

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement issued by the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) on February 1, 2017

The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing unequivocally opposes the recent Executive Order issued by the President of the United States of America regarding the admission and vetting of non-citizens.

SHARP was founded to create a global network for book historians working in a broad range of scholarly disciplines. It has held conferences in fifteen different countries and has members from over forty countries worldwide, including the countries affected by the Executive Order. The Executive Order not only impedes the freedom of academic movement that underpins the scholarly exchange of ideas but also runs counter to the values of free speech, diversity and inclusion that the Society holds dear, and which are essential to intellectual life and the pursuit of knowledge.

SHARP stands alongside fellow members of the American Council of Learned Societies in calling for the retraction of the Executive Order and the repudiation of all forms of religious intolerance.