

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF IRAQ REFUGEES-IFIR

Post fach 7643.3000Bern

British Embassy - Berne

Thunstrasse 50

3005 Berne

Concern: Stop deportation of Iraq Asylum seekers by the UK Government

To HM Ambassador Simon Featherstone,

The British government has again started to arrest Iraqi asylum seekers and is holding up to 200 in different detention centres across the UK. The government is now not only detaining asylum seekers from cities in Northern Iraq, but is also detaining people from Kirkuk, Mosul and Baghdad. This is in line with the new policy of the Border and Immigration Agency's Case Resolution Directorate as announced in a circular dated March 6, under which the Home Office considers that travel to Iraq from the United Kingdom to be "both possible and reasonable".

The UK Government refuses to acknowledge that Iraq is still an unsafe country following the invasion of Iraq five years ago and despite the continuing occupation and fighting. Recent press reports from Basra with UK troops fighting Iraqi militia illustrates that Iraq is not safe. The UK Government is offering asylum to some of the people who worked as interpreters and doing other work for the British army and the Foreign Office in Iraq, recognising justifiably that these people's lives will not be safe in Iraq. Yet they continue to threaten to forcibly deport Iraqi asylum seekers in the UK under the pretence that Iraq is now safe. The policy of forcibly deporting Iraqi asylum seekers to a country which is still at war is against the Geneva Convention and the European Human Rights Charter. Forcible deportation to Iraq must be stopped.

The International Federation Of Iraq Refugees-IFIR and the suscribing organisations would like to ask from the UK embassy in Switzerland the enforcement of the actions deemed necessary in order to :

- Stop deportations to Iraq and grant protection to all Iraqi and Kurdish asylum seekers and recognise them as victims of war.
- Allow them the right to work and to receive appropriate remuneration.
- Immediately release the remaining Iraqi and Kurdish asylum seekers still held in detention.

We hope that your office will take into account our demands in order to put an end to the current situation. We thank you for your attention and expect your answer. For further information, do not hesitate to contact our federation.

Best regards,

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF IRAQ REFUGEES -SWISS

- List of Iraqi asylum seekers currently detained

- List of suscribing organizations that support the reivindications above described.

List of Iraqi asylum seekers currently detained:

-Campsfield House

1. Bhaktiyar Rahman Abudlah
2. Fazil Abdul Ahmad
3. Yasin Ahmad Hama
4. Jilwan Omar Ismail
5. Kmaran Ahmad Kadir
6. Star Mustafa
7. Rizgar Muhammad Ahmad
8. Ismail Ali Hisen
9. Sami Wishyar Muhammad
10. Jamal Kurdo Hasan
11. Sivar Osman
12. Salam Hama Abdullah
13. Rebin Omar Hammad Amin
14. Salam Latif Sleman

Harmondsworth

1. Hussein Fallah

Colnbrook

- 1 -Baiz Abdullah
- 2 -Ako Mohamad
- 3 - Zafar Ali
4. - Shirwan Ali Omer

Glasgow

1. Hussen Rashed Kzer
2. Hawar Hammad Salim

Portsmouth

1. Seyband Mohammad
2. Soran Hama Ibrahim from Kirkuk
3. Raza Dramer from Kirkuk
4. Ali Sleman Mohamad from Kirkuk

Oakington

- 1-Mohammad Sallah Mostafa
- 2-Hraz Mohamad Hassan
- 3-Mazin Abdullh from Mosul
- 4-Jabar Muhamad

List of subscribing organizations that support the reivindications above described :

Mouvement pour le socialisme – Fribourg