



**International
Detention Coalition**

Human rights for detained refugees,
asylum seekers and migrants

Challenging child detention

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Global momentum



- ▶ The Global Compact on Migration states that in order to realize the commitment to take a human-rights based approach to any detention of migrants, States will:
- ▶ *"Protect and respect the rights and best interests of the child at all times, regardless of their migration status, by **ensuring availability and accessibility of a viable range of alternatives to detention in non-custodial contexts, favouring community-based care arrangements, that ensure access to education and healthcare, and respect their right to family life and family unity, and by working to end the practice of child detention in the context of international migration"***

Process of challenging child detention

Civil society mobilisation:

- ▶ Campaigning
- ▶ Litigation
- ▶ Media
- ▶ Targetted lobbying of political leaders

In UK, led to 2010 Coalition Government commitment to end child detention.



Families Returns Process: UK

- ▶ Assisted return
 - Independent departure with or without support
- ▶ Required return
 - Self check-in removal directions
- ▶ Ensured return
 - Enforcement actions

An evaluation of 2014-2016 found:

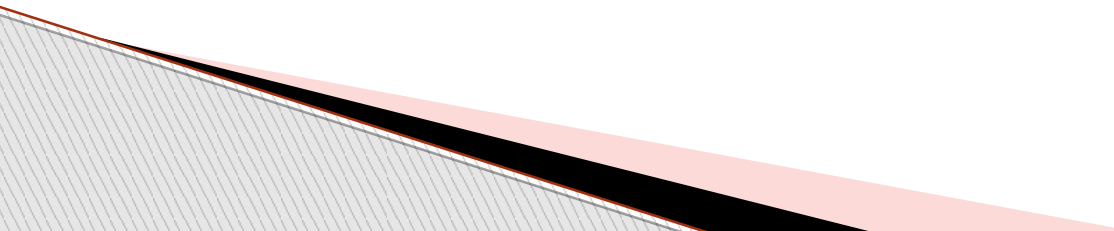
- ▶ More than 1,500 families departed the country
- ▶ 97% departed without enforcement actions



Home Office

How can civil society guide the process of change?

Learning from UK:

- ▶ Need for success planning
 - ▶ Willingness to sit down with government and plan process
 - ▶ Need for ideas and proposals that address government concerns
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Thank you