

22 October 2024

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

The Hon Tony Burke MP  
Minister for Home Affairs  
Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs  
Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister and Minister Burke,

We write urging you to take immediate action to provide pathways to permanency for all those failed by the former Coalition government's 'Fast Track' system.

As you know, more than 8,400 people failed by Fast Track have been in Australia for over a decade. They have built lives in the community - they have found work, made families and had children, many of whom are now Australian citizens. Yet they live in constant uncertainty, afraid of being uprooted from their lives, sent back to harm and facing continued, indefinite separation from their families.

This Government can and should allow people to finally build their futures here with certainty. They are our neighbours and our community, and Australia has been their home for over a decade.

Our plea to you is in solidarity with the refugee-led movement of hundreds of people who have been protesting across Australia against the Fast Track system they have endured. **Today they marked 100 days of continuous protest in Melbourne.**

The women, men and children leading this protest movement have faced difficult conditions, including cold weather and physical attacks, calling for an end to the limbo. **Their calls have so far gone unanswered.**

The Australian Labor Party has long recognised the Fast Track process was flawed and unfair, and has made some important steps towards addressing that unfairness. However, these actions have had no impact for the majority of the 8,400 people failed by Fast Track.

**It is time now for the government to lead with compassion and resolve the situation for the over 8,400 people before the next Federal Election.**

Legal and human rights organisations are in agreement that providing swift, fair and safe pathways to permanency for this group is the only answer.

**It is absolutely within the government's power to end this cruelty.** This does not require any new laws to be passed by Parliament.

We call on the government to rise above the politics of fear and division, and act swiftly and fairly, with clear communication and timeframes.

Yours sincerely,

Amnesty International Australia  
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre  
Refugee Council of Australia

Asylum Seekers Centre  
Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce (ACRT)  
Human Rights Law Centre  
Refugee Advice & Casework Service  
SCALES Community Legal Centre  
Refugee and Immigration Legal Service (RAILS)  
Jesuit Refugee Service Australia (JRS)  
Tasmanian Refugee Legal Service  
Federation of Community Legal Centres (Victoria) Inc  
Human Rights for All  
Immigration Advice and Rights Centre  
National Justice Project  
Liberty Victoria  
Democracy in Colour  
Welcoming Australia  
Queensland Community Alliance  
Mums4Refugees  
Justice and Peace Office  
Brisbane Catholic Justice and Peace Commission  
Catholics for Refugees  
Refugee Action Coalition Sydney  
Teachers for Refugees NSW  
Refugee Action Collective VIC  
Social Responsibilities Committee of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne  
Social Responsibilities Committee, Anglican Church Southern Queensland  
Refugee Action Collective Eurobodalla  
Combined Refugee Action Group  
Wesley Asylum Seeker Welcome Place  
Jews for Refugees  
Rural Australians for Refugees Griffith  
Rural Australians for Refugees Warrnambool  
Rural Australians for Refugees Bendigo  
Rural Australians for Refugees Ballarat  
Rural Australians for Refugees Southern Highlands  
Rural Australians for Refugees–Strathbogie Shire  
Rural Australians for Refugees - Trentham  
Refugee Advocacy Network  
Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project  
Bayside Refugee Advocacy and Support Association (BRASA)  
Australian Refugee Action Network (ARAN)  
Wellspring Community of Australia Inc  
CaseyCardinia for Refugees  
Cisarua Learning Ltd (CLL)  
Kommonground Inc  
Grandmothers for Refugees [Blue Mountains]  
Ballarat Afghan Action Group (BAAG)  
Adelaide Vigil For Manus and Nauru  
Teachers for Refugees NSW  
Asia Pacific Network of Refugees  
Doctors 4 Refugees  
Grandmothers for Refugees  
People Just Like Us  
The Bayside Refugee Advocacy and Support Association

Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania  
Rural Australians for Refugees Queenscliff  
Rural Australians for Refugees  
Hunter Asylum Seeker Advocacy  
Northern Rivers for Refugees  
National Amnesty Refugee Network  
Amnesty Newcastle and Central Coast  
Love Makes A Way  
Refugee Action Campaign Canberra  
Northsiders With Refugees  
Justice for Refugees SA  
Refugee Action Collective - Queensland  
Grandmothers for Refugees (Kooyong)  
Manus Lives Matter (Canberra)  
Permanency and Family Reunion Network  
Academics for Refugees  
The Dignity Project Toowoomba  
The End Child Detention Coalition  
Tamil Refugee Council Sydney  
House of Welcome  
Uki Refugee Project