

## A Just Fair Manifesto for Social Rights

1. Bring the socio-economic duty to life
2. End No Recourse to Public Funds
3. Give people seeking asylum the right to work
4. Recognise the right to food
5. Reverse the two-child limit on social security entitlements
6. Ensure there is a watertight division between migration control and access to health care
7. End no fault evictions under section 21 of the Housing Act 1988
8. Restore the link between social security entitlements and the cost of living

### 1. Bring the socio-economic duty to life

The next Government should commence Part One of the Equality Act 2010 to bring the socio-economic duty to life, and should develop guidelines for public authorities to implement the duty together with people with lived experience of poverty.

- [Nothing about us, without us, is really for us.](#) Koldo Casla in *Global Policy*. October 2019.
- [The socio-economic duty: A powerful idea hidden in plain sight in the Equality Act.](#) Koldo Casla in the *Oxford Human Rights Hub*. May 2019.
- [Tackling Socio-Economic Inequality in The UK Is An Urgent Human Rights Issue.](#) Imogen Richmond-Bishop in *Rights Info*. January 2019.

### 2. End the No Recourse to Public Funds

'No recourse to public funds' (NRPF) is an immigration condition imposed on people 'subject to immigration control'. A person with NRPF cannot access most social benefits or social housing, but they can access publicly funded services that are not listed as 'public funds' for immigration purposes. The NRPF condition is one of a number of immigration policies that are among the key causes of destitution amongst migrant communities.

- [Not Seen, Not Heard: Children's Experiences of the Hostile Environment.](#) Project 17. February 2019.

### **3. Give people seeking asylum the right to work after they have waited six months for a decision on their initial asylum claim**

People seeking asylum in the UK are not allowed to work within the first year of their application. No other European country is so restrictive in denying asylum seekers access to the labour market. Lifting the ban to allow asylum seekers to work after six months in the country would be a popular policy that is consistent with liberal values and that would benefit the economy at the same time.

- End the counter-productive and costly 'work ban' on people seeking asylum. Koldo Casla in *Open Democracy*. October 2019.
- Lift the Ban: The Right to Work of People Seeking Asylum in the UK according to International Human Rights Law. Just Fair and Lift the Ban. September 2019.

### **4. Recognise the right to food**

There are an estimated 8.4 million people in the UK who are food insecure. By incorporating the right to food into our legal system the Government would be working towards tackling the issues facing our food system in a sensible and systematic way. It would put responsibilities on Government, public institutions and local authorities to act in the best interests of people and planet.

- Food for thought? A Rights-Based Approach To Food. Imogen Richmond-Bishop in *Rights Info*. December 2018.
- Going Hungry: The Human Right to Food in the UK. Just Fair. 2014.

### **5. Reverse the two-child limit on social security entitlements**

The two-child limit means that many families will no longer receive Child Tax Credit or Universal Credit for any third or subsequent children born after April 2017. The two-child limit and other devastatingly regressive measures have disproportionately affected the people that need society's support the most. The UK has the means to ensure that no-one falls below an adequate standard of living and the social security system must live up to it. The two-child limit must end as a stepping stone towards a truly free and fair United Kingdom.

- All Kids Count. The impact of the two-child limit after two years. CPAG, the Church of England, Women's Aid, Turn2Us and the Refugee Council. June 2019.

### **6. Ensure there is a watertight division between migration control and access to healthcare**

Strict walls should exist between healthcare personnel and law enforcement authorities because the opposite may frighten people away from seeking medical healthcare when they need it. Health facilities, goods and services should be accessible to everyone without discrimination of any kind.

- Submission to the Health Committee Memorandum of understanding on data-sharing inquiry. Just Fair. January 2018.
- Right to Health for All. Just Fair and Doctors of the World. June 2017.

## **7. End no-fault evictions under Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988**

Section 21 evictions allow landlords in England to evict tenants with no fault and without giving a reason. This policy is extraordinarily unfair for tenants and there is nothing like it in other European countries. It is also contrary to international human rights law, which requires a proportionality assessment of all evictions on a case by case basis. The ending of private sector tenancies is the biggest single driver of statutory homelessness in England.

- [Housing Crisis Is Hitting Women Hardest – Here’s Why](#). Imogen Richmond-Bishop in *Rights Info*. July 2019.
- [Renting rights: what England can learn from fairer systems around the world](#). Koldo Casla in *The Conversation*. October 2018.
- [No-fault evictions violate human rights: Section 21 must end](#). Just Fair and Generation Rent. September 2018.

## **8. Restore the link between social security entitlements and the cost of living**

As a Party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the UK must take steps to the maximum of available resources to achieve progressively the full realisation of economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to social security. However, tax and social security cuts introduced over the past decade have had a regressive effect on social protection. As a result, social security entitlements are far from covering the true cost of living, and they fail to lift people out of the poverty trap.

- [Welfare Safety Net Inquiry: Written submission to the House of Commons Work and Pensions Committee](#). Just Fair and 15 other groups. December 2018.
- [Visit by the UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, Philip Alston, to the UK from 5 to 16 November 2018: Written submission](#). Just Fair and 14 other groups. September 2018.

Just Fair exists to realise a fairer and more just society in the UK by monitoring and advocating for the protection of economic and social rights.

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