



The United States Must Remain a Member of the World Health Organization
A Statement from the American Academy of Nursing

Washington, D.C. (July 8, 2020) — As the American Academy of Nursing (Academy) has previously stated in [April](#) and [June](#) of this year, withdrawing from the World Health Organization (WHO) is detrimental to the health of the nation and the world. The announcement from the Trump Administration that the United States will formally withdraw from the organization that directs and coordinates international health within the United Nations system is a move that isolates the U.S. from our partners around the world. Our continued involvement in the WHO is vital, especially as the coronavirus pandemic worsens and new global health threats emerge. The WHO ensures that effective treatments and vaccines spread quickly through international coordination and collaboration. Separating the United States from this important work will not only lead to more suffering from COVID-19, but also diminish our global efforts to prevent communicable diseases, prepare for public health emergencies, collect necessary data, and ensure primary care is accessible. While our membership within WHO remains intact for one more year, actions must be taken to reverse this decision.

To protect health around the world, this is not the time for an exit and, as a nation, we must remain steadfast in our commitment to global health diplomacy.

Eileen Sullivan-Marx, PhD, RN, FAAN
President
American Academy of Nursing

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About the American Academy of Nursing

The [American Academy of Nursing](#) serves the public by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge. Academy Fellows are inducted into the organization for their extraordinary contributions to improve health locally and globally. With more than 2,800 Fellows, the Academy represents nursing's most accomplished leaders in policy, research, administration, practice, and academia.

Contact:

Caroline Kane | 202-777-1173 | ckane@AANnet.org