

Migration news roundup 10 April 2023

Image
View of Houses of Parliament from bridge over river Thames

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Stories that inspired us this week

[British-Kurdish comedian Kae Kurd announces a show in Leeds](#), with his comedy drawing on his experiences as a refugee and ‘growing up Kurdish in the UK’. (Source: Yorkshire Evening Post)

[Holbeck Moor FC Women's is the first women's football club of Sanctuary. Hear from the club's ambassador and the coach in this interview.](#) (Sources: Square Ball, BBC Sounds)

[Sheffield community centre that focuses on providing refugees and people seeking asylum with information, support and advice, was allocated funding](#) that will pay for the salaries of five people for the coming three years. (Source: The Star)

Read about some great [examples of refugee led media initiatives enabling refugee communities to control their own narratives](#). (Source: International Journalists' Network)

[Ryvan Alshebl, who arrived in Germany in 2015 because of the war in Syria, has been elected as the mayor in a village in the south-west of the country.](#) One of his priorities is to make digital access to public administration services available. (Source: the Guardian)

International news

[Doctors Without Borders \(MSF\) rescued 440 migrants on a fishing boat in international waters near Malta.](#) The group, who set off from Libya, were taken to Italy which is experiencing an increase in sea migration from North Africa. In another geopolitical context, [calls grow to end the U.S-Canada asylum pact after the death of eight people trying to cross over into Canada.](#) (Source: Reuters)

A new report shines light on the range of [barriers people of North African ancestry face in accessing France's labour market.](#) (Source: Morocco World News)

UK borders and migration policy

The [statistics watchdog hit back at the government for giving inaccurate, exaggerated numbers to the public on the asylum backlog](#) it inherited from Labour's government in 2010. Meanwhile, this briefing explores [causes and consequences of the asylum backlog](#). (Sources: the Guardian, Migration Observatory)

On asylum policy:

- This [Free Movement article explores how the Illegal Migration Bill might breach the Refugee Convention](#).
 - The [UN Refugee Agency \(UNHCR\) have produced a new series of briefings](#) in response to the Bill.
 - This [briefing examines policies designed to deter asylum arrivals](#).

(Sources: Free Movement, UNHCR, Migration Observatory)

In an interview, the [Home Secretary refused to commit to ending small boat Channel crossings](#) this year. Despite the government's focus on Albanians, figures reveal [they only make up 5% of small boats arrivals](#) this year. (Sources: Politics Home, Daily Mail)

The Home Secretary also [declined to promise that removals to Rwanda will begin by the summer](#). She [reiterated that the courts have found Rwanda a safe country for refugees](#) despite contrary evidence from the UN. (Sources: the Guardian, BBC News)

[Sweden has removed over 1,100 British nationals since Brexit](#) for failing to regularise their status, the highest of any EU country. (Source: the Guardian)

A London NHS trust has received criticism after [it threatened to report striking employees who are in the UK on an immigration visa, to the Home Office](#). (Source: BBC News)

Specific migrant groups

A new [Home Office factsheet on asylum accommodation sites](#) is available outlining new funding for local authorities, and states [a draft statutory instrument has been laid](#) as part of plans to remove HMO (House of Multiple Occupation) licensing rules from applying to asylum accommodation. (Sources: Home Office, UK Legislation)

The Home Office announced the [use of a barge as asylum accommodation](#) in Dorset for up to 500 single males seeking asylum. [The idea hasn't gone down well with locals](#) and there's suggestions it [could face legal action](#). (Sources: Home Office, the Guardian, BBC News)

A [new report reveals the negative impacts on people seeking asylum housed at Napier Barracks](#) and calls for the Home Office to permanently close the site. (Source: Jesuit Refugee Service)

[The National Age Assessment Board \(NAAB\) has launched](#), and is beginning a phased rollout, while [government confirms the use of scientific methods](#) as part of reforming age assessments. This article shares findings on the [national crisis faced by local authorities with securing appropriate placement for children](#). (Sources: Home Office, Independent, the Guardian)

[International students have emphasised the importance of accessing life essentials such as housing and banking](#), urging university leaders to reassess labels put on students. (Source: Pie News)

Cohesion and integration

[This article explores the concept coined by health researcher Arline Geronimus ‘weathering’](#) – the impact on physical and mental health on individuals living in a racist world. (Source: the Guardian)

An independent report finds that [every fire brigade in England is ‘plagued’ by bullying, harassment, discrimination](#), while [here is the story of a London firefighter, who took his own life after experiencing racism at work](#). (Source: the Guardian)

Here is an insight into [far-right activity and the use of misinformation for radicalisation from two former activists, now working for a charity](#) helping others to escape extremism. (Source: The Mirror)

Contact us about research

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