

Julian Brazier, MP
Canterbury Constituency

Dear Mr Brazier,

We are feeling ashamed of the selfishness of the British attitude towards the Syrian refugees, when we would like to feel proud of our country. This is a humanitarian disaster on a scale beyond the capacity of a single state. Let us share the burden with Germany and other E.U. countries. It is only fair that every EU country should accept a fair share of the refugees in proportion to our population. Please press your government to do much much more. The offer of 20,000 refugees spread over 5 years is insignificant when there are 4 million refugees.

We praise the government for what they are doing in helping to fund the UNHCR refugee camps in Jordan and Turkey, and recognise that David Cameron has a point when he says he prefers to take refugees from these camps. But this does not solve the problem of those on foot in Europe. They are not to blame. Wouldn't we all be trying to do the same as them in their situation? Having worked in refugee camps in Asia and Africa, we know that life in a refugee camp is grim; it is not a viable long-term option, yet no end is in sight to the civil war in Syria. What are they to do?

As residents of your constituency, we urge you to press your government to accept much larger numbers of Syrian refugees, and to urge other E.U. countries to do the same.
Thanking you for your serious consideration,

Joy and Duane Poppe