

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

PRESIDENTIAL PERSPECTIVE: WE ARE CITIZENS OF THE WORLD

February 9, 2023

Consider how you might support the people of Turkey and Syria earthquake.

The simple truth is that the world is a single, tightly bound neighborhood.

We've been reminded of that since Monday, when a 7.8-magnitude devastating earthquake and subsequent tremors struck southeastern Turkey and northwestern Syria, leaving more than 17,500 dead (that number is growing by the hour). At least four times the number dead have been rescued from the rubble, and the disaster has left millions of people grieving, shattered and struggling to recover.

In the upcoming days, the people of Turkey and Syria, who are living through the aftermath of the most devastating earthquake and natural disaster this century, will have many immediate needs, including medical aid, food, clothing and sanitation.

As a university, we consider ourselves "citizens of the world." Consequently, we speak up when there are events or incidents that require us to show solidarity, and whenever possible, to rally the OU community to consider taking action. Clearly, as we watch news reports of the valiant rescue attempts, now is the time for compassionate outreach.

If you are considering offering aid, please review the list of reputable [charitable groups \(https://www.charitynavigator.org/discover-charities/where-to-give/earthquakes-turkey-syria/\)](https://www.charitynavigator.org/discover-charities/where-to-give/earthquakes-turkey-syria/) compiled by Charity Navigator.

I am so proud of the many ways that we, as a community and as individuals think of others in need.

Ora

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