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**SEN. BOOKER, REP. CLARKE URGE PRESIDENT BIDEN TO
DESIGNATE TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR MALI
AMID UNPRECEDENTED HUMANITARIAN CRISIS**

*Rep. Yvette Clarke (D-NY) and Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ) Lead Bicameral Call on the
Biden Administration to Designate Mali for TPS*

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WASHINGTON, DC — Amid the deteriorating humanitarian crisis currently unfolding in Mali, Rep. Yvette Clarke (D-NY) and Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), sent a congressional [letter](#) to President Biden and DHS Secretary Mayorkas urging them to designate Mali for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and to issue Special Student Relief (SSR). The letter, which highlights ongoing armed conflict, human rights violations, abuses, and attacks on civilians, underscores the strong case for TPS for Mali under statutes as well as strong congressional support for the designation.

“Maliens are already part of U.S. communities,” said Diana Konaté, National Policy Director for African Communities Together (ACT). “Forcing them to return to violent, unstable conditions would expose them to conflict and abuse—a cruel and inhumane treatment well beneath what President Joe Biden portrayed as his vision for migrants and Black communities. Given worsening conditions on the ground, Biden and Secretary Mayorkas must take decisive action and provide shelter and refuge for the Malians already in the U.S.”

Mali is currently facing one of its worst humanitarian crises in recent history as bloody power struggles and retaliation ravage communities and drive displacement by the thousands. Civilians have been subject to persistent human rights violations and abuses at the mercy of armed groups and militias, resulting in mass casualties and broad displacement.

“Forcing U.S.-based Malians to return would mean exposing them to grave atrocities taking place in Mali,” said Abdramane Youssouf Toure, President of Malian Association in Washington, D.C. “It is imperative that the administration designate Mali for TPS. Otherwise, the administration would risk contributing to countless casualties, mass-scale displacement, and a deeply dangerous humanitarian crisis.”

The administration can grant TPS to foreign nationals if their country of origin is impacted by armed conflict, unprecedented natural disaster, or other extraordinary, temporary conditions. As Rep. Clarke and Sen. Booker’s letter reads, “[t]he ongoing armed conflict, persistence of violence and human rights violations, abuses perpetrated by State and non-State actors, along with both targeted and indiscriminate attacks on the civilian population make the

safe return of Malians impossible.” It is imperative that the administration take action now and designate Mali for TPS and issue SSR.

The [TPS-DED AAC](#) is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS and DED. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.

[African Communities Together](#) is an organization of African immigrants fighting for civil rights, opportunity, and a better life for African families in the U.S. and worldwide. ACT connects African immigrants to critical services, helps Africans develop as leaders, and organizes African immigrant communities on the issues that matter.

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