

Example Petition

NB: make sure all facts are the most relevant to your country/city, and 100% up to date and referenced. The facts here are up to date as of 01/05/2021

[insert date]

To the Mayor/Lord Provost/Council Leader, Council Members and citizens of [insert town/city]

[CITY] MUST PLEDGE TO RELOCATE ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES FROM THE AEGEAN HOTSPOT CAMPS IN GREECE!

There is a humanitarian crisis taking place at Europe's borders. Over **13,000** refugees and asylum seekers are currently trapped on the Greek Aegean islands, forced to live in overcrowded camps with limited medical services and inadequate sanitary facilities. These inhumane conditions are the result of **5** years of neglectful EU policies.

Even in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, EU leaders have remained indifferent or hesitant to act. The horrendous conditions in the Aegean camps make all inhabitants, regardless of age or health, extremely vulnerable. That this situation is allowed to persist is a blatant contradiction to all notions we share of being considerate to others with regards to hygiene and social distancing. We have seen devastating fires tear through the camps on Chios, Samos and Lesbos, resulting in many hundreds of people losing all but the clothes on their back. On 9th September 2020 a fire destroyed the majority of Moria camp on Lesbos causing 12,000 refugees and asylum seekers to sleep rough across the island.

Our leaders need a wake up call. Europe cannot stand by and leave behind these children, women and men in such camps. **We have the moral obligation to act: Europe Must Act!** It is time for **[insert city name]** to show it is an example for other cities to follow.

In order to save lives, the camps on the Aegean islands must be completely evacuated. Cities in Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, France & Portugal have already pledged to take in refugees and asylum seekers from the Aegean. We continue to ask other cities and councils across Europe to join in offering sanctuary to the people stuck in overcrowded camps on the Greek islands.

Will [insert city name] join with other European cities to demonstrate its commitment to basic human rights by pledging to resettle an exact number of asylum seekers and refugees in their jurisdiction? Lord Provost, Leader of the City Council, Councillors of the City of **[insert city name]** - will you make a pledge?

Together, we can send a clear signal to EU leaders and national governments that Europe is willing and able to act on its humanitarian values and provide shelter to those who seek refuge from war and persecution.

[Insert city name] Must Act Chapter is asking Council Leaders to:

- Make a pledge to resettle asylum seekers from the Aegean Camps
- Pass a motion/write a letter of support for Europe Must Act's campaign

Residents of **[insert city name]** - will you sign the petition?

Lord Provost, Leader of the City Council, Councillors of the City of **[insert city name]** - will you make a pledge?

Europe Must Act is a movement that actively supports refugees in Greece and the rest of Europe and calls for a just and humane asylum and immigration policy. Find out more through our social media platforms and website www.europemustact.org

Signed:

[insert petition signatures and local organisations (separate into local and national for clarity)]

Local Signatories:

[Add list here]

National Supporters:

[Add list here]

Don't forget to follow us on **XXX** Must Act Twitter, Instagram and Facebook to find out about our other local campaigns and petitions!