

ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAQ AND CUBA

Social Policy Resolution

CA01.06.37



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Adopted by the 2001 Churchwide Assembly.

Resolved

To affirm the concern raised in the Saint Paul Area Synod memorial and to encourage congregations, synods, institutions, and churchwide units of the ELCA to continue to advocate for an end to the current economic sanctions against Iraq, while maintaining safeguards to prevent Iraq from acquiring or developing weapons of mass destruction;

To encourage ELCA members to be in contact with staff of the Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs, Washington, D.C., and the Lutheran Office for World Community at the United Nations, for information and advocacy suggestions related to the humanitarian situation in Iraq, Middle East arms control issues, and regional justice issues;

To pray for the people of Iraq, especially the Christian minority, in the midst of this ongoing crisis as well as for the Arab and Middle Eastern members of ELCA congregations who have family members in Iraq;

To request the presiding bishop to communicate the action of this assembly on this memorial to the President and Congress of the United States, and the General Secretary of the United Nations; and

To reaffirm the 1995 Churchwide Assembly's action on Cuba which states that "... the ELCA will work actively toward the goal of ending the U.S. embargo against Cuba as part of its ongoing efforts to seek further reconciliation and the establishment of normal relations between the United States and Cuba through all appropriate channels" [CA95.07.63].

This social policy resolution was archived by a majority vote (773-13) of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona, on July 29, 2025 (CA22.01.05.) As archived, this social policy resolution is maintained as a historical document and does not represent current ELCA social teaching.