

Migration news roundup 12 September 2022

Image
View of Houses of Parliament from bridge over river Thames

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Stories that inspired us this week

‘Welcoming the stranger’ has been a highlighted theme as [Paddington Bear was seen among tributes to the Queen at Windsor](#). Here is a reminder of [when the Queen hosted Paddington for tea](#). (Sources: ITV, Youtube)

Festival goers, hear about events old and new:

- The [10-day Intercultured Festival is coming to Bradford in October](#) – featuring Hope The Boat art installation, Syrian cookery, Pahari poetry and Arabian Nights storytelling. (Sources: Telegraph and Argus, [Eventbrite](#))
- The ‘Cabaret of Dangerous Ideas’ brings researchers and comedians together; [Syrian academic Lina Fadel delivered an Edinburgh Fringe show about refugee narratives and cultural humility](#). (Source: The Conversation)

70 year old [Chris is running the Yorkshire Three Peaks to support Ukrainian families](#) in Craven. (Source: Telegraph and Argus)

Have you been to [CAWA Coffee](#)? Read about how [three Ukrainian women have been settling in Sheffield](#). (Source: BBC)

International news

[Following massive flooding of Pakistan affecting 33 million people, UNHCR is supporting displaced people](#) including Afghan refugee communities. (Source: UNHCR)

Shukriya, Habibullah and Shahin tell [stories of travelling from Afghanistan and what they now face in Turkey](#). [In the US, some Afghans could be granted a path to long term settlement](#) if the Afghan Adjustment Act passes; many were granted a temporary ‘humanitarian parole’ to quickly enter the US. (Sources: the Guardian, Al Jazeera)

[What happened to Greece’s notorious Moria refugee camp](#) after the devastating fires two years ago? Hear some stories from the residents. (Source: the Guardian)

UK borders and migration policy

The new Truss government brings about significant changes, including:

- [Refugee Minister Lord Harrington resigned](#), suggesting that his role may no longer be needed. (Source: Local Government Chronicle)
- [Some suggest that Truss' ministerial appointments demonstrate a success story of post-colonial African migration to the UK](#) with four Cabinet ministers whose parents migrated here. (Source: The Times)
 - [Newly appointed Home Secretary Suella Braverman](#) previously [endorsed opting out of the European Convention on Human Rights](#) and [plans to prioritise preventing migrants crossing the Channel](#). (Sources: the Guardian, Free Movement, Independent)

Further news coverage focuses on [Albanians crossing the Channel, with comment from Enver Solomon](#) of the Refugee Council (listen from minute 55:40) and [interviews with Albanian professionals living in the UK](#). Before resigning as Home Secretary, [Priti Patel announced plans to restrict modern slavery legislation](#) with one apparent aim to reduce the number of Albanians identified as potential victims. (Sources: BBC Radio 4, Telegraph)

As the [Rwanda scheme is examined in the High Court](#) (Source: Sky News):

- The [court heard that officials initially ruled out a migration partnership arrangement with Rwanda](#) due to human rights concerns, while [UN representatives stated the country is not a safe destination for people seeking asylum](#) and the scheme would breach the Refugee Convention. (Source: Independent)
 - There are [reports of refugees previously losing their lives in Rwanda at the hands of the authorities](#). (Source: Byline Times)
- This article shares perspectives of [Syrians seeking asylum here who fear removal to Rwanda](#). (Source: the Guardian)
 - [Protestors at a rally in York opposed the plans](#). (Source: York Press)

[A new legal briefing explains inadmissibility in asylum claims](#). (Source: Free Movement)

[A shortage of personal assistants to support disabled people is partly blamed on Brexit](#); care workers from outside the UK need to be sponsored by an employer to get a shortage occupation list visa. (Source: BBC)

Specific migrant groups

[Great Yarmouth Borough Council launched a legal challenge against the Home Office](#) to prevent people seeking asylum being accommodated in a local hotel. (Source: BBC)

[Recommendations for the Home Office to improve the National Transfer Scheme](#) (for ensuring councils provide care for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children) include ensuring that children's services have sufficient resource and capacity, and children going missing are understood as being at a high risk of exploitation.

Relatedly, there is concern about [government pressure on councils to accept responsibility for more unaccompanied asylum-seeking children](#) and to act more quickly to move them from hotels into more permanent accommodation. (Sources: ECPAT UK, Local Government Chronicle)

Enquiries to Refugee Education UK increased by 45% over the last year as [refugee and asylum-seeking children face a lack of support in advancing to higher education](#). The charity says hopeful students face 'language barriers, complex enrolment processes and a lack of awareness' in institutions about asylum applications.' (Source: Independent)

While [this report focuses on experiences of British survivors of modern slavery](#) rather than people from outside the UK, it provides insight into the National Referral Mechanism system for providing support. (Source: Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre)

Cohesion and integration

[PoliNations festival is celebrating migration and cultural diversity through the lens of British horticulture](#) in Birmingham during September. (Source: ITV News)

[This article looks back at the contribution of migrant workers to the NHS](#) from the Windrush generation onwards. (Source: Independent)

Recent migrants, who moved to the UK in the last 5 years, are nearly three times more likely to be privately renting than the average for all migrants, as highlighted in [a briefing exploring migrants and housing in the UK](#). The briefing compares housing types such as owning your own home, renting privately and social housing for different migrant groups and people born in the UK. (Source: Migration Observatory)

Concerns have been raised that [diversity among court judges in terms of gender and 'BAME' representation is in decline in the UK](#). (Source: The Conversation)

Contact us about research

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