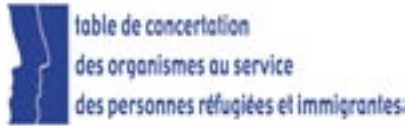




Canadian Council for Refugees



In collaboration with the refugee communities from the following countries, on which Canada has imposed a moratorium on removals: Afghanistan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Iraq, Liberia, Rwanda and Zimbabwe.

Lives on Hold Petition

For regularizing the status of persons from countries on which Canada has imposed a moratorium on removals.

The federal government imposes a moratorium on (suspension of) removals to certain countries (Afghanistan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Iraq, Liberia, Rwanda and Zimbabwe) because of the situation of generalized risk in those countries. Several thousand people from these countries have now been in Canada for many years. It is very difficult for them to obtain permanent residence on humanitarian grounds and they have no effective avenue to regularize their status in Canada.

Living in this limbo situation causes great hardship and suffering. Because they do not have permanent residence in Canada, they do not have access to the same rights and services as others. Their lack of secure status destroys lives by preventing reunification with family members who were left behind in the home country. It also means their employment prospects are poor.

Their children also suffer from this insecurity and are denied certain rights, such as access to higher education and to adequate health care. Even children born here are affected by the situation, since their rights are compromised by their parents' lack of status. This intolerable situation is likely to persist, if the Canadian government does not act to regularize the status of these persons.

WE HEREBY CALL ON THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO FACILITATE THE GRANTING OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE TO PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN IN CANADA FOR MORE THAN THREE YEARS AND WHO ARE FROM COUNTRIES ON WHICH CANADA HAS IMPOSED A MORATORIUM ON REMOVALS.

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Please return signed petitions by September 15, 2006 to:
Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR), 6839 Drolet #302, Montréal (Québec) H2S 2T1