



**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

San Diego Chapter

STATEMENT | NATIONWIDE PROTESTS

We at the San Diego Chapter of the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA San Diego) are deeply troubled and pained by the numerous instances of racial injustice, police brutality and abuses against the Black community that continue the systemic and cultural devaluation of Black lives in this country today.

A grassroots civil organization that promotes civic engagement with the United Nations since 1946 here in San Diego, our very being is rooted in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that states in its preamble: *“Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.”*

We are firm believers that there can be no peace in a society without justice and respect for Human Rights. We strongly condemn those who violate and/or deny the rights of any human being based upon the color of their skin, gender, sexual identity, religious beliefs or nationality. We stand in solidarity and action with our Black community and other communities of color under attack. The protests are not only demanding our public officials and representatives to take action, they call upon all of us to act now, to speak up, to change our behaviors, and to urge accountability. The one thing we cannot continue to do is to ignore the facts or remain silent. It is our personal responsibility to shape the society we want.

This year, as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, let us be firm in our commitment to human rights, to social justice and to peace.

We recognize that any words we write are incomplete, reflect our own blind spots and privilege, and are one very small incomplete piece of a much larger and overdue set of perspectives, dialogues, and actions. We humbly ask during this immensely difficult time to receive our message in the spirit it is intended.

At UNA-USA San Diego, we stand together through our shared humanity, for a future that leaves no one behind.

Board of Directors,

United Nations Association of the United States of America, San Diego Chapter
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The World Needs the U.N., the U.N. Needs You.