

Refugee Council USA

Refugee Resettlement Advances U.S. National Security Interests and Supports Key U.S. Allies

As we experience the largest global displacement crisis on record, the United States can and should be doing more to increase refugee resettlement. This administration has, unfortunately, cut refugee admissions to the lowest levels in the history of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, resettling less than half of its FY18 goal of 45,000 and setting the FY19 goal at 30,000. By contrast, the average annual admission goal has been 95,000 and actual admissions have averaged 80,000 every year. Refugee Council USA (RCUSA) urges the administration, at minimum, to meet the 30,000 resettlement goal that President Trump set for FY19, and to set 75,000 as the resettlement goal for FY20.

“[R]esettlement initiatives help advance U.S. national security interests by supporting the stability of our allies and partners that are struggling to host large numbers of refugees.”

— [Letter to Congress from a bipartisan group of the nation’s top national security experts](#)

“The process that is currently in place is thorough and robust and, so long as it is fully implemented and not diluted, it will allow us to safely admit the most vulnerable refugees while protecting the American people. Fortunately, these goals are not mutually exclusive.”

— [Janet Napolitano and Michael Chertoff, former DHS secretaries](#)

“A U.S. initiative to resettle Syrian refugees in the United States affirmatively advances U.S. national security interests. Increased resettlement and aid helps protect the stability of a region that is home to U.S. allies.”

— [Ryan Crocker, former ambassador to Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Kuwaiti](#)