



Statement by President Catherine Amirfar
Regarding Racial Violence and Injustice in the United States

June 3, 2020

As an organization dedicated to a just system of laws and the protection of human rights, the American Society of International Law stands with all of the victims and survivors of systemic racial injustice in our society, including the families of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and the many, many other Black Americans whose lives have been brutally cut short by racial violence.

As lawyers, we especially condemn violence committed by those charged with enforcing the laws. We recognize that the police have a difficult and dangerous job to do, and most perform their duties bravely and honorably. But police must be held accountable under the law when they perpetrate violence against communities of color—the very communities that are already disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic—and put those they are sworn to protect in fear for their lives.

We mourn this tragic loss of life, and we express our solidarity with all of the men and women of color within our community for whom racism and the threat of racial violence is an ever-present fact of life. We affirm our commitment to ending the scourge of violence, hatred, and discrimination in our country, and to upholding the dignity and equality of our Black brothers and sisters and all of our fellow human beings.

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