

Solidarity with the refugees!

Thousands of refugees are at the border, trying in very difficult conditions to survive and to cross. Some have died. Some have drowned. There are border crossings where the refugees have gathered in large numbers. Thousands of them are waiting uncertainly, with none of the basic necessities of life, at the mercy of the weather and of the poor conditions.

This uncertainty must be ended immediately.

As the refugees have moved to the border, a wave of racism has washed over the country. The refugees are not responsible for any war, conflict, dead soldier or poverty. Quite the contrary. They are people who are fleeing from war, massacres and poverty.

We say “We are all refugees!” and call on the government to take the following steps immediately:

1. Turkey must recognize the rights of all refugees and ensure that their living standards are raised.
2. The refugees must not be seen as the pawns of international diplomacy, their freedom to travel must be ensured, a policy of “open doors” must be implemented to ensure that they are able to move safely from one country to another.
3. Racism and hate crimes against the refugees must not be permitted in the media and social media, such racism must not be encouraged, and those who participate in attacks on refugees must be punished.

We stand against the racist climate that has forced Syrian musicians to sing “We apologise for having had to become illegal workers in your workplaces, workshops and fields. We apologise if our corpses have washed onto your shores and beaches.” We want to change this climate which puts the blame on the refugees!

We call on all citizens to say “We are all refugees!” We call on everyone to show solidarity with the refugees and to sign the petition. It is the racists and those who make concessions to racism that should apologise!

Open the borders, freedom to the refugees!

We Are All Refugees, No to Racism platform

5 March 2020