

John McDonnell's MP Speech at the lobby outside the Home office on the 16 May calling for an end to the Rwanda Plan



Apologies I can only stay for a short time as I have a meeting in my constituency that I need to attend at 7pm. Jeremy Corbyn asked me to send his apologies to you he was hoping to be here but has been called to attend another meeting. He does however send his full solidarity to you all.

When I attend events like these I always explain to people the brutality of the existing system and how it's operating. The system is treating people with inhumanity that maybe we haven't seen before. What's happening is that people are turning up to their normal registration, whether it's Croydon or elsewhere, without

any notice they are being detained by Home Office Officials. They are then taken to one of the immigration centres. I have two such centres in my constituency Harmondsworth and Colnbrook. I understand a wing of Harmondsworth has been cleared to accommodate those they have arrested that they plan to put in to the Rwanda scheme. People need to understand what Harmondsworth is like we have had suicides, self harm, mental break downs, on a couple of occasions there have been disturbances at the detention centres these are due to anger about the way the detainees are treated. Often it is because they do not know when or

if they are going to be released. Interestingly 60% to 70% of people who are detained do eventually get status. At the moment, I've got 2000 refugees, in my constituency in hotels that are being processed, over 95% of whom will get Status! Why? Because they are from war zones across the globe. They have travelled to this country in absolute desperation to seek safety.

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Activist Pickets in front of a Hotels in Kings Cross and Elephant and Castle.



On 16th May 2024 a Picket was held in front of a hotel in Kings Cross, where refugees were under threat of being removed to the barge Bibby Stockholm in Portland. The protesters linked arms around the van preventing it from moving. The driver eventually got out and checked the vehicle and said to the protesters there was a problem with one of the tyres and he could not transport the refugees safely so he was leaving.

Thankfully the picket was successful that day and the

refugees remained safely in the hotel at least for now. On the 17 May 2024 another picket was held outside a hotel in Elephant and Castle. Unfortunately, this was not successful. The high level of police presence made keeping the refugees safe impossible. We did however try but, ultimately 10 protestors were arrested and five refugees were forcibly put on a van and transported to Bibby Stockholm.



Stop the Rwanda Plan

Dashty Jamal speech at 10 Downing Street against forced deportation to Rwanda 1 May 2024

Hello everyone, Happy May Day
On behalf of International Federation of Iraqi refugees-IFIR and International organisation of Iranian Refugees. I welcome you to this important Demonstration.

We are gathered here today to voice our opposition to this inhumane and unjust policy of sending refugees to Rwanda. This policy is yet another example of Rishi Sunak's racist policies, which involve deporting people to a country that is not only unsafe but also one in which the UK government condemned for the murder of 11 refugees in 2018 due to

their protests.

It's clear why Rishi Sunak has decided to do this - just in time for Thursday's local elections and parliamentary elections. Sunak hopes the crackdown on refugees will secure at least some seats and save him from humiliation.

If Rishi Sunak's government wants to stop people from fleeing their countries, it should end all the conflicts it is waging throughout the world and stop bombing other countries.

We need global peace, which will result in fewer people fleeing war-torn countries. Rwanda is not a safe country, so sending mi-



grants there is not the answer.

International and European courts have repeatedly rejected this law for violating the Human Rights Act by sending refugees to Rwanda. In November 2023, the UK Supreme Court ruled that the Rwanda program was unconstitutional. It warned that refugees

were at risk of being repatriated to their home countries, where they may face harm. The legislation violates both British law and international conventions.

Today, we ask Rishi Sunak to listen to the Supreme Court and put an end to this outrageous policy. ✨

Refugee campaigners demand end to Rwanda Plan in May Day protest

A coalition of refugee and migrants' rights groups held a demonstration at Downing Street in protest at the government's sudden implementation of the Rwanda Plan. The demonstration was called by the International Federation of Iraqi Refugees, the International Iranian Organisation of Refugees and Labour Campaign for Free Movement to coincide with May Day. Around 250 people gathered from 5.30pm, representing a wide range of groups. Trade unionists in PCS, Unison and FBU attended, alongside campaigners from refugee campaigns including No Borders, Oxford Detainee Network and Refugees Are Welcome, and political groups Front Line, the Socialist Party Lanka and Workers' Liberty. The mood of the protest was upbeat and determined. Chants included "say it loud, say it clear, refugees are welcome here"; "Rwanda is unsafe, no deportation, no to detention, the Rwanda Plan must be stopped". Labour MP John McDonnell addressed the demonstration towards the end, offering his full support to the campaign to stop the Rwanda Plan. Earlier, the protest heard from refugees and activists from a variety of countries and organisation, as well as a performance poet. The organisers intend to call more protests and actions in the coming weeks, as well as supporting actions at reporting centres. A contact sheet was passed round attendees. To keep in touch with the campaign, please email: ifir@hotmail.co.uk

No to racism - No one is illegal

Let us declare May 1st as the day to reject "war and displacement"!

A May Day statement from the International Federation of Iraqi Refugees.

Happy May Day!

May Day is a day of solidarity, common destiny, continuous protest and unified struggle of the working class against the entire oppressive capitalist system around the world.

In today's world, the dark agenda of capitalism, the bourgeoisie, and its states are in direct opposition to human society and its dreams and aspirations. The imperialist forces are fighting a ferocious battle to divide the world between themselves, willing to feed millions of people's bodies to the war machine and militarism. They have ruined our lives in the subjugated countries. This year, May Day is being celebrated in a situation where the bourgeoisie and its regime have no other agenda to resolve their inter-

national conflicts except war, destruction, displacement, mass murder and the development of terrorism and racism.

As a result, it has plunged human society into a struggle between imperialist powers, states and regional powers to redivide the spheres of influence and reshape the capitalist world in accordance with the common interests of the bourgeoisie. In response to this situation, the mass protest movement has come to the scene today and raised the banner of ending war and destruction and this barbarism. This is the force that can disable the killing machine of these imperialist forces.

Anywhere capitalism exists, its goals are to enslave people, undermine justice, and eradicate all human values. Libertarians and



humanists are more convinced than ever that capitalist state's claims to uphold Western democracy and human rights are false.

The issue of refugees and mass migration is the product of the system, crisis and policy of war and genocide that the capitalists and their states follow and as a result thousands of people have been displaced. Iraqi, Kurdish, Iranian, Afghan, Ukrainian, Palestinian, and North African refugees are all victims of this system, which has left no one

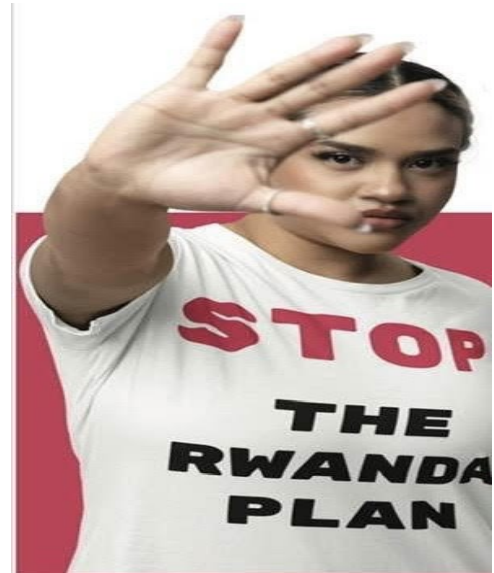
secure while hundreds of millions of people face starvation, poverty, unemployment, insecurity, high costs and displacement. They endanger themselves, their wives, and their children to escape the brutality of the system.

This year's May Day calls on the working class and freedom loving people to find another way to stop war, militarism, mass migration, exiles and its consequences. We must not allow capitalism and its governments and authorities

in their countries to conduct extremely inhuman policies against refugees and displaced people. Let us prevent the mass death of refugees together. Let us stop the policy of deportation, expulsion, tightening borders, removing refugees to the islands, camps and keeping them under tents for many years. Let us oppose the policy of war, militarism, displacement and mass killings.

Long live May Day, International Working Class Day!
28 April 2024

No To Racism! No to Deportation!
No To War ! No To Displacement !



Letter to Home Secretary James Cleverly

Mr James Cleverly

Stop the Rwanda Plan

The International Federation of Iraqi Refugees, the International Organisation of Iranian Refugees and the Labour Campaign for Free Movement are calling for this demonstration today to protest against the plan to deport asylum seekers to Rwanda. We are joined today by the families and children of the asylum seekers and others in Iraqi, Kurdish, Iranian, Afghani and other communities, MPs and human rights organizations

The UK government is violently rounding up refugees to be deported to the unsafe country of Rwanda. It is trying to ban the act of seeking refuge. It is unacceptable that the UK Government has made an agreement with the Rwanda Government and is playing with the lives of these refugees. The UKBA are clearly seeking to legitimize this deportation by an agreement with the Rwandan Government.

We call on you to respect the rights of all refugees, and not play with their future at a time when many refugees are fleeing from countries plagued by war and violence. The UK must not put the lives of these people at risk.

The tragedy of refugees on the borders of Europe and Mediterranean Sea is a direct consequence of closing borders to people whose livelihoods and place of residence have turned to battlefield, civil war, unrest and insecurity.

The issue of refugees and mass migration is the product of the system, crisis, and policies of war and genocide that the capitalists and their states follow and as a result thousands of people have been displaced. Iraqi, Kurdish, Iranian, Afghan, Ukrainian, Palestinian, and North African refugees are all victims of this system, which has left no one secure while hundreds of millions of people face starvation, poverty, unemployment, insecurity, high costs, climate change, and displacement. They endanger themselves, and their children to escape the brutality of the system. The crisis facing refugees places a tremendous responsibility upon European governments. Whilst the UK and Europe are talking about human rights, they have provided no realistic solution to offer safe and legal alternatives to the wave of refugees making the perilous journey to seek safety in Europe. European countries ignore the fact that they are one of the main reasons for the catastrophes leading to the exodus of refugees from the Middle East.

The majority of the refugees are victims of direct political and military involvement of the US and European countries.



It is due to their support of inhuman and repressive systems in the Middle East which are covered with the dress of democracy. They are however nothing more than nationalist, Islamist, and murderous groups. The system that is run by these groups are taking no responsibilities towards the livelihoods of their citizens, and in reality, they have turned society into a hell of confrontations and conflicts between different religious, nationalist and Islamic groups. The reality is that they have turned the society politically and economically into an insecure and unsafe society and have left no chance for a decent living for their citizens.

We are a radical assembly that defends human rights and sees itself as a part of a progressive movement; it fights for the rights of refugees across the world, it works to gain solidarity from human rights organisations worldwide. As part of our responsibility we - International Federation of Iraqi Refugees (IFIR), the International Organisation of Iranian Refugees and the Labour Campaign for Free Movement- are sending you this letter, asking you to treat refugees in a responsible manner, and not to act in a way that ignores humanitarian considerations. We strongly condemn this forced deportation by the UKBA to Rwanda.

We call on the British government to:

Stop Rwanda Plan.

Stop your agreement with Rwanda Government.

Immediate release of all refugees in detention centres.

Give all Refugees the Right to stay in the UK.

**The International Federation of Iraqi Refugees
The International organisation of Iranian Refugees**

**The Labour Campaign for Free Movements
Movement for Justice By Any Means Necessary**

Federation of Iraqi Refugees

Middle Eastern Women and Society Organisation

Solidarity message from Home Office HQ, Efra London and South-East DLUHC HQ National Branch

Dear Members of the Stop Rwanda Campaign,

On behalf of PCS branches based at 2 Marsham Street – Home Office HQ, Efra London and South-East, and DLUHC HQ National Branch – we are writing to express our complete solidarity and support for the Stop Rwanda Campaign, particularly in your efforts to halt deportation flights to Rwanda.

As civil servants, we have a duty to act according to the Nolan Principles of public life, and the Civil Service Code values of honesty, integrity, impartiality, and objectivity. We are concerned that the Rwanda scheme breaks these values, sending refugees to a country where there are concerning reports of human rights abuses, including arbitrary detention, torture, and suppres-



sion of political dissent. Furthermore, we are concerned by efforts to force civil servants to fulfil policy that undermines a ruling of the UK's own Supreme Court and our international obligations. The Supreme Court ruled in November 2023 that the Court of Appeal's judgement that the Government's Rwanda Policy was unlawful. As trade unions, we stand in solidarity with those fleeing violence and persecution and stand firm on the im-

portance of Rule of Law and compliance with international legal rules, such as non-refoulement. The Stop Rwanda Campaign aligns with core trade union values to defend the rights of all individuals, regardless of their nationality or immigration status. We believe that no one should be forcibly returned to a country where their safety and freedom are at risk. Last year, PCS, the Care4Calais the refugee charity, Detention Action cam-

paign group, and eight refugees launched a judicial review to challenge the policy to deport refugees to Rwanda without allowing due consideration of their asylum claims. We join your calls for an immediate end to deportation flights to Rwanda and urge the Government to reassess its policies regarding asylum seekers and refugees from Rwanda. It is imperative that the Government upholds its obligations under international law to protect individuals fleeing persecution and ensure that their asylum claims are properly and fairly assessed.

We would like to take this opportunity to highlight the anger and stress this policy is causing

our colleagues in the Home Office, who are being directed to work on this cruel and potentially unlawful policy. Our members are proud public servants, they did not join the Civil Service to engage in cruelty towards others.

As trade unionists, we put people before profiteering from misery. Those being forcibly exported to Rwanda are not just a statistic, they are our fellow human beings. Safe and legal routes are the answer as migration is not a crime.

Yours in solidarity,
Home Office HQ,
Efra London and
South-East
DLUHC HQ Na-
tional Branch



Dashty Jamal speech in front of the Home Office against forced deportation to Rwanda 16th May 2024



Good evening, everyone,

On behalf of the International Federation of Iraqi refugees-IFIR, the international organisation of Iranian Refugees and the Labour campaign for free Movement, I welcome you to this important Demonstration.

Today, I stand before you with a heavy heart, to address an issue that strikes at the very core of our humanity.

I speak of the inhumane and morally irresponsible policy of the UK government to deport refugees to Rwanda. It risks pushing vulnerable individuals back into environments where they may face persecution, violence, or even death.

As citizens of a civi-

lized society, we pride ourselves on upholding values of compassion, justice, and dignity, regardless of person's background or circumstance.

Yet, the actions of the Tory government betray these principles in the most extreme manner. Refugees who have sought sanctuary in the UK, do so out of sheer desperation, often escaping persecution, violence, and the threat of death. Let's be clear, people do not prefer to leave their place of living, their families, friends, jobs, their familiar circumstance, culture, language unless they are desperate.

Let's also not forget the role played by the policies of our government and other Western governments especially

in last 2-3 decades in forcing millions to leave countries of middle East and Africa and seek asylum in the West.

Forcing these vulnerable individuals to such a volatile environment is not only morally indefensible but downright cruel.

We cannot turn a blind eye to the realities faced by refugees upon their deportation to Rwanda. Many risk being subjected to further persecution and arbitrary detention.

The UK government's decision to deport them is nothing short of racism. It is scapegoating the most vulnerable section of human society to score cheap political points and blaming them for the outcomes of failed eco-

nomical and social policies.

Furthermore, let us not forget our legal and moral obligations under international law, which prohibits states from sending individuals to countries where their lives or freedom are at risk.

By disregarding this fundamental principle, the UK government is not only violating its legal obligations but also abandoning its ethical responsibilities to protect the most vulnerable among us.

After such a step, British government would not be able to claim high moral ground and lecture other government no matter how oppressive they are, to uphold human rights.

But beyond the legal and moral argu-

ments, there lies a simple truth that transcends borders and politics: Every human being deserves to live a life free from fear, persecution, and violence.

By denying refugees the opportunity to seek safety and asylum, we deny them the very essence of their humanity.

Therefore, I call upon each and every one of you to stand in solidarity with refugees, to demand an end to the unjust deportation policy of the UK government. Let us raise our voices and call for compassion, empathy, and justice for all those who seek refuge in any country.



23 April 2024

PRESS RELEASE:

Refugees are Victims of British Government's Inhumane Policy

The International Federation of Iraqi Refugees and International organisation of Iranian Refugees, would like to convey our condolences to the families of the 5 victims, including a child, who died trying to cross the English Channel on Tuesday, April 23rd. This is yet another tragedy. The British Government should be held responsible for this tragedy due to its inhumane policies.

On the April 22, 2024, the British parliament voted in support of the Conservative bill to make the sending of Refugees to Rwanda a new law. This policy has previously been stopped by the international and European courts on numerous occasions as it was considered to violate provisions of the Charter of Human Rights. On November 2023 the UK Supreme Court ruled that the Rwanda scheme was unlawful. According to its ruling the refugees would be at risk of being returned to their home countries where they could face harm. This legislation ignores British laws and international rules.

Such practices by the present British government reveals its inhumane character as it obviously does not care about sending asylum seekers to an unsafe country. Such practices are in glaring breach of the provisions of European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), which prohibits torture and inhumane treatment. In 2018 the British Government itself condemned Rwanda for killing 11 refugees. In a nutshell, refugees are fleeing unsafe countries only to be sent to another unsafe country by the British government.

This anti-asylum policy of the British government is against all international standards on refugee rights. If it wants to prevent refugees from entering the UK, it must stop supporting war and the militaristic policies it is pursuing in the Middle East and elsewhere in the world. These wars are pushing people to flee in pursuit of safety and a better life.

We, at the International Organisation of Iranian Refugees and International Federation of Iraqi Refugees-IFIR, condemn the above-mentioned recent outrageous legislation and ask the legislators to listen to the UK Supreme courts and European and international courts and stop putting the lives of refugees at risk.

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Campaigners and refugees protest at Home Office against Rwanda Plan

Dozens of people gathered outside the Home Office in the evening of Thursday 16th May for a protest against the government's Rwanda Plan.

The demonstration was called by the International Federation of Iraqi Refugees, International Organisation of Iranian Refugees and Labour Campaign for Free Movement. The Movement for Justice, Middle Eastern Women and Society Organisation (MEWSO) and the Afghan community also attended.

Earlier in the day, campaigners had successfully blocked immigration vans in the Kings Cross area which were set to take refugees to the Bibby Stockholm.

Chants at the demonstration included:

“Hands off refugees”

“Refugee rights are human rights”

“Asylum seekers have the right, here to stay, here to fight”

John McDonnell, the former Shadow Chancellor, attended the rally and endorsed the campaign to stop the Rwanda plan. “People are taking direct action because they have no other option”, he said.

Speaking at the protest, Dashty Jamal, from the Iraqi Federation of Refugees, said:

“Not only is the British government enacting great harm on refugees, it has abandoned its ethical responsibility to protect the most vulnerable. It can no longer claim the moral high ground or lecture other countries on matters of human rights.”

The coalition of groups organising the protest is growing. They plan to meet this week, and to plan action ahead of the 29 June national demonstration called by Stand Up to Racism.



<<<from page 1 John Speech

What they are finding instead is a brutal system. The Rwanda scheme itself now I think is possibly the worst element of what we've seen with regard to the immigration laws over generations, the people who have been detained, have not had their legal options explained to them. No one explains exactly what will happen to happen to them, or what happens within Rwanda itself. Often, many of them are in despair, absolute despair. That's why I think this responsibility falls on all our shoulders now to do everything we possibly can to prevent the implementation of this scheme. That is why I support the direct action that's taking place. Today we have seen others who have taken action to prevent people being transferred to the Bibby Stockholm barge. The reason we are taking direct action is because we have no other recourse. What we have to do is everything we possibly can to ensure people understand their rights. Then we must prevent the administration of this brutal scheme.

I also want to say we will have a general election most probably by November, we need an absolute solid commitment from all political parties fighting this election that includes labour as well. That the Rwanda scheme will end and it will end on day one. There must also be a recognition that there has to be proper routes to enable people to come to this country in safety, because they need refuge. We should not just be individual towns of sanctuary, we should be a country of sanctuary, welcoming people.

I just want to add we just don't want the Rwanda scheme to end. If any people are deported to Rwanda, they must have a right of return and that right must be protected.

No one believes Rwanda is safe. Even the Tory government last report on Rwanda, under Johnson demonstrated it wasn't safe. That's why it's important for humanity's sake. If this deportation goes ahead if we can't prevent it, anyone that is sent to Rwanda should have the right to return. I also want to say we will have a general election most probably by November, we need an absolute solid commitment from all political parties fighting this election that includes labour as well. That the Rwanda scheme will end and it will end on day one. There must also be a recognition that there has to be proper routes to enable people to come to this country in safety, because they need refuge. We should not just be individual towns of sanctuary, we should be a country of sanctuary, welcoming people.

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No one believes Rwanda is safe. Even the Tory government last report on Rwanda, under Johnson demonstrated it wasn't safe. That's why it's important for humanity's sake. If this deportation goes ahead if we can't prevent it, anyone that is sent to Rwanda should have the right to return.

Final point, We've had a discussion today in Parliament

about the Sudan and what's happening there in Darfur, and the movement of refugees to Chad. Nearly a million refugees are moving from Darfur to Chad itself. There's a lack of support being put in place and people are suffering badly. We should be doing everything we possibly can to supply aid and support them. Also if there are refugees in that region we should be arguing now that they should be given refuge here, because their lives are so at risk.

In that way we demonstrate that we can play a role a humane role in the world, rather than bitter, appalling abuse and abuse of international law, but abuse of humanity that's been demonstrated by the Rwanda scheme. So I just want to thank you all as well. Keep on campaigning - keep on demonstrating, because the work on the streets like this does have an effect. It sends a message out there but also encourages others to resist as well. Because as a result of this government's action, and what happens in this building, we have become a resistance movement. Solidarity! Thank you.

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PRESS RELEASE Refugees are Victims of British Government's Inhumane Policy

We call on human rights organizations, trade unions, Socialist and progressive parties and organizations, prominent lawyers in the UK, Amnesty International and tens of thousands of refugees in the UK to fight against this anti-human policy called Rwanda Policy.

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