

ACT for America

- [ACT for America](#) is an advocacy group [founded](#) in 2007 “to establish a means for all American citizens to provide a collective voice for the democratic values of Western civilization and **against the threat of radical Islam.**”
- Led by **Brigitte Gabriel**, ACT for America [claims](#) hundreds of chapters. The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) [identifies](#) ACT as the **largest grassroots anti-Muslim group in the United States**, and the Center for American Progress [considers](#) ACT part of the “Islamophobia network.”
- As the *Washington Post* has [reported](#), ACT “attacks what it sees as the creeping threat of sharia, or Islamic law, in the form of Muslim organizations, mosques, refugees and sympathetic politicians.” *Post* reporter Abigail Hauslohner [summarizes](#) that, “a safer America, to ACT, means a nation free of all Islamic influence, a goal that has led some civil rights activists to call it a hate group akin to white supremacists. It wants groups that practice or advocate sharia — the guiding principles of Islam — to be forced to disband, **supports President Trump’s attempt to ban travelers from several Muslim-majority countries**, and opposes the resettlement of Muslim refugees in the United States.”
- ACT has been **a central player in the movement to ban sharia** or “foreign law” from U.S. courts. Amid a [concerted campaign](#) to engender [fear about Islamic law](#) usurping American law, ACT members [introduced](#) “anti-foreign law” bills in [several](#) state legislatures. In June 2017, ACT [organized](#) **“March Against Sharia”** events in over two dozen cities throughout the United States.
- As [reported](#) by the *New York Times*, ACT activists have also “challeng[ed] high school textbooks and college courses that they deem too sympathetic to Islam.” ACT’s [efforts](#) have sparked controversy and **protests against supposed Islamic “indoctrination” in middle and high school textbooks.**
- ACT has celebrated its **“direct line” to the White House** through advisor Walid Phares, CIA director Mike Pompeo, and former National Security Advisor Michael Flynn. [Phares](#) and [Flynn](#) have served on ACT’s board, and [Pompeo](#) has spoken at ACT conferences and [hosted](#) them on Capitol Hill. In February 2016 during the presidential campaign, **ACT head Brigitte Gabriel met Donald Trump** at his Mar-a-Lago resort where her group says she gave a national security briefing. After Trump was elected, she [met](#) with White House [staff](#) in March 2017.
- **ACT has worked with numerous Republican politicians.** Ten members of Congress, including then-presidential candidate **Ted Cruz**, [attended](#) ACT’s 2016 conference in Washington, D.C. **Peter King**, the Republican representative from New York who held hearings on Muslim “radicalization,” appeared on [ACT’s internet television show](#) to talk about the hearings in 2011.
- ACT has also launched the Thin Blue Line [project](#), which organizes **law enforcement training** on how the so-called “Global Islamic Movement” operates in the world and in the United States. Additionally, ACT put together **a survey about supposed Islamic beliefs** that was used by Oklahoma state representative John Bennett, who required Muslim students to fill it out before meeting with him. The questionnaire included things like, “The Koran, the sunna of Mohammed and Sharia Law of all schools say that the husband can beat his wife. Do you beat your wife?”
- Like other anti-Muslim organizations, ACT [alleges](#) that major U.S. Muslim groups are fronts for the Muslim Brotherhood. ACT has [lobbied](#) the government to designate the Brotherhood a terrorist group.

IMPACT: ACT for America is the largest anti-Muslim organization in the United States, which has led campaigns to ban sharia. The group has boasted a “direct line” to the White House through its connections with Republican lawmakers and other politicians.