

"Each time a person stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, these ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

- Robert F. Kennedy

‘435 Campaign’ for Global Justice:

An invitation to join the US Global Justice Corps

Elections matter. But realistically, your one vote may make you feel good but doesn't matter much in who wins. What matters greatly however is what you do as a citizen between elections. And, educating your elected officials, regardless of your opinion of them, can make an enormous and lasting difference globally. If you don't, someone else will. But maybe not in a good way.

“If there were just 10 people in every Congressional District, who really pushed on the issue...we could literally change the world”. **Senator Paul Simon** (as a U.S. Congressman)

Most policy makers are followers, not leaders. And usually, their primary goal is getting re-elected. To do this they need three things; money (to run campaigns), looking good (to attract voter support), and votes (to win on Election Day).

I'm guessing you don't have enough money to influence an election. And, I know there are some candidates you might never vote for. But with the right information, timing, and loving persistence, you can make a policy maker look good to his constituents. Who isn't for justice? Moving them in this direction...that's priceless.

This 435 Campaign intends to empower citizens like you with tools that are helpful in educating your policy makers to act more in this direction. Meeting with them (or their key staff people) in your local Congressional District or on Capitol Hill, generating media, and developing a friendly working relationship with them can be the most powerful action you can take in creating political will for a more free, just and secure world.

As you know, the systems and structures on both the national and global levels are dysfunctional. And this dysfunction is a threat to our local, national and global security as well as our most cherished freedoms and indispensable environment. What's missing is the political will to follow fundamental principles that 'we the people' of the world agree on. That 'all people' are created equal and endowed with inalienable rights, to "life, liberty" and "justice for all".

Our plan is to find one person in each of the 435 US Congressional Districts who is willing to join in this campaign between now and 2020 (an important year in several ways) and then beyond to 2030 to ensure this fundamental principle is followed in reforming the current systems and structures at all levels of government.

"Human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe." - H.G. Wells, The Outline of History

What is expected of you? As much as you are willing to do.

1. Find out what your Congressperson's top political priorities and concerns are.
2. As opportunities arise in the media or votes on Capitol Hill, provide them with your views and insights linking local issues to global factors related to injustices. We will work to provide you with basic talking points to assist you when possible.
3. Collect examples of local problems related to global injustices and local opportunities/benefits if justice were a higher priority in US foreign policy.
4. Build a cadre of partners in your Congressional District (CD) to assist you in this mission.
5. Document your successes and failures so others may learn from, and be inspired by, your efforts.

We will assist you in framing an issue/action to better gain their support. Or, at the very least, put a thoughtful hesitation in an unwise path they insist on taking.

One possible action is following your Member of Congress (MoC) on their Facebook page. And respond to it frequently and appropriately to build trust and find allies. Creating your own Facebook page for rallying others in your CD might also be helpful. Inviting others to post local conditions that they see are linked to global injustices can provide a useful archive of evidence for further persuasion efforts.

If you see yourself as a budding community leader and/or passionate advocate for global justice I invite you to join with us (US Global Justice Corps) to assist in documenting the local consequences of global injustices. We already cover 62 of 435 US Congressional Districts (only 373 to go).

What Congressional District (CD) are you in? Visit:

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map> or, call 202-225-3121 the Capitol operator and give him/her your zip code. They can connect you directly to your U.S. Representative's office. Once connected, introduce yourself as a 'concerned constituent' and ask for the aide that deals with foreign policy or national security issues (if your memory is like mine you will want to take notes on whom you talk to and what's said).

The first few minutes of this 13 minute YouTube video <https://youtu.be/pnw0jr36Z0Q> will inspire you with what's possible. It's on the 15 year history of The Tech Awards, an effort we are not yet affiliated with. But this "435 Campaign" is inspired by it. The technology already exists for you to make the greatest difference from where you are right now, on the greatest problems related to global injustices and the lack of political will to address them effectively.

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality." Desmond Tutu, a Nobel Peace Prize winner who dedicated his life to fighting AIDS, poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia:

"What we think, or what we know, or what we believe is, in the end, of little consequence. The only consequence is what we do." - **John Ruskin (1819 - 1900)**

OPPOSITION QUOTES: While terrorism and Middle East anarchy could fill any President's day, it is critical the incoming Trump administration also fashion strategies to deal with longer-term issues like protecting America's constitutional system from the advocates of global governance and the realities of international competition from the likes of China and Russia. **John Bolton**, "Trump needs to reverse the Iran deal and assert our interests" November 13, 2016, New York Post.