

# Facts not Fiction

## To put the record straight!

A **person seeking asylum** is someone who has a well founded fear of persecution and is unable to stay safe in their home country. Under the Geneva Convention 1951, which the UK helped establish — **It is not illegal to claim asylum** in another country for your safety.

People can be so desperate to escape war or persecution, the risk of crossing the Mediterranean Sea or the Channel in a dinghy might be their only hope of safety.

When someone’s claim has been successful they may be granted **refugee status**.

An **economic migrant** is someone who just wants to work elsewhere eg in UK, Europe or USA etc. This usually requires a work visa.

When the media, politicians or extremists use scare mongering terms such as **“illegal” migrant** - its confusing and makes it seem as if no one has the right to seek safety through the asylum process, which is simply not true.



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