

RIGHTS IN CRISIS

UUSC's Human Rights Priorities





At home and abroad, human rights are under attack. UUSC is committed to advancing a grassroots, restorative agenda on three fronts: Defending democracy; affirming the dignity of all; and building grassroots power. Here are UUSC's six human rights priorities moving into 2021:



01.

PASS THE BREATHE ACT AS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS PROMOTING RACIAL JUSTICE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

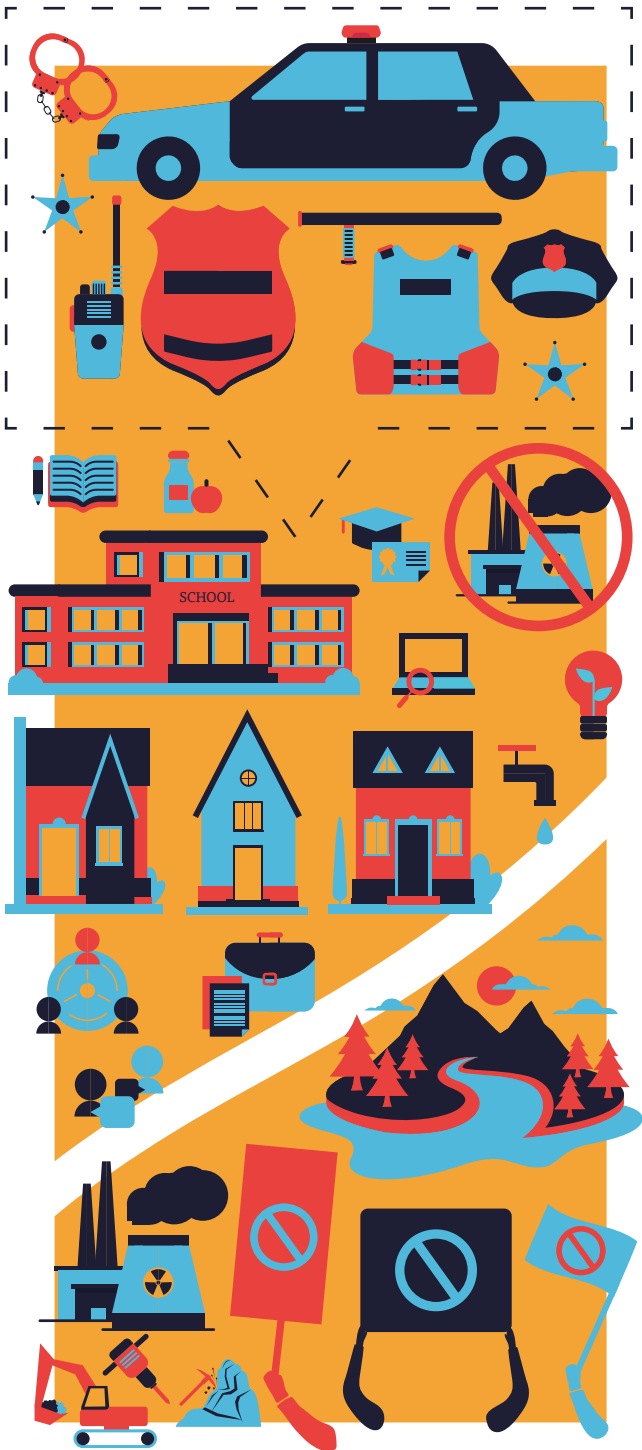
The BREATHE Act is a landmark bill that will divert federal funds and resources away from law enforcement agencies — entities that have played a leading role in the criminalization of Black and brown people and the oppression of people exercising their human right to migrate — and invest those resources into:

- anti-racism programs for our communities;
- alternatives to the prison system that emphasize rehabilitation rather than punishment;
- enhanced educational curricula for youth;
- fair funding for all schools to close the education gap between students of color and white students;
- greater housing access for low-income families;
- opportunities for more adults and youth to receive job training and access quality job opportunities; and
- projects that build healthy and sustainable communities

02.

DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF BIPOC COMMUNITIES TO PROTECT THEIR LANDS/COMMUNITIES FROM EXTRACTIVE PROJECTS BOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD

We must fully support all communities' right to resist oil, gas, and mining projects that pollute invaluable resources, displace entire communities, and lower our shared quality of life. There are countless communities across the world — most of whom are Indigenous — facing extractive projects that destroy land, poison fresh water and air, and displace families.





03.

REIMAGINE AND REBUILD THE U.S. IMMIGRATION SYSTEM IN A WAY THAT IS J.U.S.T.

Judicious. Creating an immigration system that embraces the human right to migrate and welcomes immigrants into this nation through a judicious and expedient process.

Understanding. Acknowledging that as a world leader the United States' foreign policy has enabled authoritarian governments, valued capitalism over communities, and placed U.S. interests before the moral imperative of justice and accountability.

Systemic. Developing a system that not only welcomes immigrants worldwide, but ensuring that system is constructed in a way that eliminates traumas like family separation, child detention, and deportations.

Transformative. Providing opportunities for communities historically oppressed by current immigration policies to realize their full potential through equal access to quality jobs, education, housing, and other resources.

04.

FORMAL DECLARATION FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT THAT A GENOCIDE HAS BEEN COMMITTED AGAINST THE ROHINGYA PEOPLE OF BURMA (MYANMAR)

The U.S. State Department should formally determine that a genocide has been perpetrated against the Rohingya and bring the nation's leaders to justice in a public forum.





05.

IMPLEMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES THAT RELY ON COMMUNITY-DRIVEN SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

We have a moral and generational imperative to treat climate displacement as the present-day emergency it is, meeting in genuine partnership with affected communities to discuss permanent solutions, and accessing essential resources to address climate impacts exacerbated by global warming.

06.

ENSURE THAT THE UNITED STATES SERVES AS A GLOBAL LEADER IN PROVIDING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO AID IN THE WAKE OF NATURAL AND HUMAN-MADE DISASTERS

The United States has a unique opportunity to establish itself as an exemplar of policies that address the “crisis of the ignored” when it comes to disasters. Collectively, we have it in our power to flank these communities, affirm their worth and dignity, and follow their wisdom in addressing systemic harms.

