



In light of the Nationality and Borders Bill being [introduced](#) to the House of Commons today (Tuesday 6 July), Migrant Voice has issued the following statement.

Nazek Ramadan, Director of Migrant Voice, said: “The proposals in the Nationality and Borders Bill to criminalise the act of seeking asylum in the UK are inhumane and disturbing.

“The plans - where anyone entering the country ‘illegally’ can be jailed for up to four years - are dangerous and put an end to protection as we know it. The bill punishes people with agency who try to get themselves and their families out of danger instead of waiting indefinitely in horrific conditions in refugee camps. This bill fails to encompass even the most basic respect for human rights and dignity.

“It treats those who are trying to find sanctuary, as any of us would do, as criminals. The legislation also paves the way for offshore detention centres - a cruel development which views people not as human beings, but rather like objects that can be shipped around the world.

“These draconian plans must be scrapped.”

ENDS

To arrange an interview with Nazek Ramadan, please email Migrant Voice’s Communications Officer Ella Braidwood (ella@migrantvoice.org).

Migrant Voice is a migrant-led charity established to develop the skills, capacity and confidence of members of migrant communities, including asylum seekers and refugees. We work to amplify migrant voices in the media and public life to counter xenophobia and build support for our rights.