



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 11, 2020

Contact:

Fiona MacLeod, Fiona.MacLeod@berlinrosen.com, (516) 477-0935

Noreen Fagan, fagann@ipas.org, (919) 945 4357

MEDIA ADVISORY: Policy Experts Deep Dive Into How Biden Can Reverse the Global Gag Rule on Day One and Why The Fight Must Include Overturning the Helms Amendment

Join: Press briefing on Thursday, December 17, 1:00pm ET, RSVP Required

Advocates know how dangerous the Global Gag Rule is. But very little is discussed about the insidious second law causing harm to millions of women across the world -- The Helms Amendment. We invite you to join this technical deep-dive on the 47th anniversary of the Helms Amendment to discuss how it underpins the Global Gag Rule, and why both must be rescinded in order to undo the harm that they currently inflict on millions.

International NGO [ipas](https://www.ipas.org/), focused on increasing global access to abortion care and contraception, is holding a press briefing with the reproductive rights research and policy group [Guttmacher Institute](https://www.guttmacher.org/) to discuss the significant harm done by the Helms Amendment, and why this key U.S. policy will continue harming millions of women even after the Biden Administration rescinds the Global Gag Rule.

Over 35 million women have unsafe abortions each year. The Helms Amendment exacerbates this danger by barring US-supported health-care professionals from providing abortion care services, information, and resources to women and girls globally, leading to thousands of deaths each year. The Helms Amendment has been blatantly misinterpreted as a full ban on abortion care, and will continue to do damage to women around the world by blocking critical U.S. foreign assistance funding.

During the press briefing, experts will discuss their recommendations to expand global access to abortion care, the crucial differences between the Global Gag Rule and the Helms Amendment, and why President-elect Joe Biden's administration must go further than simply rescinding the Global Gag Rule in order to achieve maximum impact.

When: Thursday, December 17, 2020 | 1:00pm ET

Where: Please RSVP for a dial-in by contacting Fiona MacLeod at Fiona.MacLeod@berlinrosen.com.

Who:

- Anu Kumar, President and CEO, Ipas
- Bethany Van Kampen, Senior Policy Advisor, Ipas
- Zara Ahmed, Associate Director of Federal Issues, Guttmacher Institute

###

About Ipas and The Guttmacher Institute

Ipas is an international, non-governmental organization that increases access to safe abortions and contraception. Visit <https://www.ipas.org/> for more information.

The Guttmacher Institute is a leading research and policy organization committed to advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights in the U.S. and globally. Visit <https://www.guttmacher.org/> for more information.