LOVE THE STRANGER: CALL TO ACTION





Love the Stranger: Call to Action

CONTENTS

CONTEXT	
REFLECT	
PRAY	
SPEAK UP	5
Engage your MP	5
Write to your MP	5
Engage your Council	7
Campaigns	7
LEARN MORE	
CSAN members	
In the wider community	9
National coalitions & networks	9
VOLUNTEER	
Volunteer with CSAN members	
Host a Ukrainian family	
Get involved with community sponsorship	
DONATE	
PURCHASING POWER	
APPENDICES	14
Appendix I: Current Campaigns	
Appendix II: Notes for Action	



CONTEXT

The Department of International Affairs at the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales (CBCEW) has published a new document, *Love the Stranger*, presenting a Catholic response to refugees and migrants. *Love the Stranger* looks behind the headlines and statistics to the individual person, each of whom has a name, a face and a story. The document offers 24 guiding principles and is endorsed by CSAN, who together with members has produced the following call-to-action.

Today there are over 280 million migrants and refugees worldwide,¹ more than at any point in history. The UNHCR estimates 103 million people are forcibly displaced worldwide, made up of those internally displaced, those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status, as well as those requiring other forms of international protection².

In recent years, we have seen the UK and European media refer to a refugee 'crisis', employing terms such as 'invasion' and 'swarms', however, 36% of those forcibly displaced are hosted in 5 countries, with Turkey hosting the largest number of refugees – Germany is the only European nation in the top 5. The majority of countries hosting large refugee populations are in the Global South. It is widely acknowledged that the vast number of refugees stay in their region of displacement and are hosted by neighbouring countries, with a low percentage travelling onwards to Europe and the UK.

The UK has welcomed 231,597 refugees as of November 2022, with 127,421 pending asylum cases³ which is nowhere near being the top recipient of refugees in Europe. Quoting the Gospel of St. Matthew, **Pope Francis calls on us to respond by welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating people**, with the reminder that: "Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (Matthew 25:35-43)."⁴

However, recent policy in the UK has been far from welcoming, with constant negative media rhetoric regarding the channel crossings, which increased in vitriol as we saw the introduction of the Nationality and Borders Act in 2022, which was deemed 'cruel' and 'harmful' by organisations across civil society. The Act created a two-tier system for refugees and restricts access to family reunion for some refugees⁵, essentially criminalising those fleeing danger and seeking asylum in the UK⁶. Further, proposals for offshore processing resulted in the Rwanda plan as the government has tried to send people seeking asylum to Rwanda, without any

¹ International Organisation for Migration, World Migration Report (2022).

² UNHCR Refugee Data Finder, <u>https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/</u>

³ UNHCR UK, https://www.unhcr.org/uk/asylum-in-the-uk.html

⁴ Pope Francis, *Message for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees* (2018).

⁵ Refugee Council, https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/information/refugee-asylum-facts/differential-treatment-clause-11/

⁶ Refugee Council, https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/latest/news/proposals-to-further-criminalise-and-imprison-people-seeking-asylum-to-cost-most-than-400m-per-year/



consideration of their case. The plan was condemned by civil society organisations and human rights groups, with Bishop Paul McAleenan, lead Bishop for migration issues at the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW), noting it as 'shamefully illustrative' of what Pope Francis has called the loss of that sense of responsibility for our brothers and sisters on which every civil society is based'⁷. SVP and JRS worked together to publish a campaign toolkit on the Nationality and Borders Bill before it became an Act. CSAN member organisations campaigned against the plan and unfair policies and continue to do so as we await the Court of Appeal hearing on the Rwanda plan.

In a further attack on the rights of migrants and refugees, the Government published the Illegal Migration Bill on 08 March 2023. The Bill has received widespread criticism from civil society organisations and lawyers, with the UNHCR noting that the Bill is effectively an 'asylum ban'. Further, both Conservative and Labour MPs have raised concerns about the lack of protections for victims of trafficking and in particular at the prospect of detaining children.

Catholic communities and organisations are aware of the tension these policies have created across the UK, dividing some communities. Refugee and migrant issues are also contested within the Catholic community. As we recognise the concerns of our community, we recall Pope Francis' message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees in 2021, in which he explored the theme 'towards an ever wider we', warning that it is increasingly under threat from nationalist or individualist tendencies, with the highest price being paid by those viewed as 'the other'. Reinforcing the message of *Fratelli Tuttl*⁸, Pope Francis calls on us to counter this prevailing trend by working towards **the establishment of a single 'we', encompassing the whole of humanity.**⁹

In light of the challenges we face in the UK, advocating for the dignity of refugees and migrants amidst a hostile environment, CSAN welcomes the teaching document **Love the Stranger** from the Department of International Affairs at CBCEW. The document speaks into the contested space and reinforces Catholic social teaching, offering guidance on our response to refugees and migrants: <u>https://www.cbcew.org.uk/love-the-stranger/</u>

The document outlines several principles, calling to action both the Catholic community and the Government in welcoming those who come to our country, as is our Christian duty. We encourage all Catholics to reflect upon **Love the Stranger** and have compiled this call-to-action as a toolkit to inform and assist the community as we aim to fulfil our obligation to love the stranger in the way that God intends.

⁷ CBCEW, https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishop-asylum-seekers-dignity-must-be-protected-and-upheld/

⁸ https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20201003_enciclica-fratelli-tutti.html

⁹ Pope Francis, *Message for the 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees* (2021).



REFLECT

Pope John XXIII, in his encyclical *Mater et Magistra* (1961), invited the Catholic community to apply the social doctrine of the Church using a particular methodology: "There are three stages which should normally be followed in the reduction of social principles into practice. First, one reviews the concrete situation; secondly, one forms a judgment on it in the light of these same principles; thirdly, one decides what in the circumstances can and should be done to implement these principles. These are the three stages that are usually expressed in the three terms: look, judge, act." (#236).

We consider carefully what is going on and why, attending to the voices which are unheard, as well as our own feelings, then we discern what the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching is telling us about this situation, which in turn inspires in us the action which will change the situation to be more in conformity with the demands of love and justice. For more guidance on this methodology please see: <u>https://www.csan.org.uk/news/poverty-challenge-2022-see-judge-act/</u>).

Love the Stranger encourages Catholics to consider the situation of refugees and migrants from across the world, their journey to the UK and the welcome they receive in our communities. The document encourages us all to reflect upon key principles and how we can apply them 'in our own lives and in our parishes, schools, and public life, so that each one of us may fulfil our obligation and set an example to others of loving the stranger in the way that God intends' (p1-2).

PRAY

In his message on World Day of Migrants & Refugees 2022 (WDMR), Pope Francis spoke of building the future with migrants and refugees. He calls for us to recognise and welcome migrants and refugees, to protect, promote and integrate them, highlighting the importance of inclusion, which he encourages the Catholic community to embrace wholeheartedly.

The Pope's prayer for WDMR 2022:

Lord, make us bearers of hope, so that where there is darkness, your light may shine, and where there is discouragement, confidence in the future may be reborn.

Lord, make us instruments of your justice, so that where there is exclusion, fraternity may flourish, and where there is greed, a spirit of sharing may grow. Lord, make us builders of your Kingdom, together with migrants and refugees and with all who dwell on the peripheries.

Lord, let us learn how beautiful it is to live together as brothers and sisters. Amen.



The Pope's messages and prayers from previous WDMR, can be found on the Vatican website for migrants and refugees: <u>https://migrants-refugees.va/world-day-of-migrants-refugees/</u>

SPEAK UP

Principle 7: We uphold the right to migrate, which may be exercised not only by those fleeing threats to their safety but also by those seeking to build a better life for themselves and their families.

CSAN comprises of 54 member organisations, including independent Catholic charities and diocesan Caritas agencies, many of whom provide support and outreach to asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants. They run a number of community projects and services, alongside campaigning for a more welcoming environment in the UK for those seeking refuge.

There are many actions you can take as an individual, or together with your community. You can contact your diocese for further information on support programmes they offer and how you can get involved. Below are a few actions you can take and campaigns you can get involved with.:

Engage your MP:

15. We urge the fulfilment of obligations under international frameworks protecting migrants and refugees, such as the Refugee Convention, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Global Compact on Refugees, and the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

The UK provides a hostile environment for refugees and migrants, with recent policies and changes to legislation further eroding their fundamental rights and placing the UK in contradiction of its international obligations. There have been many campaigns against the harsh and unfair policies introduced, but one way to ensure a welcoming environment with fair policies that uphold human dignity, is to engage your MP.

We call upon you to engage your MP and ask them about their views on migration, the treatment of people seeking asylum in the UK and the support for refugees. We ask you to raise your concerns regarding unfair policies that fail to recognise the right to asylum and ask that they uphold the human dignity of the vulnerable seeking refuge. Urge your MP to question government and advocate for the fair and kind policies we wish to see.

Write to your MP:

Principle 23: We encourage policies that give migrants and refugees the right to work, to facilitate their contribution to the common good of our society.

One way in which you may engage your MP is to write to them.



We encourage you to write to your MP to highlight issues affecting refugees and migrants and request that they raise these issues in Parliament to affect policy and ensure the human dignity of refugees and migrants is upheld. We encourage you to request their support of a campaign as by speaking up together we are more likely to have an impact.

You can find the contact details of your MP at: <u>https://members.parliament.uk/members/Commons</u>

You can easily write to your MP and local councillors at: https://www.writetothem.com/.

This website allows you to select the individual you wish to write to and draft a letter (or copy/paste an existing template) on the website, from where it will be emailed directly to them.

CSAN have drafted a letter template in response to the new Illegal Migration Bill, to promote **Love the Stranger** and urge MPs to reconsider the Bill whilst advocating for and upholding the human dignity of refugees and migrants:

[Name of your MP] House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

Dear [name of your MP]

I am writing to you as a concerned Catholic constituent to express my profound concern about the Government's proposed Illegal Migration Bill. This Bill, if passed, will not only deny people fleeing war and persecution their right to seek safety in the UK and apply for asylum, but will punish them, based on how they came here, not whether they need protection. This would amount to an asylum ban.

The Bill would:

- Remove the right to seek refugee protection in the UK for those who arrive irregularly.
- Breach the UN Refugee Convention, of which the UK is a founding signatory.
- Fail to provide the safe routes we need now.
- Leave thousands of men, women and children in limbo, detained and denied a fair hearing.

On 14 March, the Department for International Affairs of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, published *Love the Stranger: A Catholic Response to Migrants and Refugees*. This document sets out a number of key principles, including:

• The dignity of the human person at the root of our response to migrants and refugees.



- The right of a state to control its borders, but not based on economic factors alone: we have a responsibility to the wider world.
- Avoiding the use of immigration detention, arbitrary expulsion and other practices which violate human dignity.
- The need to fulfil our obligations under international frameworks protecting migrants and refugees, such as the Refugee Convention.

We encourage you to engage with your Catholic constituents and our bishops' document to help to clarify why the teaching of the Catholic Church is incompatible with this Bill.

We call on you to:

- Protect rather than punish refugees by defending their fundamental right to seek asylum.
- Stand up for the UN Refugee Convention and our country's history as a founding signatory.
- Ensure the government provides alternatives to dangerous journeys, including safe routes.
- Insist on an effective asylum system which is just and compassionate, gives people a fair hearing and reduces the backlog in a fair manner.

We strongly urge the government to reconsider this Bill and instead pursue more humane and workable policy solutions which respect the dignity and rights of migrating people.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing your views on this urgent matter.

Your sincerely,

Engage your Council:

In addition to contacting your MP, you may also engage your councillors and advocate at the local level.

The Migrant Champions Network is a new project supported by JCWI to support local councillors to champion the rights of migrants in their local areas and beyond, to better equip them to support migrants within their communities.

Launched officially on February 23 2023, you can check if your council has a Migrant Champion and if not, call upon them to appoint a councillor as a Migrant Champion to advocate for and on behalf of the refugees and migrants in your community:

https://migrantchampionsnetwork.org/find-a-migrant-champion

Campaigns:



Principle 12: We defend the fundamental human dignity of all migrants and refugees, regardless of their legal status, including through policies providing access to decent accommodation, healthcare, and childhood education, as well as facilitating family reunification.

There are many campaigns you can get involved with, from signing petitions and showing solidarity across social media, to collective action within communities.

We have compiled a list of campaigns, which you can view in Appendix I. We will endeavour to review the list and update with new campaigns and petitions periodically.

For further information on any of the campaigns, kindly see the individual organisation websites, where you will also find downloadable resource kits.

LEARN MORE

CSAN members:

CSAN has many member organisations active in supporting refugees and migrants, advocating on their behalf for a more welcoming environment. Below listed are some examples of our members' work across the UK:

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

JRS is an international organisation whose mission is to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of those forcibly displaced. In the UK, JRS' works with those who find themselves destitute due to government policies and those detained for the administration of immigration procedures.

JRS have published numerous reports and resources which raise awareness of conditions for refugees and migrants in the UK and are helpful to those wishing to support refugees and migrants and advocate on their behalf. They have also worked collaboratively with other organisations in the UK to campaign against the Rwanda plan. Further information can be found at: <u>https://www.jrsuk.net/</u>.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP)

The SVP is an international voluntary organisation dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing direct practical assistance to those in need. Across England and Wales, this includes advocating for the needs of refugees and migrants, providing frontline services and practical support within communities and promoting inclusion and integration.

They have some helpful resources on their website for those wanting to gain an understanding of the different terminologies and recent policies: <u>https://www.svp.org.uk/migrants-refugees-and-people-seeking-asylum</u>.



The Medaille Trust

The Medaille Trust are one of the largest providers of supported safe house beds for victims of modern slavery in the UK. They also work to raise awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery in communities, including conducting outreach to women affected in the community and helping survivors throughout the legal process as they pursue judicial outcomes against their perpetrators.

Their website has many resources for those wishing to gain a better understanding of human trafficking and modern slavery, including case studies and how to spot the signs, as well as a podcast: <u>https://www.medaille-trust.org.uk/</u>.

In the wider community:

The Santa Marta Group

The Santa Marta Group is an alliance of police chiefs and bishops from around the world, working together with civil society to eradicate human trafficking and modern slavery. This includes partnerships between the Church, police, business and civil society internationally.

Further information and resources can be found on their website: https://santamartagroup.org/.

The Clewer Initiative

The Clewer Initiative is the national work of the Church of England to combat modern slavery, raising awareness and mobilising churches and communities to take action. They have developed a number of tools, such as the Safe Car Wash app and the Farm Work Welfare app, and provide training and support across communities and faith groups.

Further information about their work, including resources, can be found on their website: <u>https://theclewerinitiative.org/</u>.

The Arise Foundation (Arise)

Arise is an international anti-slavery NGO, working to support frontline organisations and networks in countries affected by human trafficking. They work to amplify local voices and advocate for change.

Further information on their work can be found on their website: https://www.arisefdn.org/.

National coalitions & networks:

Across the UK there are numerous national organisations with a focus on specific migration related issues. They provide up to date information on policies and share findings from the frontlines, including raising awareness of current campaigns. Below listed are a few:

Together with Refugees



A coalition of organisations calling for a fairer and more effective approach to support refugees, one that is humane. Individuals, local groups and organisations can also get involved with their work: <u>https://togetherwithrefugees.org.uk/get-involved/</u>

Asylum Matters

A charity working in partnership locally and nationally to improve the lives of refugees and those seeking asylum through social and political change. They have a wide range of resources available on their website, including reports and current campaigns. They also provide regular updates on ongoing advocacy initiatives, government developments and new research, all of which can be found on their website: <u>https://asylummatters.org/</u>.

Migrants Rights Network

A charity working with grassroots, migrant led organisations to better understand the issues affecting them and how the wider community can help. <u>https://migrantsrights.org.uk/get-involved/</u>

Human Trafficking Foundation

The foundation provides a collective voice amongst NGOs, civil society, and voluntary organisations, to identify shortcomings in policy, and works with the authorities and statutory agencies to better inform them. Resources can be found on their website: <u>https://www.humantraffickingfoundation.org/</u>

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer with CSAN members:

Principle 16: Recognising the practical contribution that our Church can make, we support the work of Catholic organisations such as Caritas, the Jesuit Refugee Service, and the St Vincent De Paul Society, as well as parish and diocesan initiatives, in upholding the human dignity of migrants and refugees.

Catholic organisations and dioceses across the country have been providing vital support to people seeking asylum, refugees and migrants. They often rely on the support of volunteers to assist in the delivery of their services and to allow them to reach all those in need.

If you have time to spare and are looking to get involved in your community, you may reach out to your diocese for further information or contact your local Catholic organisation for opportunities to get involved.

CSAN has 54 member organisations and diocesan agencies, all of whom can be found on our website: <u>https://www.csan.org.uk/member/</u>



There is also a map of diocesan agencies, identifying the refugee support projects they are running: <u>https://www.csan.org.uk/resettlement-toolkit/diocese-resettlement-services-map/</u>

Host a Ukrainian family:

Principle 9. We encourage the extension of safe routes such as resettlement programmes, visa schemes and humanitarian corridors so that people can exercise their right to migrate in a dignified and humane manner.

The Government launched Homes for Ukraine in March 2022 to allow Ukrainian nationals to apply for visas to join family/sponsors in the UK. Responding to the Catholic community's call to support the scheme, **St John of God's Hospitaller Services (SJOG)** in partnership with CSAN, launched a matching service for in September 2022.

SJOG provide a matching, training and support service for both hosts and guests, working with European counterparts to support displaced Ukrainians in neighbouring countries to Ukraine, advising those willing to be matched to UK hosts and preparing them for life in the UK, whilst also arranging their transport to the UK – a safe route for them to reach the UK whilst receiving the necessary support and orientation. Further information on the SJOG service can be found on their website: <u>https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/</u>.

Get involved with community sponsorship:

Principle 10: We must not allow the concerns that some communities might have about migration to be exploited for political purposes or allow such concerns to develop into a xenophobic attitude; Christian communities must play their part in providing a genuine welcome to migrants and refugees.

The Catholic community across England & Wales has responded generously to Pope Francis' call 'to welcome, to protect, to promote and to integrate' refugees and migrants, by welcoming resettled families from Syria, and now many more countries around the world, into their communities via the Community Sponsorship Scheme.

The scheme has supported many refugee families and benefitted many communities across the UK. Further information on what this involves and how you too can sponsor a family, can be found in the CSAN Guide to Refugee Resettlement: https://www.csan.org.uk/guidance/resettlement-in-the-uk-how-to-get-involved/

Please contact your diocese for further local support and guidance on getting involved in community sponsorship.



DONATE

Principle 16: Recognising the practical contribution that our Church can make, we support the work of Catholic organisations such as Caritas, the Jesuit Refugee Service, and the St Vincent De Paul Society, as well as parish and diocesan initiatives, in upholding the human dignity of migrants and refugees.

In addition to campaigning and volunteering your donations to charities supporting refugees and migrants make a big difference. There are many types of donations:

- 1) Time: you may donate your time, as noted in the section on volunteering.
- 2) Money: you may donate money to an organisation to support with their ongoing work.
- 3) Goods: you may donate goods, such as household items, clothing or even food, as required by the organisation.
- 4) Fundraising: you may offer to fundraise for an organisation to support a particular project or campaign they may be running.

We advise that you contact the organisation you wish to donate to for further guidance on their needs and processes. With regards to donations of goods, we ask that you kindly pay attention to the guidance given by organisations as to what types of goods there are in need of, before donating.

PURCHASING POWER

Principle 18: We recognise that trafficking and slavery are exacerbated by a lack of accessible alternatives for migration or seeking sanctuary - efforts to tackle trafficking and slavery must therefore go beyond more active law enforcement; we also need to support people to flourish in their homelands, establish more safe routes for migrants and refugees, and work to eliminate the demand for those services that slave labour continues to meet.

On the World Day of Prayer and Reflection Against Human Trafficking 2023, the Pope launched an appeal to combat human trafficking.

'Human trafficking disfigures dignity. Exploitation and subjugation limit freedom and turn people into objects to use and discard. And the system of trafficking profits from the injustice and wickedness that oblige millions of people to live in conditions of vulnerability.'

The Santa Marta Group, launched in 2014, brings together the Church, police, business and civil society internationally. The Group notes human trafficking and modern slavery (HTMS) to be one of the gravest challenges confronting the international community and have recently unveiled a new strategy, which includes encouraging governments and businesses to be proactive in preventing HTMS in all aspects of their business and financial activities. More can be found on this strategy at: https://santamartagroup.org/about/strategic-goals



Businesses need to ensure their supply chains are free from slavery, but as consumers, we too need to be aware of what we buy and from whom. We can use our purchasing power to pressure businesses into complying with international standards and ensuring fair practices throughout the production process.

To check if a business is complying with the UK Modern Slavery Act, and view their compliance documents, you can search on the following websites:

Modern Slavery Statement Register:

Launched by the UK Government in 2021, the website acts as a public registry of modern slavery statements. You can view and compare statements of businesses and their compliance with the UK Modern Slavery Act: <u>https://modern-slavery-statement-registry.service.gov.uk/</u>.

The Transparency in Supply Chains Platform (TISC):

Launched to assist the UK monitor compliance with the UK Modern Slavery Act, the website has since evolved to track supply chains both nationally and globally. You can search for a company and view its compliance, supply chain and regulatory information: <u>https://tiscreport.org/</u>.



APPENDICES

Appendix I: Current Campaigns

The right to work: #LiftTheBan

A coalition of charities, trade unions, businesses, faith groups and think tanks have been campaigning since 2018 to overturn the Government's ban on people seeking asylum being able to work. In 2020, they presented a petition to the Home Office, with over 180,000 signatures. In 2022, it was found that 81% of the public support the right to work for people seeking asylum in the UK.

Further information on how to get involved, including a resource pack, can be found on the Refugee Action website: <u>https://www.refugee-action.org.uk/lift-the-ban/</u>

The right to family reunification: #FamiliesTogether

The Families Together Coalition is made up of over 50 organisations who are advocating for a change to the UK's family reunification laws which are keeping family members apart and in particular depriving child refugees of the ability to sponsor their immediate family members to join them.

Further information on the work of the coalition and access to a campaign pack can be found on their website: <u>https://familiestogether.uk/</u>

The right to human dignity: #TogetherWithRefugees

Together with Refugees, the largest pro-refugee coalition in British history working to build a kinder, fairer and better society – for everyone. Any group, organisation, institution, or business can easily sign up to show their support. They have been campaigning against the Rwanda plan including the 'Fill the Skies With Hope' campaign creating orange heart shaped paper planes with messages to the government.

They are calling on people to share an orange heart across social media and use the hashtags #WhoWeAre and #TogetherWithRefugees to show support and raise awareness of their work.

Graphics and messages for sharing can be found on their website: <u>https://togetherwithrefugees.org.uk/get-involved/show-support/</u>

Refugee Council: Protect Children Seeking Asylum



Refugee Council are currently running a letter writing campaign, asking MPs to speak up for unaccompanied and vulnerable children seeking asylum, and put pressure on the Government to launch an urgent response.

To read their template and add a personalised message, see their website: <u>https://act.refugeecouncil.org.uk/campaign/action-ask-your-mp-speak-unaccompanied-and-</u> <u>vulnerable-children-seeking-asylum-</u> 0?utm campaign=2223OMQ4&utm source=rctwitter&utm medium=social

Safe Passage: No Afghan Left Behind

Safe Passage advocates for safe routes, working with child refugees to reunite them with their families. They are currently petitioning the Government to address the failing Afghan resettlement scheme which has left families separated and loved ones unable to safely reach the UK. You can learn more about their work and add your name to their petition at: https://www.safepassage.org.uk/no-afghan-left-behind

Praxis: Stop the Waiting

Praxis is a leading charity providing expert support to migrants and refugees. At this time when the Government is reviewing its immigration policies, Praxis is calling on the Government to change the rules to reduce waiting times and provide a sense of security for those forced to spend thousands of pounds on renewing visas and navigating a complicated visa application process.

The Government is forcing thousands of people - who've lived here for many years - to put their lives on hold, sometimes for decades. You can add your name to the petition at: <u>https://act.praxis.org.uk/stop-waiting</u>

JCWI: Work it Out

21 trade unions have come together to call for urgent action to end the exploitation of migrant workers. They have signed a **Migrant Workers' Pledge** to stand in solidarity with all migrant workers and resist the government's hostility, urging employers NOT to assist the Home Office with immigration raids.

If you belong to a union, see if they have signed the pledge, and if not, encourage them to do so: <u>https://www.jcwi.org.uk/unions-speak-out-for-migrant-workers-rights</u>

Anti-slavery International: Business and Human Rights - help stop the abuse



Anti-slavery International have worked for over 180 years to change the systems that enable slavery, today challenging modern slavery in all forms including human trafficking, child slavery and forced labour.

If you believe that products in the UK shouldn't be made with forced labour, join them in their urgent call for change: <u>https://www.antislavery.org/take-action/campaigns/business-human-rights-and-environment/</u>



Appendix II: Notes for Action

Please use this space to make notes on action points for your parish or diocese.