<Address Line 1>

<Address Line 2>

<Address Line 3>

<Postcode>

<Date>

Dear (Name of your Member of Parliament),

I hope you are well. I am writing to you as I would like to raise my concerns about the Nationality and Borders Bill, which is now in the final stages of the parliamentary process**.** The Bill is a key instrument in a wider overhaul of the asylum system proposed in the government’s New Plan for Immigration. This legislation shows no respect for human dignity, justice, or the protection of human life.

Already, asylum claimants often struggle to get justice and are re-traumatised by the asylum process and life in the asylum system. Proposals in The Bill would create further barriers to protection for those who badly need it, and an even more hostile environment for asylum seekers and refugees.

Some of my key concerns are:

1. The Bill would punish refugees for how they got to the UK. This ignores the reality of seeking asylum and is deeply cruel. Refugees rarely have a choice of how they travel, and the Refugee Convention does not oblige them to seek asylum in the first safe country they come to. Ukrainian refugees trying to get to the UK are currently held in limbo by complex visa processes, demonstrating the folly of insisting that refugees must obtain authorisation prior to travel. Under the Bill’s proposals for differential treatment, Ukrainian, Afghan, Syrian, and other refugees would be heavily penalised if they arrive other than by pre-arranged routes. These plans deny the right of refugees to seek asylum, and should be abandoned. **In particular, clause 11 must be removed from the Bill.**
2. The Bill would allow for asylum seekers to be removed from the UK while their claims are being processed, opening the door to offshore processing of asylum claims. This would be highly impractical and costly, and has given rise to serious human rights abuses in other contexts where it has occurred. It undermines our commitment to processing claims fairly and offering sanctuary to refugees.
3. The Bill would make people seeking sanctuary more vulnerable to trafficking and modern slavery. By punishing refugees who arrive without the right documentation and makes it easier to subject them to criminal penalties, it will make it much harder for trafficking victims to seek help from police. Victims of trafficking are regularly warned by their traffickers that if they go to the authorities, they will just be detained rather than helped. This Bill therefore plays into the hands of traffickers.

**This legislation is deeply cruel, impractical, and destructive to the common good.** There is still an opportunity to do something different. I urge you to reject the Nationality and Borders Bill, and to support an asylum system with dignity and humanity at its heart.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to arrange to meet with you to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,