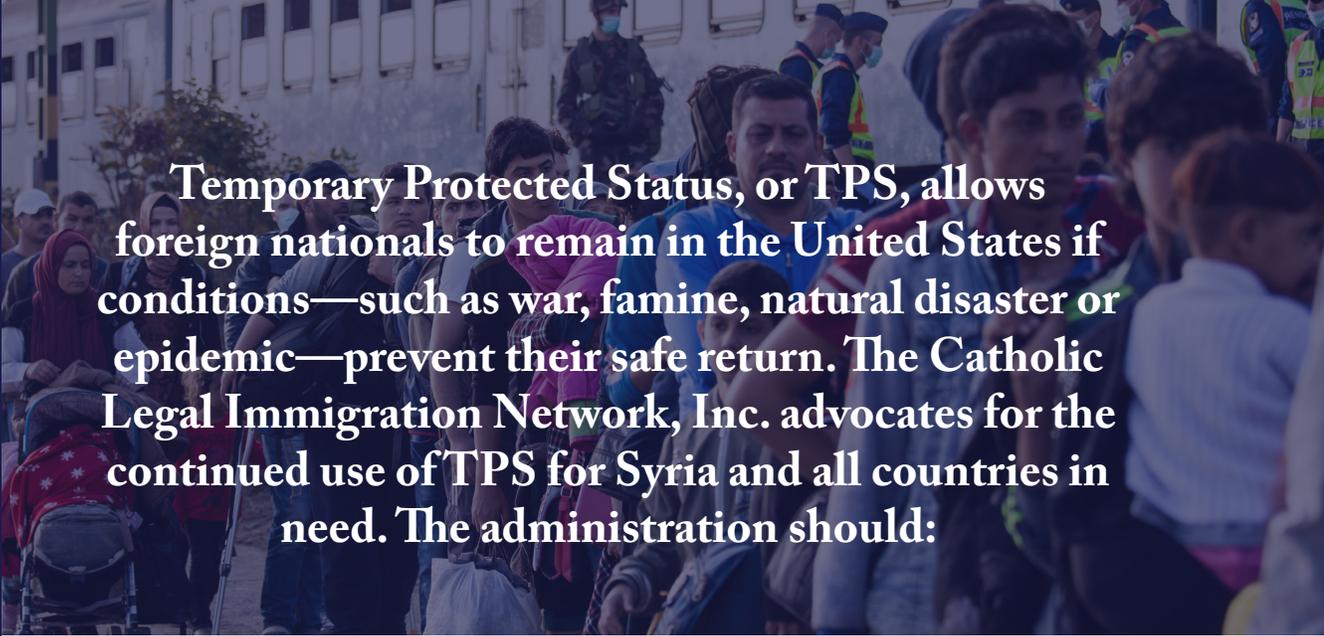


RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION REGARDING TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR SYRIA



Temporary Protected Status, or TPS, allows foreign nationals to remain in the United States if conditions—such as war, famine, natural disaster or epidemic—prevent their safe return. The Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. advocates for the continued use of TPS for Syria and all countries in need. The administration should:

1

Continue to extend TPS for Syria in 18-month increments until the country recovers from the war as well as the other extraordinary and temporary conditions that prevent Syrian TPS holders from safely returning to their homeland.

2

In addition to the 18-month extension, follow the practice of redesignating TPS for Syria in order to adjust the “continuous residence” date, or the date by which a Syrian person needed to be in the U.S. to qualify for TPS, in order to extend protection to those who have more recently arrived in the U.S. from Syria.

3

Follow the process for making TPS extension determinations according to the law, which requires consultation with appropriate government agencies such as the State Department, timely publication of Federal Register notices and extending TPS as country conditions continue to warrant it.

4

Engage and consult with experts in civil society in the U.S., Syria and elsewhere in the Middle East to better understand conditions in Syria and the region.

5

Encourage and work with Congress to create a permanent solution for Syrian and other TPS holders who have been in the U.S. for many years because their countries have remained unsafe. TPS for Syria should not be terminated until there is a legislative solution in place to ensure there is no gap in protection for vulnerable people.