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Migration Opportunity Map Project (MOMP)



(28 page .pdf)

Migrants Rights News ~ No: 3

Welcome to the January 2008 edition of Migrants Rights News

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Dear Friends

A Happy New Year to everyone working to support the rights of migrants, in the UK and across the world!

The MRN will be continuing its work in 2008 by working to promote the greater involvement of migrant community organisations, and other civil society organisations working in support of migrants, in the national public debate on the future of immigration policy in Britain.

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The progressive immigration policy debate - public meeting in Parliament

Our work in encouraging discussion on the content of progressive immigration policies will build on the publication of Towards a Progressive Immigration Policy (details in the footnote).

Together with Compass and the Barrow Cadbury Trust we are sponsoring a debate entitled Towards a progressive immigration policy, which will take place on 6pm Tuesday 29 January 2008, Boothroyd Room to Committee Room 14, St Stephen's Entrance, SW1.

Platform speakers will be: Liam Byrne MP, Immigration Minister; Jon Cruddas MP; Madeleine Bunting, The Guardian; Sukhvinder Stubbs, Barrow Cadbury Trust; Neil Jameson, London Citizens; Don Flynn, Migrants Rights Network; Polly Toynbee, The Guardian (Chair)

Attendance is free and open to all. However, you

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Your can also send us feedback via email: info@migrantsrights.org.uk

must notify your wish to attend by sending an email to office@compassonline.org.uk.

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The health service needs of vulnerable migrants

The Department of Health and Home Office are expected to make public their plans for introducing identity and immigration status checks on people registering for GP care. We are expecting a statement to be made in Parliament in January.

The MRN is supporting a campaign led by the health service charity, Medact, to oppose these measures and to protect the rights of all migrants to receive primary health care services across the UK.

The campaign held a meeting in Parliament in December which brought along over 100 people actively concerned with the provision of health services to migrant communities. This meeting resolved to take the case for greater protection of migrant rights to receive health services to primary care trusts and health service workers across the country, to stiffen determination to challenge these measures. Contact Medact at info@medact.org to obtain a report of this meeting.

Further activity is planned for January, as soon as the DoH and the Home Office make their announcements - check the MRN website for details - www.migrantsrights.org.uk.

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Undocumented migrants have rights!

The MRN is planning a research project on the position of undocumented migrants in the UK today. The work will involve discussion with undocumented migrants to get a better picture of the ways in which people come to be outside the provisions of immigration regulation, the reasons why return is considered difficult or impossible, the strategies for survival adopted, and the risks encountered in terms of violations of human and civil rights. The project will feed directly into campaigns currently underway in support of the rights of undocumented migrants and for a comprehensive programme of regularisation to extend the protection of the law to vulnerable groups.

For further information about this project, contact us at info@migrantsrights.org.uk.

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For a regular update on events, conferences, seminars and courses of interest to groups working on migrants rights issues, visit the events pages of the MRN website:

<http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/events.htm>

For news about jobs and volunteering opportunities, visit

<http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/opportunities.htm>

For further information about the work of the MRN, please do check our website -

www.migrantsrights.org.uk - or email us at info@migrantsrights.org.uk .

Best wishes,

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TOWARDS A PROGRESSIVE IMMIGRATION POLICY - a new collection of essays on the principles which should underpin progressive immigration policies. Edited by Don Flynn and Zoe Williams and published by Compass, the Barrow Cadbury Trust and the Migrants' Rights Network. Copies available, price £5.00, from the MRN, address above (cheques payable to 'MRN'). Or download a free copy from the MRN website - <http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/progressive.pdf>

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