

Dear [Name of your MP] MP,

We write to you as members of **[insert name of group here]** concerned about the escalating global refugee crisis. We would like to work with you to better protect child refugees by allowing them to live safely with their families.

We are working with people across the UK to welcome refugees. We would like to see all countries fairly share responsibility for hosting and assisting them.

We welcome that the UK has committed over £2.3 billion in humanitarian funding for refugees and has agreed to resettle 23,000 refugees by 2020. However, hundreds of thousands remain in desperate need and we believe our country can do more.

Being reunited with family is of enormous importance for people who have fled persecution and conflict. Many have suffered torture or other trauma in their home country and/or on their way to the UK. Permission to stay in the UK as a refugee comes with a refugee family reunion entitlement; immediate family members, partners and/or minor children, can apply to join them.

However, this is not the case for children. Children are the only refugees in our system denied that right to family reunion. Refugee children find themselves alone. Neither their parents nor their siblings are permitted to join them. This puts at risk their safety and well-being in the UK. Being reunited with close family is often critical to a refugee's chances of integration and recovery.

We believe more family reunion opportunities must be accessible to people fleeing persecution and conflict. Without providing the safe and legal routes many people need, people may turn to smugglers and attempt dangerous and all too often fatal journeys. That is of no less importance in the cases where the family member in the UK is a child.

Please would you support our campaign to end this discrimination against children and allow children recognised as refugees the right to be joined here by family members.

We would love to work with you to make refugees welcome in our local community and across the UK. **(insert here any detail of the work your group may have been doing to support refugees - going on marches, collecting clothes/food, volunteering in local refugee organisations etc).**

We would be delighted if you would:

- Meet with our group **(insert most appropriate upcoming local event you may be running in your community for Amnesty or with others. This could be a group meeting).**
- Raise the issue of child family reunion in Parliament
- Join our Annual Write for Rights Event in Parliament to send a welcome message to refugees across the UK on 7th Dec 2016, 12:30pm-2pm, Speaker's House, Houses of Parliament

If you'd like to know more about the issue we can put you in touch with Amnesty International experts to talk about how you can support this campaign.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Insert Group Signatures