



AAG

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
of GEOGRAPHERS

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AAG Statement on the U.S. Withdrawal from the Paris Agreement

The American Association of Geographers (AAG) opposes the Trump Administration's decision to pull out of the Paris Climate Agreement. Climate change constitutes a major threat to the Earth's environment and to the well-being of people in all nations and there is a substantial body of evidence that global climate change is driven by human-induced causes.

Geographers carry out integrative research on human-environment relations and interactions that has helped inform this worldwide scientific consensus. In 2006, the AAG adopted a resolution urging the U.S. Government to take a leadership role in addressing climate change, support open scientific debate about the issue, and develop sound policies to attenuate greenhouse gas emissions. Accordingly, we are gravely discouraged by the Administration's decision to move in the opposite direction.

Global climate change will not reverse itself without serious, sustained leadership from every nation in the world community. Its impacts on human health, world hunger, international conflicts, and macroeconomics will steadily grow unless meaningful action is taken to lessen its profound effects. The United States is a major contributor to worldwide carbon dioxide emissions and today's announcement is a significant blow to efforts to stem the tide of climate change.