

# Migration news roundup 10 October 2022

Image  
View of Houses of Parliament from bridge over river Thames

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## Stories that inspired us this week

[A student from Ukraine shares her experience of being offered a place to study at Bradford University](#) just three months after coming to the UK as a refugee. (Source: Telegraph and Argus)

NGO [Refugee Support Europe share their model of delivering aid in Moldova and Cyprus](#), and how they prioritise giving people choice and a sense of agency. (Source: imix)

## International news

[President Biden has vowed to welcome 125,000 refugees into the US](#) this fiscal year, about 100,000 more people than last year. This goes beyond the average figure of around 75,000 people resettled annually in the pre-Trump era. (Source: The Hill)

In Europe,

- [there are growing calls for the EU to adopt a joint approach](#) towards the thousands of Russians fleeing after President Putin announced reservists would be drafted. (Source: Ruetir)
- [EU leaders are due to make new refugee resettlement pledges](#). A record two million refugees are expected to need resettlement in 2023, a 36% increase on this year. (Source: EU Observer)
- Finally, [Angela Merkel is to receive the UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award for her efforts protecting refugees](#) due to her decision to welcome more than 1.2 million refugees from the Syrian conflict to Germany. (Source: Council of Europe)

## UK borders and migration policy

Following the week of the Conservative party conference, here is some of the coverage of and comment on Home Secretary Suella Braverman's plans for immigration policy:

- Ahead of her conference speech [Braverman stated there were issues relating to modern slavery victims and international students with dependants](#), and there would be a [ban on claiming asylum for anyone entering the country illegally](#) with the prospect of [temporary courts to expedite prosecution and](#)

- [imprisonment](#). UNHCR opposes the plans. (Sources: the Guardian, Sky News, Daily Mail)
- During the conference [Braverman's speech was light on specific policy announcements](#). At a fringe event [she voiced her 'dream' of a flight removing people to Rwanda](#) but accepted this is unlikely in the short term. [She spoke of reducing net migration to the tens of thousands](#), but there is [potential tension with the Prime Minister over plans for a trade deal with India](#) which could increase immigration. (Sources: Free Movement, Independent, the Guardian, The Times)
  - Braverman expressed a [personal view that the UK should withdraw from the European Convention on Human Rights](#). (Source: Independent)

[This article by a former Migration Advisory Committee chair considers the link between migration and economic growth](#). Meanwhile here are some [reflections on potential changes to the system for work-based visas](#). (Sources: London School of Economics, Free Movement)

On migrant Channel crossings:

- [This article considers the legalities of this route](#) and concludes that anyone arriving since the publication of guidance at the end of June is likely to be in breach of the law. (Source: Free Movement)
  - Whistle blowers have revealed that due to overcrowding at an initial processing centre in Kent, [some arrivals have been released without provision of accommodation](#) and without security checks. This has prompted concerns over safeguarding and trafficking risks. (Source: the Guardian)
- This [interview with an Iranian man](#) illustrates the desperation of people taking this dangerous journey. (Source: ITV)

On detention and returns, [this report considers the increase in the number of modern slavery survivors being detained](#). The Home Office published an [overview of the voluntary returns process](#) and a [collection of case studies of people who have returned to their country of origin](#) via this route. (Sources: Helen Bamber Foundation, Home Office)

## Specific migrant groups

This article examines [why asylum grant rates have gone up](#) in recent years, referencing various factors such as the improved availability of independent country guidance information that could support better quality decision-making. (Source: Free Movement)

A [Refugee Council report on age assessments highlights the problem of children being wrongly assessed as over 18](#) by the Home Office and subsequently placed in adult asylum accommodation. (Source: Refugee Council)

[The Home Secretary has claimed many Albanians are falsely claiming to be modern slavery victims](#), prompting an independent review of Home Office guidance on Albania which will be published in November. [This article critiques recently updated guidance relating to Albanian blood feuds](#). (Sources: Independent, Free Movement)

The Home Office [funding for organisations supporting EU nationals with applications under the EU Settlement Scheme ended on 30 September](#). It is unclear if any further funding will become available for this group. (Source: Home Office)

On Hong Kong British Nationals Overseas, [new figures from the Department for Education for end of August show over 13,000 applications for school places](#), an [increase of nearly 2,000 applications since the previous data release in July](#). Leeds remains a top city in our region followed by North Yorkshire. (Source: Department for Education)

## Cohesion and integration

[This report calls for a new national refugee policy for Britain](#), advising that the UK needs a whole government approach to deliver effective refugee integration and should allow people who are seeking asylum the right to work from six months after arrival. (Source: Refugee Studies Centre University of Oxford)

This piece explores [how best to platform refugee voices in the lead up to next year's Global Compact on Refugees](#). (Source: Oxfam)

## Contact us about research

If you have any questions about our research, contact us:  
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