

**Andrea Prasow**  
**Washington Director, Human Rights Watch**  
**34<sup>th</sup> Floor, 350 Fifth Ave**  
**New York, NY 110118-3299**



Dear Ms. Prasow,

I am writing on behalf of the Organization for World Peace to express my concern over President Donald Trump's decision to impose economic and travel sanctions against the International Criminal Court (ICC), specifically targeting ICC employees involved in investigating alleged U.S. war crimes committed by American forces in Afghanistan. Trump's decision may set a precedent that other countries do not need to abide by nor follow rules set by the ICC. The ICC is the only war crimes court in the world and Trump's decision questions the ICC's purpose and credibility as a global institution and tribunal.

The U.S. has been accused on numerous occasions of human rights violations and war crimes in Afghanistan, including severe interrogation methods on prisoners, instances of sexual violence and rape, and indiscriminate killings. The decision to investigate these occurrences was approved unanimously by a panel of ICC judges which U.S. officials, including Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, called a "kangaroo court." Pompeo has also questioned the independence of the ICC from foreign interference, notably from Russia. These claims are hypocritical given the U.S. is directly interfering with the ICC's ability to conduct fair and comprehensive rulings.

This decision also comes at the same time in which Trump signed a law allowing the U.S. to impose sanctions on Chinese officials for human rights violations of the Uighur Muslim people in China's Xinjiang province. We are gravely concerned at the United States' contempt for the ICC and other international institutions like the World Health Organization.

Ms. Prasow, we urge you to continue to advocate before the U.S. government on global human rights issues. Furthermore, we call on you to:

- Conduct research into the United States' international war crimes in Afghanistan, for which the Organization for World Peace would gladly be consulted.
- Call for greater action from the United Nations Human Rights Council to investigate United States' alleged human rights violations.

Thank you for your kind attention. As an advocate for peace, we trust that you will take this issue seriously and seek to protect those impacted by human rights violations around the world. Without your immediate help and support, the United States will set a precedence that no country is subject to rulings imposed by international organizations.

Sincerely,

Brett Smiley  
Advocate, Organization for World Peace

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathon Arrell', written in a cursive style.

Jonathon Arrell  
Vice President, Organization for World Peace