

## UK's help for Ukraine refugees called 'a disgrace'

11th April, 2022



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One of Britain's most popular radio hosts has lambasted his government's response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis. Nick Ferrari of the radio station LBC called the situation "a disgrace". The UK has two visa schemes running to help refugees relocate to the UK. The government

said it had received 79,800 visa applications from Ukrainians and had thus far issued 40,900 visas. However, a paltry 12,000 refugees had arrived in Britain. Poland has taken in nearly 3 million refugees and Germany has taken in 300,000. The UK's neighbour Ireland, with a population one-twelfth of that of Britain's, has welcomed over 20,000 refugees. The UK's Home Secretary Priti Patel has apologised for what she called the "frustrating" situation.

Nick Ferrari did not hold back in his criticism of his government's response. He called on the whole government to be fired. He said: "It's an absolute scandal....This is beyond comprehension. How can this level of incompetence survive? Sack the whole...lot of them." Mr Ferrari was particularly irked by the visa application process, which includes Ukrainians wanting refuge in the UK having to fill out a 51-page online application form in English. He also castigated the government for its mountain of red tape. Over 200,000 Britons have applied to accept a refugee into their home, but excessive bureaucracy means applications are rejected if a home has a garden pond. Many say the UK's visa schemes are set up to fail.

Sources: [lbc.co.uk](http://lbc.co.uk) / [dailymail.co.uk](http://dailymail.co.uk) / [theguardian.com](http://theguardian.com)

### Writing

All visa requirements for refugees should be scrapped. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

radio host / government / response / Ukraine / refugee / disgrace / visa / frustrating / criticism / be fired / scandal / comprehension / incompetence / survival / red tape

### True / False

- 1) Britain's top radio show host criticized the UK government. T / F
- 2) The U.K has one visa scheme to help Ukrainian refugees. T / F
- 3) The UK has taken in only 12,000 Ukrainian refugees. T / F
- 4) The U.K. Home Secretary has yet to apologize for the refugee crisis. T / F
- 5) A radio host said the whole U.K. government should be fired. T / F
- 6) Ukrainian refugees have to complete a 51-page form to enter the U.K. T / F
- 7) More than 200,000 U.K. people registered to take in a Ukrainian refugee. T / F
- 8) Someone with a garden pond in the U.K. cannot take in a refugee. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>popular</b>     | a. angered     |
| 2. <b>lambasted</b>   | b. annoying    |
| 3. <b>disgrace</b>    | c. total       |
| 4. <b>paltry</b>      | d. bureaucracy |
| 5. <b>frustrating</b> | e. fire        |
| 6. <b>absolute</b>    | f. outrage     |
| 7. <b>sack</b>        | g. criticized  |
| 8. <b>irked</b>       | h. established |
| 9. <b>red tape</b>    | i. mere        |
| 10. <b>set up</b>     | j. well liked  |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) Do you have a favourite radio host?
- b) What's your country doing for Ukrainian refugees?
- c) What should the UN be doing for Ukrainian refugees?
- d) What visa requirements should there be for refugees?
- e) Is it a 'disgrace' that the UK has only taken in 12,000 refugees?
- f) Why do you think the UK has accepted so few refugees?
- g) What help do refugees need?
- h) What advice do you have for the UK government?

## Phrase Match

- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. his government's response to the   | a. 12,000 refugees              |
| 2. help refugees                      | b. "frustrating" situation      |
| 3. a paltry                           | c. red tape                     |
| 4. with a population one-             | d. relocate to the UK           |
| 5. apologised for what she called the | e. of incompetence              |
| 6. He called on the whole government  | f. Ukrainian refugee crisis     |
| 7. this level                         | g. are set up to fail           |
| 8. application                        | h. to be fired                  |
| 9. its mountain of                    | i. twelfth of that of Britain's |
| 10. Many say the UK's visa schemes    | j. form                         |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What criticisms do you have of your government?
- Should the UK government be fired?
- How unfair is it for refugees to fill out a 51-page application form?
- Would you house a Ukrainian refugee?
- What can the UK do to reduce its levels of red tape?
- Why might a garden pond be a danger to a refugee fleeing terror?
- What questions would you like to ask the UK Home Secretary?

## Spelling

- amblstaed his government's response
- two visa hsmeces
- help refugees olrcetae to the UK
- it had received 79,800 visa laaictpoipns
- a alprty 12,000 refugees
- a population one-lewftth that of Britain's
- Ferrari did not hold back in his riiictsm
- It's an salobute scandal
- this level of cimpteneocne
- Mr Ferrari was particularly dkrei
- He also asicagttd the government
- excessive ureburcaacy

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. j	2. g	3. f	4. i	5. b
6. c	7. e	8. a	9. d	10. h

## Role Play

### Role A – Wi-fi

You think wi-fi is the thing refugees need most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why refugees don't need their things as much. Also, tell the others which is the least needed of these (and why): clean clothes, weapons or blankets.

### Role B – Clean Clothes

You think clean clothes are the things refugees need most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why refugees don't need their things as much. Also, tell the others which is the least needed of these (and why): wi-fi, weapons or blankets.

### Role C – Weapons

You think weapons are the things refugees need most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why refugees don't need their things as much. Also, tell the others which is the least needed of these (and why): clean clothes, wi-fi or blankets.

### Role D – Blankets

You think blankets are the things refugees need most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why refugees don't need their things as much. Also, tell the others which is the least needed of these (and why): clean clothes, weapons or wi-fi.

## Speaking – Needs

Rank these with your partner. Put the things refugees need most at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| • Medicine      | • Wi-fi         |
| • Visas         | • Blankets      |
| • Weapons       | • Clean clothes |
| • 3 meals a day | • Information   |

### Answers – True False

1 F	2 F	3 T	4 F	5 T	6 T	7 T	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.