



Social Justice Committee

STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

Uphold the Human Dignity of All Refugees

“It is necessary to respond to the globalisation of migration with the globalisation of charity and cooperation, in such a way as to make the conditions of migrants more humane. At the same time, greater efforts are needed to guarantee the easing of conditions, often brought about by war or famine, which compel whole peoples to leave their native countries.” -- Pope Francis, Message for World Day of Migrants and Refugees: “A Church without frontiers, mother to all,” September 23, 2014

Respite for Ukrainians...

“On March 24, the Biden administration announced plans to accept up to 100,000 refugees from Ukraine, amid the ongoing Russian invasion. The administration plans to welcome Ukrainians through the refugee admissions program and is also working to expand and develop new programs to welcome Ukrainians who have family members in the United States. The United States and the European Union are coordinating to provide complementary pathways for Ukrainians to be admitted into other countries and have international protection.

The United States will also provide more than \$1 billion in funding toward humanitarian assistance for those affected by the war in Ukraine. Since February 24, the United States has provided more than \$123 million to support the work of neighboring countries, including Poland, Moldova, Romania, Hungary, and Slovakia to receive and host millions of Ukrainian refugees. US-funded humanitarian organizations and partners have also been working with host governments to launch cash assistance programs and provide refugees with food, housing, medical care, and psychosocial support.” (Center for Migration Studies, 4/5/22)

Asylum for those at the Southern Border...

On April 1, “the Biden Administration announced plans to end Title 42, a ban on those seeking asylum at the U.S. southern border, [BUT] this positive step forward in restoring the U.S. asylum system is in jeopardy as efforts to keep Title 42 in place are being taken on Capitol Hill and in the courts.

Title 42 expulsions put asylum seekers in grave danger, including nearly ten thousand instances of people being kidnapped, tortured, sexually assaulted, and murdered due to Title 42 (National Immigration Law Center). As Catholic organizations working to protect the rights of asylum seekers, join us in sending a message to President Biden and your members of Congress urging them to oppose any effort to preserve Title 42. We must live up to our Catholic values and uphold the human dignity of asylum seekers.

In the words of Pope Francis:

‘He who comes asking for freedom, bread, help, fraternity, and joy, who is fleeing hatred, finds himself in front of a hatred which is called barbed wire. May the Lord awaken the conscience of all of us in front of all these things. We cannot be silent and look away at this culture of indifference.’”

Urge the Administration and Congress to terminate Title 42 and work together to build a fair, humane, and orderly asylum system. (Giulia McPherson, Jesuit Refugee Service/USA and Ronnate Asirwatham, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice)