

TRANSCRIPT

An STPC Webinar

Make Nigeria Great, Too! **Can the Trump 2.0 Model End Violence Against Christians in Africa's Most Populous Nation?**

Frank Gaffney and Dede Laugesen with Douglas Burton, Dr. Oluwasayo Ajiboye, Dr. Gloria Samdi Puldu, Hon. Dr. Gregory H. Stanton, and Steven Enada

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[00:00:13] **Dede Laugesen:** Hello, everyone. Thanks for joining us today. I'm Dede Laugesen, executive director for Save the Persecuted Christians. Today's webinar is part of our ongoing webinar series, generally on the third Thursday of each month focused on extreme discrimination, harassment and violence experienced by a record 365 million followers of Christ worldwide and other threats to religious freedom, prosperity and peace for people of all beliefs. A video of this webinar will be posted to SaveThePersecutedChristians.org. Within a day or two of the end of our program. Videos of our other webinars are also there. Share these with your elected officials, friends, colleagues, and Colleagues and other networks. [00:01:00] Our moderator today is Frank Gaffney. Frank is the president and CEO of Save the Persecuted Christians and president of the Institute for the American Future at USfuture.org.

[00:01:15] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you very much, Dede. Let me start by reiterating a foundational point that informs, or we hope will inform, every single one of these webinars and every one of those of you in the audience for them, the numbers of Christians that are being persecuted around the world. Heavily persecuted at that. According to our colleagues at Open Doors USA, exceeds the number of men, women and children in the population of the Population of the United States. Something on the [00:02:00] order of 365 million who are facing, again, not just inconveniences or nasty

looks or other day to day travails. We're talking about people who are tortured, raped, deprived of their home, their livelihoods, their family members, or in some cases, murdered themselves. One of the places where this is taking place, unfortunately, on a daily basis, pretty much it has been for years, is in the heart of Africa's most populous nation, a great nation, the nation of Nigeria. We've assembled today to talk about making [00:03:00] Nigeria truly great, with a distinguished panel of people who have dedicated much of their lives to trying to help the Christians, and for that matter, others in Nigeria who are suffering at the hands primarily of jihadists who seek again to take their land, to take their homes, to take their women and children, to take their lives. It has been happening with the assistance, in some cases, at the very least, all too often the acquiescence of the government of Nigeria, a government that is democratically elected, very generously sponsored [00:04:00] by the United States government, and that has nonetheless behaved for years in a manner that has invited more of these kinds of predations against Christians, not brought them to an end, as we must strive to do.

[00:04:25] **Frank Gaffney:** We're going to have a number of guests, some of whom we thought might be with us sooner rather than later, but we hope to get them all in before the program is over. And I want to thank them all for making themselves available for this extraordinarily important conversation about whether the Donald Trump 2.0 model Aimed at making America great again can also help Nigeria fulfill its destiny to be truly a great nation. [00:05:00] On one of the world's most important continents, we're going to hear first from Doctor Shiloh, as he is known to virtually everybody. His full name is Doctor Osagie Ajiboye. He is a man of profound religious conviction who is doing truly the world's work on behalf of orphans abandoned peoples, many of them children in his native land of Nigeria. And he has stories to tell of what persecution looks like there. He and his congregants have experienced it firsthand. And he is a leader in the effort to achieve accountability for those perpetrating these crimes against humanity, and an end to [00:06:00] the horror that is harming so many in Nigeria, and indeed depriving that nation from realizing its full potential. Doctor Scheele has agreed to talk with us about persecutions, impacts on children, families and communities in Nigeria's Christian belt. Doctor trial welcomes.

[00:06:23] **Oluwasyo Ajiboye:** Persecution in Nigerian Christian community. Families and children can only be imagined when you look at the broad picture. According to the

National Bureau of Statistics, the government owned National Bureau of Statistics at 2.2 million people were abducted. Last year, 2024 and 614,937 [00:07:00] were killed in the process. And according to what I have been asked to speak on, it's actually what I work on. What is the impact on this, on children, on families and on communities as my work entails? I've seen these firsthand. Displacement, destruction. Children that are thrown out of school. Orphans that have nobody to take care of them. I run a school that is, by design, made for orphans. We don't call it an orphanage. It is a school. We [00:08:00] don't treat the children differently. We treat them as if they are at home like any other child. But there are orphans there. Orphans of war. The war that the jihadists have chosen to visit on the ordinary people of Nigeria. The challenge in this war is that it is a war on the helpless. A war on the least of this. The people that are being attacked are people who are ordinary people in their villages, in their hearts, in their little churches. I will take an example, of course. We are. The massive Christmas Day massacre occurred [00:09:00] in 2023. And you would think that after the Christmas Day massacre nothing would have happened again. But I can tell you that as of this past week churches and pastors were still killed and homes burnt in the same vocals.

[00:09:28] **Oluwasyo Ajiboye:** Now, I was in Bokkos, and I saw firsthand what the destruction has caused the people. I saw children gathering in one school room, about 60, 70, 80 of them flowing outside in one schoolroom, one schoolroom to receive lectures, [00:10:00] because that's what is available. I saw 80 families, not 80 individuals, in different stages of devastation, 80 families in one church hall. And I'm asking myself, how do they sleep? 80 families in one church hall. I saw it, not that they told me, you know, I saw them cook together communally because they've been chased away from their home without preparation. Myself and my ministry and good friends across the earth. We have been responsible in this past year to build houses for multiple pastors whose houses have been destroyed. This [00:11:00] is what is happening. I have 780 children in my hand that are now my children. I'm grateful. But I am not. I don't dismiss their loss. But they are now mine. I take care of them, I love them, they're great children. They're doing good. But that does not prevent the flashback. The flashback of the violence, the flashback. Back and, you know, all kinds of things that come because of the flashback. We have women that we have supported. I have children, young adults, that we are paying their school fees in universities because their parents cannot pay. And you know, the scary thing, the relentless [00:12:00] focus of the jihadist makes us that we claim we are working on behalf of the persecuted

makes us look like we are doing nothing. Because this jihadist in my own village, I mean own village, 30 miles down the road in the southwest of Nigeria this January 2025, they just rounded up a core of jihadists that have come into our southwest region to try to destroy us.

[00:12:40] **Oluwasyo Ajiboye:** Why this wicked, passionate desire to kill the innocent? This is the question that everybody needs to be asking, and this is the vision that everybody needs to have, that this is not about [00:13:00] somebody. I've done something for my dad or whatever. No, it's a passionate hatred for the only son is a passionate hatred for the way of Christ. And they are ready to go anywhere to uproot us because they somehow believe that we got it wrong. And the only thing for them to do is to kill us, you know, and they don't make it for them. It's not, it's not, it's not problem that they want to kill you and they will tell you they want to kill you and they are going to and they are doing it. What would we need to do as a people? We need [00:14:00] to be aware that this is not this is not a walk in the park. This is not one political party opposing another. You can talk about government from here to kingdom come. The people being impacted, they don't know anything about government. They are just poor farmers in their villages. But because they follow the way of Christ, they must be uprooted. That that's just the bottom line. The people in Baucus, nothing they are not is they are not political.

[00:14:40] **Oluwasyo Ajiboye:** The people in Plato, the people in all of them, none of them is really political. They are just farmers trying to get something to eat and go to their church and come back home. But in the middle of the night, he has swoops down [00:15:00] these agents of death to destroy them. Families upon families. You know, when I talk about these things, it's very difficult for me to. My heart breaks. I want to cry. Why? Because for me, it's not. It's not theory. It's not. It's people that I touch that I owed, you know, people that are precious to me. This morning, I was still dealing with this When I. I got a call from Plato from another place which has been hit by this jihadist this morning. So when a place is hit the most heat are the children and their mothers. If they are not killed, they are displaced. How does a mother find food for his children on the move? It's the most difficult [00:16:00] thing in the world. How does a woman clean up? How do you. A baby. You are pregnant. Maybe you have little baby, you know. I mean, just picture it. And it's not America. Now it is in the bush. So this is what we want our world to think about women and children. They are being affected by. By this

situation. Families are being uprooted. I am willing to stay around and take questions. I don't know. I mean, I can keep talking for the next one.

[00:16:53] **Frank Gaffney:** No, no, this is this is a good point to break. Thank you. We will have questions. Thank you for this very powerful [00:17:00] introduction to the impact that persecution is having on the lives of countless ordinary Nigerians. One of those who has been grappling with the effects of all of this very directly, and I think with great effect, is our next speaker. Her name is Doctor Gloria Samdi Puldu. She is the president of the Laya Foundation, a foundation dedicated to an amazing young woman who was taken captive by Boko Haram jihadists. And by virtue of the fact that she refused to convert to Islam because of her conviction that Jesus Christ is her Lord and Savior, was kept captive as a hostage of Boko Haram [00:18:00] when her schoolmates, who had been taken at the same time were freed. The Leah Foundation is about preserving her memory, her cause, and helping the rest of us understand what is happening to women and girls in Nigeria in particular, how they can be empowered to reclaim their lives is our doctor pulled his mission, and we're so grateful to her for being with us and for sharing her insights.

[00:18:29] **Gloria Samdi Puldu:** I really do appreciate the privilege to be able to speak on what is happening to us as women in Nigeria. This has been going on for a long time, just like my dear brother has already spoken and mentioned some of the things that have happened and given some statistics which I will also not want to dwell on so much. But the statistics you know, like he mentioned, usually given by the [00:19:00] government or they are not the true reflection of what is truly happening on the ground because it is very difficult to gather these statistics because of the difficulty of, you know, the, the, the crisis that is that we are going through. And we have very remote areas where nobody is able to reach or even if people are able to reach before you get there, is difficult to ascertain what has happened because some of them are already buried and some of them are already displaced completely from their communities, and they are scattered all over. So it's difficult to get that statistics. But we will still continue to just mention the statistics just for the sake of, you know those that we want to, you know have such statistics to, you know, know the, [00:20:00] the, the, the, the, the extent of the problem, at least in a minute way. Yeah. So for us, as a foundation we created this organization to focus on women. And why did we focus on women and

girls? Because we know that most of the time they are disproportionately affected by whatever attacks and conflicts and lack of peace that that we experience in Nigeria.

[00:20:30] **Gloria Samdi Puldu:** And sadly, you know, looking at Nigeria from northern Nigeria, just like my brother mentioned now up to the southern part of the country, a lot of abductions, violence, displacement, killings and so on and so forth. And when these women are left alone, what happens? They will have to take care of these children. Some of them go into prostitution, some of them go into forceful conversions and forceful marriages and so on and so forth. I do not want to dwell on all those ones [00:21:00] because we already know. So this, this for me, what we do, we try to create programs and design, you know, strategies that we can help cushion the pains that these women and girls go through when they are affected by this violence, by these attacks, by these Abductions. And their world. Crumbled. And they need a lot of help. Some of them in the they are able to go to the displaced camps. But what do they get in the displaced camps if they are government displaced camps? There is a lot of politics there that they don't even get what they are supposed to get. And so we try our organizations and other organizations like my brother's organization and different organizations that we work together, try to see how we can show them the love of Christ, pointing them back to Christ, telling them [00:22:00] that, look, he loves you, even though he allows what has happened to happen.

[00:22:04] **Gloria Samdi Puldu:** But he loves you. And that's why we are here to share that same love. And so we start by doing psychological trauma, ensuring that the survivors who mostly face, you know, the PTSD, depression, stigma or social exclusion, so many vices that they face. We try to ensure that we have people that are trained to help them deal with the psychological trauma so that the depression will go, or at least it will be reduced to a minimum. And when we finish that, we are able to also give them some economic empowerment because they have completely been displaced from their communities. They've lost everything. And the young girls have lost access to education and then their parents access to their farms, [00:23:00] which is their employment. And in fact, they are completely destabilized financially. So we try to see how we can support them economically by, you know, ensuring that we as we disciple them, as we as we ensure they go through the psychological trauma processes to get back to their, you know, physical and mental health. We ensure that we provide them with a skill and then also provide them with some food, provide them with accommodation, provide

them with relocation to even leave the displaced environment completely. And also the camps where they sometimes they are not completely, you know places where someone will stay and be balanced.

[00:23:48] **Gloria Samdi Puldu:** So we help with all that, and then we ensure that after they have gotten this discipleship, gotten some stability in their economic you know, stance, [00:24:00] we try to reintegrate them back into the communities. And how do we do that? We try to make sure that they feel they are not discriminated. So if they can settle back in their communities, if he saves enough, we take them back. If he's not safe enough, then where they have relocated, where they are, we try to rent houses and settle them in, or we refer them to other organizations who can handle their situations. We have a lot of women that, you know, just go into the prostitution and they stay in hotels. Such women, when we get them, we have centers where we keep them open. Freedom center. We have Masada, and then we have those that have drug related issues because of where they found themselves. We try to take them to rehabilitation centers where people who are specialized in those areas treat them before they come back to us in our own centers to [00:25:00] learn skills and then be disciplined. And so after we have done that, we try to see if we can get them justice, because it is very important. That we have been discussing about how the perpetrators don't get to be punished in Nigeria because even when they are apprehended and they are taken, before you know it, they are released or there is a big jailbreak and they all run away and so on and so forth.

[00:25:30] **Gloria Samdi Puldu:** But in any way that we can get them justice by being advocate and speaking as we are speaking now in this very wonderful opportunity that you have given to us to speak. We share their problems. We ensure that the people who do not know what has happened to them get to know their story so that justice can be done by international communities pressuring our government in any way to ensure that [00:26:00] those who are committing this violence against women, especially the Islamic terrorists. Now we have a new one that has just emerged, which is called the lake. The lake. It's a different form of AME. It's a new form of a Boko Haram kind of lswap, kind of, you know, a terrorist group. That is the latest one now that is causing a lot of havoc, not just to the communities now even attacking the Nigerian military, which I don't want to go into that, but we can see that the problems are just going on and are going on. So justice needs to be done. These people need to access justice by ensuring

that perpetrators are being attacked. Government is doing what it's supposed to do so that they can feel that the pains that they have gone through, at least those who have caused that pain, are able to get justice. So these are some of the little things that we do to ensure that people get some, especially [00:27:00] women, and where it is possible for us to send their children to school, we sponsor them in school, and we have a lot of them that have graduated, especially those from school by herself.

[00:27:12] **Gloria Samdi Puldu:** She's still in captivity and very soon in February, if she doesn't get rescued, she'll be seven years in captivity. So education is very important for us. And so we have helped a lot of girls that were with her in school, and they have found their footing. And just today, I think I was able to have like ten of them go into boarding school. And we thank God for all those who are supporting us with that. So we these are some of the things that we do to ensure that these women get back their lives and then they are able to, you know, continue to follow Christ and to love him more. Because the only reason why they are facing what they are facing is because they love Jesus Christ. And that's why for us, you know, our foundation is very important to [00:28:00] us because Leah boldly refused to renounce her Christian faith. So these are some of the things that we do. Let me stop here so that other people can have to talk. And then later, if there's time, we could share more. Or we could take questions if anybody has. Thank you.

[00:28:15] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you. Gloria. This is a very powerful testimony. Needless to say we appreciate you delivering it so wonderfully. We're going to hear next from Doctor Gregory Stanton, a man who has devoted much of his professional life in a variety of capacities to fighting genocide in the world, notably in in the State Department and subsequently, as the founder and founding president and chairman of Genocide Watch. He has been watching intensively what has been taking place with respect to the [00:29:00] genocide of Christians globally. And we're very appreciative of him taking some time to talk to us about. Specifically the task at hand, which is genocide denial, how it's overcome, why it is that the West refuses to acknowledge the genocide of Christians in Nigeria. Doctor Stanton, thank you for all you've done in this space and for sharing your insights with us this afternoon. Welcome.

[00:29:32] **Gregory H. Stanton:** Thank you so much, Frank. It's a real honor to be with you today. I want to talk to you a little bit about, first of all, what's happening in Nigeria,

because this is now the 15th year, at least, of the Islamist genocide in Nigeria, and now it's spread all the way across the Sahel. In fact, it's one of the deadliest genocidal massacres in the world. As you know Boko Haram alone [00:30:00] has, have killed at least 27,000 people. It's still killing people. And the Fulani jihadists are now killing even more. And so what we now have is a, if you will, a double genocide in Nigeria. The question that I want to also ask is, why is the West denying this? And our own State Department is denying it? Well, we have studied this whole problem of denial in, you know, genocide scholarly circles for quite some time, in fact. Denial is one of the ten stages of genocide that I have outlined so that we can understand the processes that create genocide denial. In fact, some people think of it as the final stage, but actually it begins right at the beginning and all the way through, and sometimes [00:31:00] for a hundred years afterwards, the way the Turks are still denying the Armenian Genocide, for instance. So let's take a look at what these genocides in Nigeria have been doing. The Fulani militias have killed thousands of Christians in Nigeria since 2015. And the question then is it's very clearly genocide for the Boko Haram because they've more or less announced that they want to kill Christians and others.

[00:31:35] **Gregory H. Stanton:** But and so there you have no question that it's intentional, because the Genocide Convention requires that a genocidal situation be intentional for it to qualify under the Genocide Convention. The question with the Fulani jihadists is it intentional? How do you prove intention. Well, there are two ways. You [00:32:00] can have orders or policy statements from leaders. And those statements for the Fulani jihadists have not been gathered. And secondly, you can have a coordination plan, in other words, a systematic pattern of massacres that also has not been put together, hasn't been compiled by, you know, for instance, the commission of inquiry. What we have, of course, is plenty of evidence. It just needs to be put together in a way that shows that, in fact, these are intentional massacres. So that's the first requirement to prove that something is genocide. So then the question is why is it being denied? Well, the current State Department position is that these are really not genocide because they aren't religious. Well, the heck they aren't religious. The Fulani jihadists, for instance, will massacre [00:33:00] a whole village of Christians up around Jos or all the way across the northern part of Nigeria and leave the Muslim villages alone. If that's not religious, I don't know what is. But in addition to that, there are other factors that are operating here. The Fulani jihadists are part of an ethnic group

that is a cattle herding group, and the cattle herders want more territory. So they have an expansionist ideology.

[00:33:37] **Gregory H. Stanton:** In fact, when President Buhari was president of Nigeria, he was even the president of the Fulani Cattle Herders Association. So we had, in fact, a total reluctance of the Nigerian government to really try to stop these massacres, because [00:34:00] many of the generals who dominate the military in Nigeria own huge herds of cattle, cattle. And so the Fulani who are trying to expand the territory, are really in league with a lot of these generals, with these huge herds of cattle. So the question then is now we don't have a Fulani president, we have a president, Tinubu. I mean, he has his degree in accounting from Chicago State University. He worked for Mobil Oil. But he was elected in Buhari's party, elected in 2023. And he has still not persuaded the Nigerian Army to protect Christian villages and stop these massacres. So the question then is why? Why are our governments government's denying this genocide. Well, the big the big reason is they don't want to admit the facts. They [00:35:00] in fact have a they have a view of these as due to climate change. They say, oh, no, it's because, you know, we have this drought across the Sahel. And so the Fulani cattle herders need more territory. That's why this is happening. Well, it's a lot more than that. Because the genocide is, in fact, religious. It specifically targets Christians. And that's why, in our view, at Genocide Watch, this is in fact genocide. It's slow. It's gradual. And so that is one of the reasons why people say, well, it's not like Rwanda.

[00:35:46] **Gregory H. Stanton:** It's not like the Holocaust. And yet over 60,000 Christians have been massacred in Nigeria since 2000. So in other words, we do have a systematic pattern here. Let's [00:36:00] take a look though at the denial. We have analyzed how denial operates, and there are very predictable tactics of denial. The first is you question and minimizes the statistics. You say, oh no, no, no it wasn't 60,000. It was really only, you know, a few thousand or something like this. That's that is one way to minimize the numbers and therefore deny that this was a genocide. But the numbers are very, very well documented. I mean, we got the names of the victims. The second is you attack the motivations of the truth tellers, of the people who are really telling the truth about this. You say, oh, well, yes. You know, it's just the Christian churches that churches that are complaining about this, it can't. They aren't really objective about this. And so we can't really trust any of their figures. And so but the truth is they've got the

figures and they've got the names [00:37:00] of the victims. So that one is also a tactic that just doesn't work. You can also the third tactic is to claim that the deaths were inadvertent. They were due to famine or they were due to, you know, the kind of poverty that the people there experienced. And so that also is not actually what happens because the jihadists arrive in these vehicles with machine guns on top.

[00:37:31] **Gregory H. Stanton:** And sometimes a hundred of these people at once will attack a village. This is not some kind of, you know, aberrant thing that is not, in fact, intentional. It is intentional. In fact, it is carried out by gangs. And that is why it isn't just something that you can ascribe to inadvertent, you know, famine or climate change. You can [00:38:00] also then the fourth tactic of denial is to emphasize that the victims are strange. They aren't like us. This is where we have to really watch out. Because unfortunately here in the United States, we have a long history of racism that is just take a look at our history, where, you know, a lot of our founders held slaves and we had segregation for so long and so forth. I think direct violation of the law and the teachings of Jesus Christ. But we are trying now to overcome all of that. And yet deep down in our culture, unfortunately, is still a certain amount of racism that makes us think somehow that if white people are being killed in Bosnia, it's a more serious problem than if black people are being killed in Nigeria or in Rwanda. And so [00:39:00] we have to really avoid this. We have to overcome it because it is something we need to do some self-appraisal about. The fifth is that you can say that actually these deaths are just the result of tribal conflict. And so what can we do about it? It's Africa after all. Well, that's not true.

[00:39:21] **Gregory H. Stanton:** The truth is that tribes, of course, have had genocides all through history. But that is not what's happening here. It is not just a tribal conflict. It is a genocide that is, in fact, intended by people who want to have the genocide happen by cattle herders, by people who own huge groups of cattle. Huge herds. So it's not tribal conflict. It is in fact, a genocide. The sixth way you deny a genocide is you blame. You blame out-of-control forces. Well, it's not out of [00:40:00] control. These are planned. They use major weapons. The seventh is you. You avoid antagonizing the Nigerian government. So after all, we don't want to have bad relations with Nigeria, so we better not call it genocide. Well, I think we have a duty to the truth here, and I think we need to realize that Nigeria has to be one of our main friends in Africa. It's going to become a country with more people than the United States by 2050. You also justify the

denial in favor of our current economic interests. After all, Nigeria has a lot of oil, and in fact, a lot of American oil companies are helping to produce that oil. We don't want to put that in jeopardy after all. And so we have to watch out for our own economic interests here. The one that I think is actually for [00:41:00] lawyers, one of the most insidious is you just claim that this genocide doesn't fit the definition of genocide. You say we haven't got enough proof of intent, or, you know, we really don't know enough about it yet.

[00:41:16] **Gregory H. Stanton:** And so we better not use the word, the g word, which is such a really potent word. Finally, 11th, blame the victims. You blame the Christian farmers who, you know, are just trying to farm in this area and they resist the Fulani a cattle herders and so forth. So we they should be blamed, actually, for the genocide against them. And then finally, you have the 12th tactic, which is to say that peace and reconciliation are more important than blaming people for genocide. Well, I don't think that's right. I think we need a commission of inquiry [00:42:00] appointed by the UN Human Rights Council and by our own government to document this genocide. We need to get the Nigerian Army and police to establish a strike force to stop it. We need to get Nigerian religious leaders to establish a network of monitors to provide early warnings of these attacks. We need to get the US State Department to stop its denial of this genocide. We need to get the Africa Bureau of the State Department to stop its denial. And our U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria and our legal advisers on Africa. We need to appoint a special envoy to Nigeria to directly advise the president and bypass the State Department. Genocide deniers. And Nigeria needs to be designated again a country of particular concern. Finally, we have to be really well informed and publicize this genocide against Christians in Nigeria. [00:43:00] We need to make sure this genocide stops. Thank you.

[00:43:05] **Frank Gaffney:** This is as thorough and comprehensive a rendering of the case as I've ever heard. And it couldn't be more needed at this juncture, especially how you have documented the denials and the pretext for we're doing it this very, very helpful indeed. We're going to hear next from Stephen Anada, a man who has been very much at the forefront of the effort to raise awareness about what is happening in Nigeria at the moment. What has been happening, as well as what is in prospect if the genocide is not stopped? His name is Steven Anata and he is the co-director of a wonderful group, the International Committee on Nigeria. [00:44:00] And we've asked

him to discuss with us what Nigerian Christians need from a second Trump administration. And how can the American people help?

[00:44:17] **Stephen Enada:** Thank you, Frank. Thanks, Dede, for this opportunity and everyone present here. I'm not going to belabor us about what other people have said in this platform, but I But I would like to mention also that I came from Nigeria three weeks ago and I saw a lot of victims of egregious atrocities committed by Boko Haram. A Fulani militant just mentioned them. But what I have just discovered also is that Nigerians [00:45:00] are passionate about, especially Christians are passionate about what the US will do for them, the US. But what I've also discovered is that, and I don't want to mince words here Democrats and liberals have taken over Africa's space when it comes to conversation, and they have all kinds of smear campaigns against anything conservatism or Christianity. So they've not done in the. In fact, when a Trump post international aid going to Africa or wherever is found, I can tell you that a lot of people are losing their jobs because what the only foreign policy that has impacted Africa was actually done by Bush [00:46:00] Junior on HIV Aids. And I'm telling you, a lot of people are losing their jobs today because there is no transparency and corruption. So I, I discovered that what Liberal Democrats have done to Africa has been evil. And the reason is simple. They've not really contributed anything so far. Anybody can call me out on this. All they've just promoted is climate change has not that that has impacted no lives. All they have advocated for is actually reproductive heads. About abortion, killing of babies. That is what they funded. But why am I mentioning this? Most Christians in Nigeria.

[00:46:46] **Stephen Enada:** As much as they believe conservatives really love them and they want a situation whereby they will help them. As [00:47:00] it pertains to terrorism and killing of Christians. I can tell you over 700 villages have been displaced by this Boko Haram and Fulani militants and other elements of jihadism. These are things people are not talking. And these villages have been lost because Fulani and Boko Haram have occupied them and they've declared Islamic caliphate. So are we. There is no need denying the fact that Nigeria has been overrun. But this is a problem now. Nigeria environment the Nigeria space has been saturated by Trump hate. People don't even understand and Christians most are deceived because the media are actually being wayward by not saying what is right. And that [00:48:00] is what we are contending against. And I'm not going to waste my time on that because I understand

why we are doing things. ICON, International Committee on Nigeria. We document atrocities, we go to villages and we thank God the eyewitness app that through the instrumentality of a Doctor Stanton and International Bar Association of London were able to actually have that technology to be able to go to places to document atrocity as they happen. Also, what I've discovered and what can help, because we look whether we like it or not, Trump is actually seen as the Messiah by many Christians in Nigeria, but they are overwhelmed by media lies. CNN and the rest. But I just discovered that if they can use that three years ago, I applied for community radio that [00:49:00] will actually take care of the IDPs, the displaced people.

[00:49:05] **Stephen Enada:** Now three weeks ago I was in Abuja and then we were able to like push the file because Nigeria radio license is done by the president. So the community radio license, which we are waiting on because Garcon Canada and Garcon USC have actually provided us with technology to actually start community radio in the displaced people comes across Nigeria. So we are just waiting for that. And once we have that, we are going to be having movable community radios across the IDPs. And through that, we think we can get their voices heard anywhere in the world. So but in the interim, we are able also to provide audio Bible. Over 10,000 audio Bibles so far have been distributed to the IDPs. So that we encourage them [00:50:00] with the Word of God. So how can we what can we do now? The truth of the matter is that I believe civil society organizations like us, all of us here in this platform, are with the instrumentality of St Save the Persecuted Christians. We I think once we have a message. Coherent message because a lot of people are in DC already trying to confuse and manipulate because they don't want a single narrative about Nigeria persecution. So all we need to do is for us to work hard to make sure we have single narrative about the egregious atrocity taking place in Nigeria. That is one aspect because most of Trump cabinet members that are important to this course might not know what is exactly happening. And that was even what happened during Trump 1.0, [00:51:00] because anytime you go, the narrative is just happening at this time.

[00:51:04] **Stephen Enada:** We need to just come with our message, and that message has to be cohesive. That message has to be one. And we continue to push through these people. And that is the reason why our scheduled meeting with a secretary of state, which is happening very soon. Once the date is given, I will let Frank and every other person important here know about that. We just want to establish first that

Christians have been killed in Nigeria, and there is no gainsaying about that. With all our documentation and your documentation and all of these evidences we have been we are having. So we just need to make sure our message gets to Trump and through this civil society organization so that we don't go into a double messaging. So we know misinformation is what globalists have used to confuse people, that genocide is not happening in [00:52:00] Nigeria, or there is nothing like a religious persecution in the Sahel and in Nigeria. So for me, I think we need to come together once again as we meet to engage Trump administration. We need to sincerely communicate clearly the atrocities. And also, we need to make sure we engage a Secretary of State and all. And then our friend Tulsi Gabbard, I pray she is confirmed and all other people that are important to this cause, we need to engage them seriously that this is happening and to make sure Trump hears that. If Trump doesn't hear that, we may be at a loss. Thank you.

[00:52:47] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you. Stephen. Another very powerful again, personal testimony, which we're grateful we're going to hear next from Doug Burton, a man I've had the privilege of knowing for a [00:53:00] very long time a variety of incarnations. He's been a journalist, an investigative journalist in particular. He has worked with the federal government, notably in the course of the efforts to try to bring about, a better Iraq. He is spending much of his time now trying to bring about a better Nigeria, notably working with journalists on the ground there. In a remarkable project called Truth Africa. Excuse me, Truth Nigeria obviously set in Africa. The truth Nigeria. We've asked Doug to give us an update on sort of his perception and that of his stringers on the ground in country about the state of Christian persecution in Nigeria. And we've heard from several of our speakers about the magnitude of it the, [00:54:00] the wellspring of it. But we very much appreciate your take on it as well. Doug Burton floor is yours.

[00:54:07] **Douglas Burton:** The civil war in Nigeria is complex. First off, there are five different insurgencies. These are insurgencies that seek to take over the government. That is Boko Haram from 2009. Then the Islamic State of West Africa. Both are ISIS insurgencies. There are two al-Qaida insurgencies. One is Ansaru. Since 2019, and then a newer one that's come into Nigeria or has been dormant but has been coming into the news called La Kuruwa, and it comes in from the Sahel. It's occupying territory in Sokoto, the North-West States. And of course, as many of us know, there's another insurgency that's not Islamic. It's a Christian insurgency, and that's the international

people of Biafra. Okay. But the [00:55:00] fact is that the group that is killing the most Christians and the media never says this, and we need to make a point. We are educating people about it through truth Nigeria. The group that's killing most Christians is an array of bandits, bandits, or radicalized bandits, chiefly in the northwest, but they also operate in other states and they are gathered into about 200 gangs. They comprise about 30,000 or maybe 40,000 people. And they make their money through extortion and through kidnap for ransom. Now what? What's important to see is that all of these gangs, except for the Ijob people, all of them, have one thing in common their selected victims. As Doctor Stanton has beautifully pointed out, that was a that was a majestic lecture from Doctor Stanton. All of these groups have one thing in common they seek to islamicize the whole country. What we need to tell people [00:56:00] is that Nigeria has been in a steady flow of Islamization for decades.

[00:56:06] **Douglas Burton:** In fact, you could argue that Islamization has been forced upon the Nigerian people for 170 years because the revolution in the northwestern part of the country began in 1804, and before the British asserted their authority and defeated the Fulani warlords in 1895, they were. They and other strong northern tribes were busy capturing, scouting and attacking and capturing the weaker tribes and selling them into slavery. Everywhere the Fulani went, they were spreading the reform movement for their form of Islam and they established their caliphate in Sokoto, the northwest. But Nigeria already had a caliphate in the northeast and that was close to Lake Chad. So the Fulani people established a new caliphate and challenged the old caliphate. [00:57:00] And what you see happening in 2009 is that the Kanuri people in the Lake Chad region decided to launch their own Islamist movement. That's the origin of Boko Haram. So what's happening is there are two caliphate seeking groups seeking to. Expand territory. Now it's important to understand what are the objectives of the bandits. Are they an insurgency or are they just street criminals? They appear to be partly both the State Department and the think tank. People who get their contracts from the State Department want us to think that everything, all conflict in Nigeria, is a resource war. They want us to see all of this. As Doctor Stanton said, through the lens of economic warfare. That's because that's the way they think. Antony Blinken told a congressional committee it was the Foreign Affairs Committee last year that what is happening in the middle Belt in Nigeria is horrific, but it has nothing to do with religion.

[00:57:59] **Douglas Burton:** That's what he [00:58:00] wants us to believe. He knows that's a lie, but that is sort of the view of Henry Kissinger, who is his role model. Blinken, of course, knows it's not that way, but he is preserving a false narrative. And remember, Anthony Blinken is the guy who told us in 2020 that the Hunter Biden's laptop was a Russian disinformation tool, and he got 51 of his 51 intelligence agencies from the CIA and other groups to sign a letter which he rustled up in just 2 or 3 days insisting that the Hunter Biden laptop was Russian disinfo. Of course, that was a lie and was proven to be so. The false information, the false narrative. It comes from the deep state and has been for many decades. It's important for us to recognize that the Nigerian regime today that is headed by Bola Tinubu, is a representation of the deep state. They [00:59:00] have won. The United States has a deep state which has been has been exposed and is in the process of being dismantled by Donald. Trump. So there is, I would like to say, because I don't have much time. Where Nigeria is going, this is what we should ask. Where is it going? Is it in danger of becoming a caliphate? And the answer is no. It will not be a caliphate because the Nigerians don't want it.

[00:59:23] **Douglas Burton:** The people, even President Muhammadu Buhari, who was one of the worst leaders Nigeria ever had and who emboldened and actually subsidized the terrible killings by his own tribe for the eight years he was in office. What he wanted was not a caliphate, and the regime in Abuja now doesn't want a caliphate. They want the status quo. All of these groups, that is, the insurgents and the people in power now want to be in the position of taking the wealth from the vast amounts of oil that's in the country. That [01:00:00] is the wealth they want to control. So the parties that have a chance at getting into position of power will always get the attention of the Nigerian people. What the United States has to do, and this is my prescription. They have to apply the same principles to Nigeria that Donald Trump is applying to this country, and that is, Nigerians must put Nigeria first. They must seek to preserve the security and the physical safety of their own citizens first, because if they don't do that, they can't be an ally. They might say they're an ally, but it's just a lie. Like everything else they've been saying for the last 20 years. They are not an authentic ally. If they are not a democracy that actually holds those elected to be accountable to those who vote. And of course, those who study the elections know that Bola Tinubu came into power in February of 2023 through a rigged election, and there's plenty of evidence. It's not it's [01:01:00] not controversial at all.

[01:01:03] **Douglas Burton:** So that's one thing. Also, the Nigerian government should do the same thing that Nigeria recommends for that, for Donald Trump recommends for our country and that is secure the borders. Nigeria has porous borders, and through those porous borders, tens of thousands of willing young men come every year seeking jobs as mercenaries, and they get those jobs. Many of the people who are massacring helpless farmers and villages are people who come from the Sahel. The claim of the State Department and the canard from Anthony Blinken is that global warming is drying up the soil. And so the people are hurting in the in Mali and in Niger Republic. They have no choice but to herd their cattle into the beautiful grassland of Nigeria. There is a kernel of truth to this, but it's basically chiefly it's a false narrative. In fact, Niger Republic [01:02:00] has the highest birth rate in the world, seven babies per woman. So they have a surplus population. They don't have enough jobs. Nigeria has a birth rate that's almost as high six babies per woman. So Nigeria has tens of millions of unemployed men who want to find jobs. There's not a manufacturing base for them that's providing jobs. So they get involved in crime, not just jihadism, but all kinds of crime. So the Nigerian government to be an ally of the United States, and it's always called an ally by our State Department, it has to take care of its own people, provide security, and it needs to provide employment and a growing economy. It cannot do that if it preserves its traditional, corrupt control of the resources of the country.

[01:02:48] **Douglas Burton:** For the United States and Nigeria to be a powerful force in Africa, and indeed Nigeria is the country with the most population and the most influence in West Africa, we [01:03:00] must condition aid to Nigeria that is measured against progress of the Nigerian government. To number one, enforce the law. Number two, provide security for its own people. And number three, do something to address the corruption of the government itself. When that happens, we will have a strong ally and the Nigerian people will be more prosperous and they will be loyal to the United States. And they won't try. They won't risk their lives to come to the West. They will stay in their own country. We need to encourage the Nigerian people to believe that if they enforce the law and follow the same principles that Donald Trump is advocating for the United States, the Golden Age of Nigeria will begin. And indeed all the resources are there. The greatest amount of arable farmland in Africa, huge mineral resources China knows about it, wants to control all of it. Russia knows it wants to have - wants to be the [01:04:00] military contractor first chosen by the Nigerian government. We have plenty of competition. Now is not the time to turn away from Nigeria or any part of West Africa.

It is the future. So let's look forward to the Golden Age of Nigeria. It's not a joke. It's not a dream. It can happen. I'm completely confident of it. That's all.

[01:04:28] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you. Again, a very, very impressive sort of result of what is both happening in the country as well as what could be its future. Its golden age is Donald Trump's term. We're going to conclude these presentations with a special contribution by our executive director at Save the Persecuted Christians, Dede, who visited Nigeria a year or two ago and had an opportunity in the company of some of our presenters [01:05:00] to see firsthand what is happening to Christians in that nation and who's responsible for it and what must be done now? So we're delighted to have Dede Lagos and making a few concluding comments about what we've heard and what we should do now. Dede, over to you.

[01:05:21] **Dede Laugesen:** Thank you, Frank, and thank you so much. To our panelists. You've all had such incredible inputs and contributions to this discussion and at the International Religious Freedom Summit, which we will all be attending next week in Washington, DC. We hope to take this video and share it with all of our policy makers, because that's what Saved the Persecuted Christians is about. We're about bringing victims of persecution to the United States to tell their stories, to elevate them. So that we can build the public support needed [01:06:00] to move our politicians, our policymakers, to put in place the type of sanctions and policies that really can make a difference for the lives of Christians being persecuted all over the world. 365 million heavily persecuted Christians in a record number of countries at this point. If Nigerians are to prosper in peace, they and their leaders should emulate the wisdom of Trump 2.0. New Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who said on his confirmation. Serving America's 72nd Secretary of State is the highest honor of my professional life. President Trump has given me a clear indication to place our core national interests as the guiding mission of American foreign policy. Every dollar we spend, every program we fund, and every policy we [01:07:00] pursue must be justified with the answer to three simple questions. Does it make America safer? Does it make America stronger? Does it make America more prosperous? Nigeria is Africa's most populous country.

[01:07:14] **Dede Laugesen:** As we have heard. With the birth of her next generation, Nigeria's population will overtake America's by 2050. It has vast potential, vast human potential. Many Nigerian professionals, including medical doctors, professors IT

professionals and other professionals are among the world's best. She is a Bountiful and rich in agriculture. Plentiful. Plentiful petroleum. Highly sought after minerals and other resources. But Nigeria also tops the list of Global Christian Relief's red list. Quote Africa remains [01:08:00] the deadliest region for Nigerians, with Nigeria consistently being the most dangerous country for followers of Jesus. Between November 2022 and November 2024, nearly 10,000 Christians were killed, primarily by Islamic extremist groups such as Boko Haram, armed Fulani herdsmen and the Islamic State West Africa province, says GCR. Save the persecuted Christians and our coalition partners, represented by the very esteemed panelists, my colleagues here have long advocated for fresh, bold, Nigeria loving leadership to blossom and help make this nation of wealth and promise all that it can and should be. Leaders who follow the example of the new US presidential administration will make Nigeria [01:09:00] safe, strong and prosperous. U.S. diplomats and policymakers can and should hold Nigeria accountable as the Christians here on this panel today. Ask them to do they need to hold Nigeria accountable for basic common sense principles, rule of law, secure borders, a strong military that provides for the common defense and a just judiciary.

[01:09:27] **Dede Laugesen:** Together, we advocate for US leaders and influencers to do everything within their spheres to help this strategic, developing nation become a conservative and peaceful model for all of Africa, the West, and particularly America, must stop blaming the violence in Nigeria on climate change. The violence is absolutely 100% religious based. In just the past few years, there was a massacre [01:10:00] of Christians attending services on Easter Sunday. That made international news. The smaller church attacks don't apparently merit the same attention, but they are daily attacks, very much like what Israel experienced on October 7th. This is the same spirit of jihad that is ripping apart the Middle East is all over Africa and in Africa's most populous nation. We must put a stop to it by acknowledging it as religious based violence. The following year, over 500 were slaughtered starting on Christmas Day, and the violence in Bokokos Plateau State is still ongoing, as doctor said. Benue state hosts by far the greatest number of Nigeria's displaced Christians, but their plight is never recognized by their own government, let alone ours. I [01:11:00] traveled to Nigeria and went with Doctor Gloria Pulido to Bénoué and Plateau. I went to places our government refuses to go. Our diplomats and officers never leave Lagos or Abuja. They haven't visited or seen for themselves the massive numbers of internally displaced people.

[01:11:22] **Dede Laugesen:** They haven't held a small child in their arms whose only food is roasted corn kernels, who are living in mosquito net tents on the dirt, who don't know where water or sustenance is going to come from. Their villages are not defended even after the attacks, as jihadists simply take over villages and properties, rename them and the village, the military, the government [01:12:00] does nothing to reclaim those properties for their citizens. The military is slow to respond if they respond at all. I, I beg the US government to withhold aid, military sales, other, and use other tools of sanction to take a radical new approach to Nigeria. They must be held accountable for failing to protect their citizens. All of their citizens. Nigeria, like America, can be great, but they have to be held to a higher standard. A Trump 2.0 standard that has been we have not held them to any account for far too long. This is the time where not only America, not only Nigeria, but [01:13:00] all around the world, freedom loving people are standing up and demanding more from their governments. We are here for you in America, but we beg the Nigerian people do it like us. Be a voice for your people. Demand a government that serves your interests. Thanks, Frank.

[01:13:27] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you. I think we've got time for maybe a quick round of questions, if we could. And I want to start by asking, I understand I could be wrong about this, so correct me if I am. But I understand that one of the places that the new Secretary of State, Marco Rubio, intends to visit soon is Nigeria. And I guess the question that I would put to anyone who wishes to respond is given what we've been told, given the nature of the [01:14:00] environment, given the culpability of the government in this one, to some extent, just this one previous, for sure. What is it we want Marco Rubio specifically to say and do to get the attention of this government in Nigeria along the lines of what is called for.

[01:14:23] **Oluwasyo Ajiboye:** I don't think Marco Rubio should visit Nigeria until something has been done about the diplomatic community in to Nigeria. The US diplomat. We knew what happened in the past even during the Trump 1.0. The once you have people in the diplomatic community who are doing what all the panelists here have spoken about. Marco Rubio visiting will just be putting [01:15:00] a stamp. I mean, a what do you call or a band aid on cancer? We need somebody that has the spirit of Trump 2.0 to go into the diplomatic cycle in Nigeria and begin to enforce that American fund should be spent in ways that benefits America and in ways that benefit the people

on the ground, because all we hear are billions of dollars being spent and we can't find it. Gloria, can you find anything in your corner?

[01:15:45] **Gloria Samdi Puldu:** Not at all. Not at all. Because I can boldly say I have never been sponsored by any diplomatic you know, community in Nigeria. In what? In any way. Because people [01:16:00] that get such support, I believe, are those who, you know, tread the path that they want to hear. So it's absolutely very true. And one thing I also want to say is that apart from my Marco Rubio not coming now until a radical steps are taken, radical steps are taken to ensure that, you know, we have true voices and the true narratives being if such is taken, then the first thing that they should demand from Nigerian government is that sincere, true rule of law should be what should be at the top of the list so that people like women and children, will restore back their dignity and hope, and then be encouraged [01:17:00] to go back to their communities and then to live a peaceful life. So if there is no rule of law that will deal with corruption, that will deal with legal systems that are very corrupt. Where, you know, those who are elected into power in the real sense, you know, come in through very, very fraudulent ways are dealt with, they will still remain the same. But if we want to be great again, or great because we were once great, if we want to be great again, like the American slogan, then we need that radical change. Thank you.

[01:17:41] **Stephen Enada:** When it comes to from diplomatic point of view, when it comes to government, to government, we might not necessarily have any authority on Senator Marco Rubio going to Nigeria to engage. But what I think we should be talking [01:18:00] on now is making terrorism issue American issue in Nigeria and the Sahel. That as terrorism is gaining ground in Nigeria and the Sahel. America is the top target. So it's all about American issue. And now it is very important to make it look like American issue. But I don't think we can stop a microbial from engaging Nigeria government. But there are many things happening that I can tell us. There are. There is somebody who is being sent to go to Nigeria to do some kind of a feed work on, on terrorism, and I think the person is a great person. I've met with the person with a former congressman, Frank Wolf, and I think we are we are gaining some ground. So I think from my own experience and from everybody who is present here who are more experienced, please let us begin to engage and let's [01:19:00] begin to have our message. Let's push it through these people in our meetings. And I tell you, it can

inform microbial, because the established order in Nigeria from diplomatic community is also very corrupt. Thank you.

[01:19:14] **Oluwasyo Ajiboye:** I really do appreciate Steve's point there, but the point that I am trying to make is still moot. And that point is Marco can go there and do whatever he wants with the Nigerian government. Trump did something with Buhari, asked him point blank, why are you killing Christians? But what came out of it? Because there is no follow up, no backup. They, like Steve said, the diplomatic community itself is rotten. So if the [01:20:00] diplomatic community, if there is no action in the diplomatic, you know, I mean, there's a Dede is on the line. How many times did we go to see them? And you are looking at them and it's like you are looking at a ghost. They are there, but they are not there. They have tuned you out.

[01:20:22] **Frank Gaffney:** Doctor. Thank you. Let me just ask Greg Stanton for any thoughts about what we should specifically be asking Marco.

[01:20:29] **Gregory H. Stanton:** I would just have these following points. First of all, they need to appoint a strong assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. And they need to clean out the deniers in that bureau. It is a denying bureau, and that is where the policy gets made. The second thing they should do is they should ask the UN Human Rights Council, unless we withdraw from it or something, to establish a commission of inquiry to investigate these [01:21:00] attacks and make it clear these are Christians who are being destroyed. The third thing we should be doing is we should be very strongly urging the Nigerian Army and the police to establish a strike force to actually go after these jihadists. We should also just demand from the very top that the State Department stopped denying the genocide in Nigeria. And that means all the way across. We have a genocide denying legal advisor's office in the State Department. They try to deny every single genocide. Just look at what they did in Rwanda, where we went for three months before they admitted that it was genocide. And in the meantime, 800,000 people were murdered. I was a dissenter, by the way, at that point, and I lost my job because of it eventually. That's because the people who ordered the withdrawal [01:22:00] of the UN troops in Rwanda were my superiors. They wrote my evaluation. Anyway, enough said. I'm not making this into a personal thing at all. But what it means is we have to overcome the denial. And I think that one of the key

things will be to appoint a special envoy for Nigeria that is very aware and very assertive.

[01:22:24] **Frank Gaffney:** And I guess it goes without saying to appoint an ambassador who is actually. Willing to tell the truth.

[01:22:31] **Gregory H. Stanton:** Exactly.

[01:22:32] **Frank Gaffney:** Find out the truth and report it truthfully. Back to headquarters. Doug Burton, your people on the ground have got ideas, I'm sure. What could be done that would be most useful for the truth? Nigeria team as well as the amplification of their reporting.

[01:22:50] **Douglas Burton:** I agree with everything that Greg Stanton said, and you're absolutely right. The key thing is we have to, as Greg says, stop the denial in the [01:23:00] U.S. government. But the other problem is the media. The media in Nigeria is captive to the very wealthy governors. They're captive to the deep state. So no one is really telling the truth. I take pride in the fact that we are exposing things on truth Nigeria and through the TV show. No one's been talking about that. So there has to be an awakening. And in fact, I think all around the world there is kind of a civilizational moment of truth telling. We certainly see it in the US Congress. What we have to do as thought leaders, some of us don't have any influence in Congress, but Americans in all kinds of situations can be influential by telling the Nigerians in this country, especially the pastors, the, you know, the tens of thousands of Nigerian pastors in this country. Tell them, stop being pietistic, stop telling, start telling the truth about what's happening in your country. Stop hiding from it. And in [01:24:00] Nigeria, let's give encouragement to little start up groups like mine and say there is the need for us to actually properly diagnose what's happening in the in the countries.

[01:24:15] **Douglas Burton:** Stop hiding from it. It's, you know, it is actually happening in the. The truth telling is happening all over the world. I would argue that we're in a civilizational crisis, and we have been for many years. The Nigerians that I work with know it, and they know that they've been captives of a machine that won't let them tell the truth. Let's let them free. It's like, you know, 1517 in Europe, you know, someone's coming. Someone like Martin Luther is coming out and saying, I don't care what the

Catholic Church says. You know, this, this is where I stand. And so help me God. I think it is a religious thing, too. I think that there we're in the midst of an awakening that is both religious and political. It's happening [01:25:00] in the United States as well. That is why it's so important for us. Who are those of us who believe in Donald Trump and his vision? We've got to encourage the Nigerians to see both of us as part of the same phenomenon, if that makes any sense.

[01:25:15] **Frank Gaffney:** It does. Okay. Thank you so much. Dede. Lastly, to you, you've given us some thoughts already. But round this out, if you would, please.

[01:25:24] **Dede Laugesen:** I again agree with all of my colleagues here. I would add that since the US government gives up to \$1 billion a year to Nigeria in the form of US aid or even military aid, counterterrorism aid, all of that, what we also need is a review of the Nigerian military by objective, objective US military observers. If we're going to give them money, if [01:26:00] we're going to give them arms, we need to implant us leaders, military leaders into the Nigerian military to be able to see what really is happening there with regards to the slow response and even bringing Boko Haram, supposedly repentant members of Boko Haram into the military. What is the effect, truly that that has had on, on, on providing for the common defense of Nigeria and its people. This has been a fabulous webinar. I'm so thankful for all of you here today. Frank, back to you.

[01:26:46] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you, Dean, and thank you to each of our presenters. This has been an extraordinarily illuminating discussion, and I think that particularly the responses that we've just heard as to practical things that [01:27:00] the United States government could do. Trump 2.0, the golden age here being inculcated in Nigeria. I've been so powerful and I propose that we pull them together, distilled them down perhaps a little bit, pull them together. In a letter from our persecuted Christians team to Marco Rubio, who I believe has on his heart the plight of persecuted Christians and trying to advance the cause of religious freedom worldwide. I would also say that I just had a personal experience two days ago that I'd like to share quickly because I think it's relevant. The topic was actually focused elsewhere. But part of the point of this program is that what is taking place, for example, in the Middle East [01:28:00] where you have Hamas, you have Hezbollah, you have the Houthis, you have Of Iran, probably Syria. Shortly the Turks naturally and others perhaps to waging war against Israel. I was on

Steve Bannon's show with our colleague John Guandolo on Tuesday, and we had a very, very interesting and, I think, important conversation about how the war that's taking place there at the hands of the people that I've just mentioned Sharia supremacists, every one of them is not just a war against Israel.

[01:28:47] **Frank Gaffney:** It's a war against Western civilization, Judeo Christian civilization. And inevitably, just as it is happening there, just as it is happening as we've been talking about [01:29:00] for the past hour and a half in Nigeria and in so many other places around the world in which we're seeing Christians. As I said at the outset, being murdered and tortured and otherwise persecuted at unbelievable scale. At the end of the day, ladies and gentlemen, the object of this war is destroying the United States of America because we are ultimately the impediment to the realization of these globalists ambitions to create a caliphate that will run the world in accordance with Sharia. It's a topic for other conversations, including ones that we'll be doing tomorrow with our Committee on the Present Danger China, talking about what the Chinese Communist Party is doing to a different end, [01:30:00] to be sure, but in league With the Sharia supremacists and the globalists, if you will. World Economic Forum and so on. They all have a different mind about what they envision coming out of their respective struggles to dominate the planet, but they all recognize we stand in the way, and taking us down is therefore a point of common cause. They're making. So we're focused for this moment on Nigeria. But it is but one manifestation of what is happening much more broadly.

[01:30:48] **Frank Gaffney:** And when we conclude with the thought that Donald Trump, who did distinguish himself in his first term by putting the [01:31:00] wood, if I can use that expression to President Buhari. Donald Trump, who distinguished himself in the course of this election campaign, talking not just in the abstract about trying to prevent the persecution of Christians, should he be elected, but specifically talked about it in the context, as I recall, of Nigeria and Donald Trump, the man who has now commissioned Marco Rubio and others in his cabinet to make our country great again, which means protecting it against all enemies, foreign and domestic. He needs our help in doing that. He needs the prayers of all of us Christians and otherwise. And he needs the encouragement that we've talked about here [01:32:00] so helpfully in the course of this program. So I just want to thank doctor. Oh, was saying I always get that wrong. That's why I just call him doctor. Doctor. Gloria, someday will do. Greg Stanton, Stephen

Annata Doug Burton, D.D., Borgeson. For the most informative, enlightening and powerfully compelling treatment of this particular microcosmic example of what it's going to take to make our country great again and make Nigeria great again as well. Thank you all for listening. Go forth and multiply. Back to you.

[01:32:49] **Dede Laugesen:** Thanks, Frank. A video of this webinar will be posted to SavethePersecutedchristians.org within a day or two of the end of our program. Please share this with your colleagues and other networks. [01:33:00] We invite you to join us every month, generally on the third Thursday for more educational programs by Save the Persecuted Christians, and help support this and other programs of Save the Persecuted Christians, a US registered educational nonprofit. Prayerfully consider making a monthly contribution to the work of our coalition and partner organizations by becoming a paid subscriber to our Substack at SavethePersecutedChristians.Substack.com, and follow us on Twitter at [@PersecutedSave](https://twitter.com/PersecutedSave). Thanks for being here again. Goodbye.