**I Welcome Refugees campaign activist update – November 2016**

**‘I Welcome’ campaign report**

Amnesty has released a new global report for the ‘I Welcome’ refugees campaign. The report ‘*Tackling the Global Refugee Crisis: From Shirking to Sharing Responsibility’* provides a comprehensive assessment of the global refugee crisis and documents the precarious situation faced by many of the world’s 21 million refugees. It also shows that of the 193 countries in the world the majority of the wealthiest have shown a near absence of leadership and responsibility while a global refugee crisis continues to escalate. This has left just 10 countries – each bordering conflict zones and accounting for less than 2.5% of world GDP – to take in 56% of the global refugee population. The UK hosts less than one per cent of the world’s refugees.

To find out more: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/world-leaders-are-spectacularly-failing-refugees>

To read the report: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/pol40/4905/2016/en/>

**AIUK and AI France react to impending Calais evictions**

Thousands of refugees and migrants are in the process of being evicted from Calais in Northern France. Evictions began on the 24th October, with the demolition of the camp scheduled to follow. As such, the UK and French governments must urgently ensure that those in the camps entitled to family reunion in the UK are swiftly identified and transferred here.

AIUK and AI France issued a letter on the 14th October to the UK and French Home Secretaries pre-empting these impending Calais evictions.

This letter, in addition to a public statement from AIUK and AI France in February, can be accessed here: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/uk-and-france-must-ensure-refugees-family-links-are-reunited-uk>

**New reports released**

**Australia**

Based on months of research, including interviews with more than 100 people in Nauru and Australia, Amnesty International’s report [Island of Despair: Australia's 'processing of refugees'](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa12/4934/2016/en/)exposes the government of Australia’s policy of “processing” refugees and asylum-seekers on Nauru for what it is: a deliberate and systematic regime of neglect and cruelty.

Read the press release: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/australia-conditions-nauru-detention-centre-amount-torture>

**Iraq**

Amnesty has also released a report, [Punished for Daesh’s crimes’: Displaced Iraqis abused by militias and government forces](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde14/4962/2016/en/)*,* which exposes the backlash against civilians fleeing ISIS-held territory, raising alarm over the risk of further mass violations as the military operation to recapture the ISIS-held city of Mosul gets underway.

Read our comment piece in the Huffington Post: <http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/neil-durkin/refugee-crisis_b_12536608.html>

**Latest blogs**

Read the latest comment piece from our refugee expert in the New Statesman ‘Dental checks for child refugees: inappropriate, unethical and unreliable’**:** <http://www.newstatesman.com/politics/uk/2016/10/calls-use-dental-x-rays-determine-age-refugee-children-are-fuelled-hatred>

We have been asking party conferences across the UK whether we have done enough to tackle the refugee crisis. Read our blogs from the Conservative party conference: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/blogs/yes-minister-it-human-rights-issue/there-are-no-borders-compassion>; and the Labour party Conference <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/blogs/yes-minister-it-human-rights-issue/labour-conference-call-more-voices-kindness>

**Feedback on MP Action**

If you took the action from last month’s mailing and contacted your MP please feedback to our advocacy team.

Your feedback really helps us to learn about the impact of our collective actions and to build a picture of the views of MPs across the country. Please let us know what action you take on this issue and the response from your local MP.

Please send your feedback to [mypolitician@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:mypolitician@amnesty.org.uk)

**Resources**

**Refugee campaign materials**  
Refugee Community Action Pack - REF16/001  
Refugees Welcome Stickers - REF16/002  
Refugees Welcome Placards - REF16/003  
Refugees Welcome Pledge poster - REF16/004  
All materials can be ordered from our mailing house by contacting them on 01788 545553 and quoting relevant product codes.

**Refugee Community Action Pack**

This pack will need to be updated in the wake of the UN Global Summit and the ‘Refugees Welcome Here’ march. However, we would still encourage you to use the pack and the poster in your communities. See above for ordering details.