

**From:** Robbie Gramer robbie.gramer@foreignpolicy.com  
**Subject:** Re: [Christian Nations ] Contact  
**Date:** August 27, 2021 at 1:44 PM  
**To:** Fritz Berggren admin@bloodandfaith.com

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Hi Mr. Berggren,

It appears it did go into my spam folder, thank you for responding. I have copied the text of the letter below which I will be reporting on if you would like to provide an on-record response.

Dear Secretary Blinken,

As Jewish employees of the Department and USAID, we are writing to express our appreciation for your July 27 message, "Hate Has No Place Here." Thank you for taking a strong stand against antisemitism, and for doing so publicly. We welcome your statement that antisemitism often goes hand in hand with racism, sexism, homophobia, xenophobia, and other hatreds, and that none of these ideologies should have a home in our workplace.

Unfortunately, there is an openly antisemitic Department employee who continues to have a home in our midst. Foreign Service Officer Fritz Berggren, currently stationed in Washington, regularly posts virulent antisemitic content on his personal website [bloodandfaith.com](http://bloodandfaith.com). He has written that "Jewish ideas poison people," that "Jews think all non-Jews are made to serve them," and that "Satan led the Jews astray as they elevated their 'traditions' over the commandments of God," to give just a small selection of his abhorrent writings (see attached for additional quotations). While there is no evidence that Berggren is behind the swastika carved into the Department elevator, his continued employment with seemingly no consequences sends a message of impunity that has undoubtedly contributed to the atmosphere in which someone would dare to do such a thing. We urge swift disciplinary action against the person who carved the swastika once identified. We do not believe it is possible to foster a culture of inclusion until there is accountability for those who preach hate among our ranks.

Similarly, Fritz Berggren must be held accountable as an employee spewing hate speech directed against Jews. We believe such speech pertains to the Department's mission, including its ability to combat antisemitism internationally, and is therefore a matter of Departmental concern that requires advance review (per 21 State 33406). Moreover, we believe such speech "interferes with the Department's ability to effectively and efficiently carry out its mission and responsibilities," a standard set in 3 FAM 4176 that allows the Department to take disciplinary action against employees based on public communications made in their personal capacity.

Fritz Berggren's continued employment is an affront to all of us and the values we share. While there may be HR processes underway, they do not appear to be having an impact and are apparently proceeding very slowly as Berggren has been posting this content since at least 2017. Not only is his propagation of antisemitic ideas highly disturbing and offensive to Jewish and non-Jewish employees alike, but as Jewish employees, we feel his presence at the Department is threatening. The connection between beliefs and

his presence at the Department is threatening. The connection between beliefs and actions is real and has been proven time and again, and someone who spews such vile thoughts may soon act on them. For example, Berggren would appear to be calling white supremacists to action when he writes:

*The world gasps in horror with each new 'endangered' sub-species, but cheers the elimination of White culture from whole regions of the earth. This will not stop until White people stop it—we have been handmaidens to our own demise.*

This is not mere speech, but Berggren openly inciting his readers to take action based on his toxic beliefs. The Department should not wait for Berggren to target Jewish employees in the workplace, potentially with violence, before removing him. The security clearance process is meant to assess an employee's suitability for continued employment with the Department. There is no universe in which Berggren should qualify as suitable.

Moreover, it appears that there is ample basis within the Department's own regulations to separate Berggren. In one recent post on July 3 (screenshot attached), Berggren posted his name, writing underneath it "Foreign Service Officer, U.S. Department of State" in clear violation of 3 FAM 4176-4177, which states, among other things, that "an employee also may not use his or her official title for personal capacity communications, except as part of a biographical text that includes the disclaimer discussed in paragraph b of this section, and provided the reference to the title is not given any special prominence. Additionally, an employee may not violate other applicable ethical standards of character, integrity and conduct ..." The FAM further provides that "failure to follow the provisions of this subchapter, including failure to seek advance reviews where required, may result in disciplinary or other administrative action up to and including separation."

While we understand that you may not be able to share with us particular personnel actions that may have already been taken with regard to Berggren, we believe the only appropriate personnel action is his separation from the Department. No one who so openly and unabashedly promotes these ideas should have a home here, and we believe the Department's own regulations give ample opportunity to make a case that would result in Berggren's separation. We hope you will engage directly and continuously with DS, GTM, and other relevant offices in support of Berggren's immediate separation from the Department.

We also believe it is critical to speak out against antisemitism, as you have done. We would ask you to consider following your July 27 message with a similar message specifically addressing Berggren's public communications. We welcome the Department's renewed focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion, and believe speaking out against Berggren's activities is just as important as speaking out in favor of pluralism, tolerance, and inclusivity.

In light of recent events, it is more important than ever for there to be a formal Jewish Employee Affinity Group at the Department. The request to officially form such a group has been formally pending with the Department since March 27, over 90 days. We hope

has been formally pending with the Department since March 27, over 90 days. We hope it will be approved swiftly. Finally, we would welcome the appointment at the earliest opportunity of a senior official to combat and monitor antisemitism, as the Special Envoy to Combat and Monitor Antisemitism remains vacant and is so clearly needed.

We know this issue is personally important to you. Your stepfather's experience is instructive of the dangers of antisemitism and the need for the United States to stand up in word and deed against antisemitism and all those who profess and propagate it, including in our workforce.

On Thu, Aug 26, 2021 at 5:23 PM Fritz Berggren <[admin@bloodandfaith.com](mailto:admin@bloodandfaith.com)> wrote:

Robbie —

I replied earlier — maybe it ended in the spam file?

In any case, thank you for reaching out to me. I have not seen this letter; if you can provide me a copy I would be happy to comment on it.

Fritz Berggren  
[bloodandfaith.com](http://bloodandfaith.com)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Robbie <[wordpress@bloodandfaith.com](mailto:wordpress@bloodandfaith.com)>  
**Subject:** [Christian Nations ] Contact  
**Date:** August 26, 2021 at 3:08:58 PM MDT  
**To:** "\"fritz\"" <[fritz@text.net](mailto:fritz@text.net)>  
**Reply-To:** "\"Robbie\"" <[robbie.gramer@foreignpolicy.com](mailto:robbie.gramer@foreignpolicy.com)>

**Name:** Robbie

**Email:** [robbie.gramer@foreignpolicy.com](mailto:robbie.gramer@foreignpolicy.com)

**Message:** Mr. Berggren,

My name is Robbie Gramer and I am a reporter at Foreign Policy Magazine. I sent you an email several days ago requesting comment for a story I am writing that focuses on you. A group of State Department employees sent Sec. Blinken a letter urging the department to remove you from its employ and asserting your continued presence at the State Department felt threatening because of what you have written on your website. They called your views 'highly disturbing and offensive.' What is your response to this? I will be publishing a story on this letter soon.

I can be reached at [robbie.gramer@foreignpolicy.com](mailto:robbie.gramer@foreignpolicy.com) if you would like to comment. Otherwise, I will clarify in my story that my efforts to reach you for comment through your website were unsuccessful.

-Robbie

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Time: August 26, 2021 at 9:08 pm  
IP Address: 73.134.243.210  
Contact Form URL: <http://bloodandfaith.com/contact/>

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

