Don’t Forget Social Media!

Contacting Your Elected Officials on Social Media

Social media is an incredibly useful tool for drawing the attention of your Senators and Members of Congress. Just like us, they monitor their social media posts regularly to stay updated on what’s happening around the world, and at home.

September 20, 2019 marks two years since Hurricane Maria’s landfall in Puerto Rico. Help raise awareness about Puerto Rico’s ongoing recovery needs by posting on social media and using the hashtags #2YearsAfterMaria & #BoricuasRemember. Together, we will unite our voices to make sure that the people of Puerto Rico are not forgotten!

Here are a few things to remember when interacting with your Member of Congress on social media:

• Make sure the account is verified: all major social media companies (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) verify official accounts by placing a blue checkmark next to the account names of public individuals. If you don’t see a blue checkmark, the account might be fake!

• Use your real name/account. Members of Congress cannot be responsive to individuals whom they cannot identify as real people.

• If you are a constituent - say so! Make sure you include that you live in the Congressional District or State of your Member of Congress.

• Use the hashtag #TakeAction4PR. We want Congress to know that we are part of a broader movement to hold them accountable for their actions on Puerto Rico. A hashtag helps to identify us as part of the same team.

Sample Social Media Posts

Here are a few examples of language that you can use in your social media posts.

Promotional Messages

Tweets to Promote Take Action For Puerto Rico! Campaign:

• [NAME OF YOUR ORGANIZATION] is part of the #TakeAction4PR campaign, reminding Congress about the work still needed for Puerto Rico’s recovery and rebuild, #2YearsAfterMaria #PuertoRico. Find out how you can join our efforts and help: www.takeaction4pr.org

• It’s been #2YearsAfterMaria, and rebuilding #PuertoRico is still a priority. We are part of #TakeAction4PR day of action in Congress, demanding better democratization and transparency of the recovery process of the island. Find out more here: www.takeaction4pr.org

• There is still so much to be done for Puerto Rico! We are proud to support and join efforts with the Hispanic Federation and the #TakeAction4PR partners, demanding Congress to help rebuild the island and recuperate #2YearsAfterMaria. #NoMoreExcuses #justrecovery

Tweets to Members of Congress:

• Rep. X(insert your Member of Congress’ Twitter handle here), tell @realdonaldtrump @HUDgov to stop thwarting the will of Congress and release critical disaster funding from Puerto Rico already approved Congress approved. #Justice4PR #2YearsAfterMaria #BoricuasRemember #PRseRespeta

• Sen. X(insert your Senator’s Twitter handle here), tell @realdonaldtrump not to take away hundreds of millions from the National Guard of #PuertoRico and several states to pay for an unnecessary, expensive & offensive wall that Mexico was supposed to pay for. #2YearsAfterMaria #BoricuasRemember #PRseRespeta
RAISE YOUR VOICE!

Tweets for Policy Positions/Asks

• Two years after Hurricane Maria, the Trump Administration has interfered and obstructed Congress to prevent approved recovery funds from reaching Puerto Rico. THIS MUST STOP! Puerto Rico deserves a #justrecovery http://takeaction4pr.org/ #TakeAction4PR #MariaIsStillHere

• $125B is needed to rebuild #PuertoRico. To date, Congress has allocated less than $30B. This is shameful! Join the campaign to take action for Puerto Rico! Text TakeAction4PR to 21333. #TakeAction4PR #MariaIsStillHere takeaction4pr.org

• Trump said it was $92B. Congress approved $49.4B. But the actual aid received in Puerto Rico is less than $21B. #2YearsAfterMaria PR still needs action to rebuild, not political games or lies! #TakeAction4PR #MariaIsStillHere

• Did you know? 2-yrs after Hurricane Maria, the Fed government and the Trump Administration have intentionally interfered and obstructed Congress, preventing PR to get all approved recovery funds. We demand an immediate stop! Puerto Ricans are Americans too. #MariaIsStillHere #TakeAction4PR

• We just witnessed it with #Bahamas: experts predict future extreme weather events will be even WORSE due to climate change. #PuertoRico is still in need of assistance to recover, #2YearsAfterMaria #MariaIsStillHere #TakeAction4PR

• Climate change is making extreme weather events more severe and deadly. @EPA must protect the health & safety of all American families incl. vulnerable communities & communities of color hit first and worst by the impacts of climate change. #TakeAction4PR takeaction4pr.org

• Hurricane Maria was the worst natural disaster in the island's history, resulting in the longest blackout in American history, and killing at least 3,000 people. #TwoYearsAfterMaria we need to #TakeAction4PR to ensure much-needed resources for recovery reach the island.

• Congress can begin the decolonization process by removing colonial barriers to economic development and providing full parity in federal programs. These actions include allowing PR to restructure/discharge its own debt, and eliminating disparities in the tax code. #TakeAction4PR #MariaIsStillHere

• The debt must be audited. The future of #PuertoRico must not be compromised by repaying debt that was illegally or unconstitutionally obligated. Why should the most vulnerable have to pay for the illegal activities of a few? #TakeAction4PR #AuditoriaYA

• Three quick ways in which Congress can help the people of Puerto Rico right now:
  1) Demand and provide resources for an independent audit of Puerto Rico’s debt.
  2) Provide equal Medicare/Medicaid funding to PR
  3) Extend CTC and EITC to residents of the island

• Puerto Rico needs a #MarshallPlan that not only invests the tens of billions of dollars needed for the island to get back on its feet, but that also provides a blueprint of how to get there. #ShowUsYourPRPolicy

• Our message is simple: Congress should help rebuild the island, as they have done for Texas, Florida, New Jersey, and other devastated areas. All U.S. citizens should be treated equally, no matter where they live. #TakeAction4PR #TwoYearsAfterMaria https://to.pbs.org/2jkLcw0

• Estimates indicate that Puerto Rico needs about $139 billion in order to repair all the damage caused by Maria. Two years later the Trump continues to mislead the public - the administration has sent less $14 billion. We need action now. https://nbcnews.to/2JNjKUs

• #RadicalTransparency measures are a democratic check on both local and federal actors, and should require that contracts not be awarded to companies that have been convicted or fined for breaking any labor, environmental, or other federal or local laws. https://bit.ly/2mjQ0qj

• Recovery and rebuilding should not be an excuse for exploitation or for waiving any civil, human, or environmental rights in the name of speed – or greed. #TakeAction4PR #PeopleBeforeGreed

• We all know that @realDonaldTrump is a liar, but when those lies affect the recovery efforts of the most vulnerable in Puerto Rico, we have to stand up and #TakeAction4PR. #TwoYearsAfterMaria this continues to be Trump’s Katrina.

Facebook/Instagram:
Posts to promote the Take Action For Puerto Rico Campaign

• Hurricane Maria was the worst natural disaster in the island’s history and killed at least 3,000 people. It altered the lives of the 3.2 million who lived in Puerto Rico, and the millions more in states who care about them. Two years later, there is still much work to be done. We’re working with grassroots advocates, faith-based leaders, labor unions, community-based organizations, public officials, and educators to encourage and elevate discussion about how we can help Puerto Rico rebuild. TextTakeAction4PR to 21333 to reach
your Members of Congress and tell them to Take Action for Puerto Rico!

- Two years after Hurricane Maria, Puerto Rico still struggles to recuperate from the devastation. It has also been caught up in bad federal and local politics. We joined #TakeAction4PR to demand more congressional involvement, to help the island get the necessary funds to rebuild. Find out how you can join us too: www.takeaction4pr.org

Policy Positions/Asks Posts

- Did you know? Two years after Hurricane Maria, the federal government and the Trump Administration have been intentionally interfering and obstructing Congress to prevent that the approved recovery funds to reach Puerto Rico. We demand an immediate stop! Call and tell your Member of Congress that Puerto Ricans are Americans too. Help us press for a #justrecovery. #TakeAction4PR http://takeaction4pr.org/call-your-members-of-congress/ #MariaIsStillHere

- It’s been two years since Hurricane Maria and Puerto Rico is still sorely in need of assistance to rebuild. Out of the $42.7B disaster relief approved by Congress, Puerto Rico has only received $14B. This is shameful! #TakeAction4PR www.takeaction4pr.org

- Trump said it was $92B. Congress approved $49.4B. But the actual aid received in Puerto Rico is less than $21B. Join us demanding your Member of Congress that two years after Maria, PR still needs action, not political games or lies! A just recovery should be in the hands of the people of Puerto Rico, led by the people and for the people. #TakeAction4PR. #MariaIsStillHere http://takeaction4pr.org/call-your-members-of-congress/

- Did you know? The lack of transparency and meaningful public participation has greatly hindered the recovery of Puerto Rico for the past two years. We demand that Puerto Ricans have access to the information in Spanish and the freedom to participate in making sure each federal dollar will get to the communities it was intended for. #TakeAction4PR #MariaIsStillHere

- We demand that U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico get the same kind of treatment as citizens who live on the mainland and also endured natural disasters. Our message: Congress should allocate sufficient funds to help rebuild the island, and the Trump Administration must release those funds, as they have already done and are doing for Texas, Florida, New Jersey, and other devastated areas. Join the campaign to rebuild Puerto Rico at takeaction4pr.org and get valuable resources for how you can help! #TakeAction4PR #MariaIsStillHere

- Hey (tag your favorite presidential candidate)! As a candidate for President of the United States you should let the Puerto Rican community know how you plan to help Puerto Rico recover and rebuild from Hurricane Maria. #TwoYearsAfterMaria made landfall, and the federal government is still dragging its feet to help the people on the island. What do you plan to do? #TakeAction4PR #ShowUsYourPRPolicy #MariaIsStillHere

- Three quick ways in which Congress can help the people of Puerto Rico right now:

  1) Require and pay for an independent audit of Puerto Rico’s debt.
  2) Extend CTC and EITC to residents of the island as a tool to reduce poverty levels on the island.
  3) Provide equal Medicare/Medicaid funding to PR and ensure that people have access to affordable care.

#TakeAction4PR #MariaIsStillHere

Main campaign hashtags:
#TakeAction4PR #MariaIsStillHere #TwoYearsAfterMaria

Secondary campaign hashtags:
#BoricuasRemember #TrumpsKatrina #Power4PuertoRico #ShowUsYourPRPolicy