

IRAQI ASSOCIATION

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Press release

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Iraqi Association (IA) is very concerned and alarmed by the continuous flow of refugees from Iraq, Syria and other countries. Hundreds including women and children has died on route, attempting to cross the sea to reach Greece. Moreover, human traffickers' mafias has charged large sums of money and abandoned them to die. Thousands are crossing from Hungary to Austria and Germany looking for safety escaping sectarian violence, terrorism and continuous deterioration of social and economic conditions.

Whilst, Iraqi Association welcomes the public outcry and decisions of some European governments, including Britain, to accept and settle thousands, this remains an interim and temporary measure and serious actions and measures should be taken by international community in particular the United Kingdom government to support the people of Iraq and Syria in their attempts to secure safe and dignified quality of life in their own country.

These pushing factors if allowed to remain in Iraq and Syria will lead to more waves of refugees and ultimately unprecedented crisis and human suffering and loss of life. In Iraq, the lack of progress in government bundle of reforms increases frustration and despair and leading to more young people and families striving to leave Iraq, seeking better future in Europe.

This crisis is far from over. It requires a wide range of measures within a coordinated European approach and to have equal consideration to refugees needs regardless were they come from. The fact is no one country could deal with this crisis on its own.

Iraqi Association, with its 28 years record of supporting asylum seekers & refugees, helping them to settle and integrate in the British society, is able to offer advice to policy makers or provide direct social and psychological support to Arab speaking migrants and asylum seekers who choose to have home in Great Britain and link with local councils to support their settlement.

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- For further information please contact us on 0207 023 2650
or email: info@iraqiassociation.org

- *IA is a major Iraqi organisation in the UK. It was established in 1987, every year the organisation deals with more than 5,000 Iraqi cases in the United Kingdom.*