



[TEXT OF JOINT LETTER – RELEASED ON MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2014]

Dear _____,

We are writing to you today about a danger the world has not seen in many years -- the frightening situation facing Christian minorities in Muslim countries. The executions, persecution and uprooting of ancient Christian communities is an on-going tragedy, yet world leaders have largely ignored this problem and it is past time for that to change.

The churches of the Middle East have a long and noble history. The region was once the cradle of the Christian faith. Even as recently as 100 years ago, some 20% of the peoples of the Middle East were still Christian. But today, we fear these proud and resilient religious communities will soon disappear from the Middle East.

The embattled Christian minorities in Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, North and Central Africa and throughout the region deserve our utmost concern for their faith and courage in the face of such violence and intolerance. But they also deserve our immediate attention to their plight.

The world has been mostly silent on this pressing issue. And world leaders have simply not spoken out. The test of moral leadership right now is whether you will take up their cause and make it a priority.

Therefore, we urge you to speak out forcefully against the persecution and expulsion of Christian communities in the Middle East. We also call on all Western democratic leaders to take collective action in confronting this problem through firm diplomatic action against those nations that allow the religious persecution against Christians to continue.

This is something that cannot be delayed. We all must act, now!

Respectfully yours,

Handwritten signature of Ronald S. Lauder in blue ink.

Amb. Ronald S. Lauder
President
World Jewish Congress

Handwritten signature of Billy Wilson in blue ink.

Dr. William Wilson
Co-Chairman
Empowered21 Global Council

Handwritten signature of Jürgen Bühler in blue ink.

Dr. Jürgen Bühler
Executive Director
International Christian Embassy Jerusalem

The World Jewish Congress is an international organisation which represents Jewish communities in 100 countries around the world. It advocates on behalf of the Jewish people before governments, parliaments, international organisations and other faiths.

Amb. Ronald S. Lauder
President
World Jewish Congress
501 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022



The Empowered21 Global Council is a worldwide network of Christian leaders with a collective following of more than 350 million Evangelicals worldwide, and provides vision and direction for the future of the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement – the fastest growing religious stream of our day.

Dr. William A. Wilson
Founder and Co-Chairman
Empowered21 Global Council
7777 South Lewis Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74171



The International Christian Embassy Jerusalem is a global ministry representing churches, denominations and millions of Christians worldwide who share a love and concern for Israel and who seek to repair the historic breach between the Church and the Jewish people. Based in Jerusalem, the ICEJ has a reach into more than 140 countries worldwide, including established branch offices in over 70 nations.

Dr. Jürgen Bühler
Executive Director
International Christian Embassy Jerusalem
PO Box 1192
Jerusalem 91010 Israel

