

Dear Lord Dubs,

in recognition of your motives and efforts, we would honestly like to thank you for your wonderful initiative towards the vote of paragraph 67 of the Migration Act 2016: Indeed, the DUBS SCHEME, named after you, foresees the relocation of vulnerable children from France, Italy and Greece to the United Kingdom, as it was defined by the Home Office of the UK. We also thought that such an initiative would give to an important number of unaccompanied minors fleeing from war zones and violent regimes the opportunity to be hosted and plan again their lives in the safe environment of Great Britain.

However, the way the refugee issue has been shaped and more particularly the part concerning reception, we keep on being witnesses to the fact that good intentions crush on rigid governments that handle those issues with less sensitivity and more calculation of political costs. Both the UK and the Greek government haven't shown until now the expected sensitivity nor have they made the right movements in order to secure the future of unaccompanied children.

The UK government has ignored all the appeals made by civil society to broaden the criteria under which unaccompanied children's applications are accepted. It constantly varies the number of children that will be accepted and the way it implements the scheme is far from the generosity you implanted when you conceived the project. **As a result:** particularly vulnerable cases of children that arrived to our country before the 20th/3/2016 as per the affirmations of our colleagues, are now excluded just because they had the misfortune to be registered with a delay of 24 hours.

But even those children who manage to meet the strict criteria that the UK government has set, have been expecting more than 8 months of diplomatic manipulation by the Greek government. The latter has not yet managed to provide safe transfer, even for the small number of children who meet the criteria, while as officials told us it advocates to broaden the criteria. **As a result:** unaccompanied children who meet the criteria feel once again frustration and despair as an outcome of the misguided policies being implemented against them while some of them seek their fortune abroad, resourcing to other ways and as such are exposed to the risks of smugglers and irregular travel.

We know that in September we will be honored to welcome you to Greece. You are officially invited to visit our open-hosting shelters and speak with the children of the "DUBS' waiting list". As far as we are concerned, through this open letter, we want to inform both the UK and the Greek government that we are ready to start the first relocations as we have renewed the lists and the case-by-case Best Interest Determination Reports (BID), for those children who are still with us and still have some confidence left in the promises of either side governments.

With great honor,

The Members of the Board of PRAKSIS