



## Presidential Determination Talking Points & Social Media Guidance

### What is the Presidential Determination?

October 1st not only marks the beginning of the federal fiscal year (FY), but also the deadline set by the government to declare the number of refugees authorized to be admitted to the U.S. for all of FY 2023. Given crises in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and so many other regions and countries around the world, it is vital that the United States commits to resettling 200,000 refugees for the 2023 Fiscal Year. The United States is capable of welcoming individuals and families searching for safety, and when we do, we remind ourselves of our nation's core values of protecting the vulnerable and welcoming the displaced.

Currently, President Biden has recommended to Congress that only [125,000 refugees](#) be allowed to resettle in the United States in FY 2023. This number does not reflect the necessary increase in refugee admissions needed to keep up with the unprecedented number of individuals who have been displaced this year alone. The US must respond to global crises by leading by example- upholding the American tradition of welcoming refugees with open arms. Increasing the currently proposed refugee admissions goal will not only offer permanent safety to thousands of displaced people, but also fulfill our promises to those stranded and waiting for safety. **The United States is ready and capable of resettling 200,000 refugees in FY 2023.**

### Why does it matter?

Conflict in Ukraine, famine in Ethiopia, flooding in Pakistan, and political turmoil in Afghanistan have all contributed to the rapidly growing number of people around the globe violently displaced from their home and desperately in need of resettlement. The [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](#) (UNHCR) reports that as of 2021, roughly 4.6 million individuals are actively seeking refuge and 26.6 million individuals are classified as refugees worldwide. The United States has a long history of welcoming and resettling refugees and has offered asylum to more than [3.1 million](#) since the creation of the Refugee Act in 1980. President Biden should continue this legacy by allowing those in need of resettlement to find refuge within the US.

While the refugee admissions goal proposed by the current administration is higher than in past years, **Voice for Refuge urges the Biden administration to increase the current proposal of 125,000 to 200,000 in order to keep up with the ever growing number of those in need of resettlement.**

It is important to note that the refugee admissions goal does not ensure that this number of refugees is able to make it to the United States' shores. In 2021, the number of refugees who were actually able to be resettled in the US was 65,000 less than the refugee admissions goal confirmed by President Biden that year. Voice for Refuge is confident that setting this year's refugee admissions goal at 200,000 will encourage the current administration to follow through on accepting refugees and provide safety to thousands of those in need.

## What are we asking?

Join advocates in asking Biden to support:

- A refugee admissions goal of 200,000 for the 2023 fiscal year
- Prioritization of Refugee Family Reunification
- Rebuilding a robust refugee resettlement program

Below, we have included some social media captions and graphics, as well as statements you can release from your office to educate your community on this issue and urge national action.

### We ask that you

1. Share why this issue is important
2. Take action to ensure that President Biden knows we're expecting him to prioritize refugee resettlement in FY 2023.

We encourage you to share these materials with your audiences as soon as you like. In addition, you can take action and find more information at these links:

**Action Link:** [Call your Federal Representatives urging them to rebuild the refugee resettlement program](#)

## Sample Graphics

[Facebook & Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**Hashtags:** #WeCanWelcome #RefugeesWelcome #RestoreWelcome

## Sample Captions

**1.** With the Federal government's fiscal year resetting, I'm joining advocates to urge @POTUS to increase the refugee admissions goal to 200,000. Amid several devastating crises around the world, we must lead by example and provide refuge to those waiting for safety. #WeCanWelcome

**2.** There are 26.6 million refugees in the world, and @POTUS is proposing that we offer refuge to less than .005% of them. In the wake of massive global crises, the United States has the ability to do more and must! #WeCanWelcome

**3.** I'm joining advocates to urge @POTUS to welcome 200,000 refugees this federal fiscal year. Families separated for years due to our dilapidated refugee resettlement program, can't wait. We must rebuild the refugee program and welcome those waiting for safety! #RefugeesWelcome

## **Sample Statement from your office**

### **To urge for 200,000**

The United States has been a place of refuge and safety for people facing violence and persecution since our founding. I urge President Biden to ensure that it continues to be a refuge for the millions of individuals displaced around the world in the year ahead by setting a refugee admissions goal of 200,000 and rebuilding a robust refugee resettlement program. In the midst of unprecedented climate disasters and the family separation policies of the former administration, too many individuals have been left waiting for their chance to find long term safety and reunite with their loved ones.

Refugees make our country stronger by bringing new skills and filling in the gaps in our economy. They bring with them cultures, histories, and experiences that make our country and our communities better. This is why I urge Biden to do more to support refugee resettlement in the year ahead and encourage Congress to take action to fund the resettlement program.

### **To celebrate a PD of 200,000:**

I would like to thank President Biden for honoring the United States' legacy of welcoming and resettling those in need of refuge by setting this year's refugee cap at 200,000 in his Presidential Determination. This decision not only ensures that the United States will continue to be a safe haven in the world, but also ensures that families will have an opportunity to integrate, thrive, and pursue the American Dream. Last year we saw a record number of people displaced around the world. I am grateful to the Biden Administration for rising to the occasion and leading by example. We can welcome.

### **To acknowledge a PD less than 200,000:**

I would like to begin by thanking President Biden for his decision to welcome [125,000] refugees to the United States. While this number is lower than the 200,000 individuals requested by advocates and communities ready to welcome, it is still a marked improvement from the former administration. [City/State] is ready and willing to welcome refugees from around the world this upcoming year with open arms!

In [City/State] we are happy to offer refuge to those who need it most. I continue to urge the Biden Administration to consider increasing this number to 200,000 individuals in his 2024 Presidential Determination. Refugees are key players in building the cultural and economic strength of this nation. It is my hope that President Biden will continue to honor the United States' long legacy of refugee resettlement by rebuilding the refugee resettlement program and meeting our goal to resettle [125,000] in the year ahead.