

Solidarity with Migrants and Refugees (451 words)

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Conference Believes

1. The rhetoric around immigration in the UK is toxic, with politicians from all parties lining up to attack migrants.
2. The current Government's position is that the UK should accept 20,000 refugees over a period of five years, which is a failure of its moral duty for the country to act as a place of safety for people fleeing conflict, oppression, the effects of climate change and other factors which may force people to seek asylum.
3. Ongoing conflict in Syria will heighten the refugee crisis, with more people taking more dangerous action in order to attempt to find safety.
4. The continuing climate crisis will increase the number of refugees and environmental migrants.
5. Across Europe, anti-immigrant policies are being introduced, including the seizure of valuables from migrants in Denmark.
6. NUS has a long and proud history of standing in solidarity with the oppressed.

Conference Further Believes

1. As the referendum on EU membership looms, the rhetoric used by the national media and political figures will become more and more hostile.
2. The United Kingdom can and should accept many more refugees than the current UK government is doing.
3. Western military intervention in Syria will only exacerbate the refugee crisis.
4. Climate change is already disproportionately affecting people in the Global South, as its worst effects will naturally affect these countries hardest, but also because these countries are least well equipped to adapt to a changing climate as a result of a long history of Western imperialism and capitalist exploitation.
5. Migration brings benefits both to the migrants themselves and to the country they are migrating to.
6. Arbitrary national borders that prevent certain people entering a certain country are morally problematic and perpetuate racism and conflict between people, and that freedom of movement should become the norm, not just across Europe but across the Globe.

Conference Resolves

1. To express full solidarity with refugees and migrants.
2. To lobby the UK Government to accept more refugees for as long as the current crisis continues.
3. To condemn the aggressive anti-migrant policies of European governments.
4. To re-affirm our position against British military intervention in Syria.

5. To ensure that in NUS campaigns on climate change, the explicit link is made between it and the effect this has on people in the Global South.
6. To support migrant solidarity actions wherever possible by:
 - a. Aiding Student Unions to run collections and organise solidarity runs to the Calais jungle.
 - b. Working directly with migrant solidarity groups that seek to improve conditions in detention centres, combat fascist organisations, resist deportations and other actions in solidarity with migrants.
 - c. Supporting national demonstrations in solidarity with migrants and refugees.