

# Refugees: UK factfile

The Refugee Council has attacked strict EU immigration policies which force refugees to seek and pay for counterfeit travel documents to enter 'safe' countries such as the UK



● People seeking asylum in Britain, 1997: **32,495**

● People seeking asylum in Britain, Jan-Jun 1998: **18,520**

● Main countries of origin:  
**Eastern Europe, Albania, former Yugoslavia and Africa**

● Number of appeals, 1997: **37,146**

● Asylum seekers failing appeals process: **80%**

● Cost of appeals, 1997: **£151m**

● Fine faced by airlines and *Eurostar* trains for each passenger caught without legal documents: **£2,000**