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## Media Backgrounder

### ***Trump's Final Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom in Warsaw, Poland Will Have Long Term for Global Human Rights***

On November 16-17, the U.S. will co-host a virtual Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom in Warsaw, Poland. The schedule of the event is [here](#).

This is expected to be the last major global event hosted by Trump's State Department and thus its last opportunity to push a conservative agenda on the world stage and to lay the groundwork for American anti-reproductive rights, anti-LGBTQ, and anti-Islam extremist organizations to influence global policy for decades to come.

Equity Forward, a reproductive and LGBTQ rights watchdog project, continues to shine a light on the Trump Administration's agenda through its [Global Spotlight](#) database which includes profiles on:

- [Secretary Mike Pompeo](#)
- Ambassador At Large for International Religious Freedom [Sam Brownback](#)
- [Andrew Bremberg](#), U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva

## HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**The Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom is a convening of governments and NGOs with the announced goal of addressing religious persecution. However, U.S. representatives and organizations all too often have another goal: weaponizing religion to undermine global human rights:**

- The Ministerial convenes high-level representatives of national delegations and has also welcomed sponsors of side events including Alliance Defending Freedom, Concerned Women for America, Save the Persecuted Christians Coalition, the Southern Baptist Convention, and the James Dobson Family Institute.
- These extremist organizations have [advocated for an anti-LGBTQ, anti-Islam, anti-women agenda on a global scale — all under the guise of "religious freedom."](#) U.S. officials including Brownback have been invited to speak at one such [event](#) hosted by International Christian Concern this year on November 16.
- As hundreds of thousands of [Polish women take to the streets in protest of an abortion ban](#), the Trump administration and the Polish government will be forming connections between international leaders American organizations dead-set on exporting oppressive reproductive health care policies.

- This Ministerial will be a continuation of those held in 2018 and 2019. The Ministerial on Religious Freedom has taken place annually under the State Department, with [Sam Brownback](#) and [Mike Pompeo](#) at the helm. Both have used their careers and current positions to push their personal anti-reproductive health, anti-LGBTQ, and anti-Islam agendas.
- While this meeting will be one of the Trump administration's final opportunities to push their harmful policies, the damage inflicted over the last four years will take much longer to repair. These meetings have connected oppressive governments with U.S.-based organizations that will continue to press for dangerous policies, no matter who is in the White House.

**Time and again, the Trump-Pence administration has used the moniker of religious freedom to justify advancing policies that harm LGBTQ people, curtail access to reproductive health care, and deny gender protections. This administration also:**

- Released a [report](#) from Secretary Pompeo's [one-sided](#) Commission on Unalienable Rights which prioritizes property and religious rights at the expense of all others.
- Sponsored the [Geneva Consensus Declaration](#), which undermines LGBTQ families and denies the right to access to abortion.
- Aligned itself with countries concerning human rights practices, including U.S. praise for [Hungary](#) and its xenophobic policy that incentivizes white, native Christian families to have more children in an effort to counter the immigrant population.

*As of November 13, 2020*