more discussion or dialogue, but to act. And that we act not only to relieve the suffering of those who are being persecuted, but that we act systemically to try to prevent more persecution. Because as some of the statistics that have been cited here suggest, this problem is intensifying. By some estimates, there are thirty million more Christians today being persecuted than was the case last year. The trend is in the wrong direction. There are two things that we would specifically urge those nations represented here and those in this body. One that we, as Lord Ahmed [PH] has said, hold accountable those responsible for the persecution. There must not be any longer the idea that this can be done with impunity. And that will require costs to be imposed for their crimes against humanity. I think, again, Lord Ahmed has talked about his government beginning to use, as a filter for foreign aid, for example, the idea that individual nations are engaged in persecution. This is what we think of as, under President Trump, the Brunson [PH] Treatment, which was applied very effectively to free Pastor Andrew Brunson. Thank you very much for your attention today and I urge you to take this call to action very seriously. Thank you.

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