



ICAR

Signpost series

Liberian refugees in the UK

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About the author

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Introduction

About ICAR's signpost series

ICAR's signpost series provides essential links and core information on issues in the media spotlight. Each signpost features details of useful resources, from statistics to first-hand accounts from refugees, which are readily available to researchers, journalists and other interested parties.

About this signpost

This document is intended as a signposting guide to existing information about Liberian refugees and asylum seekers in the UK. It has been produced to coincide with the arrival of a number of Liberian refugees in early 2004, as part of the UK government's newly established refugee resettlement programme.

It provides a brief outline of recent Liberian history in order to explain the causes of recent waves of forced migration and to provide a context for the subsequent discussion of Liberian refugees.



July 2003, data OCHA Liberia. With the support of



United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - OCHA - Liberia Mobile Information Support Unit (MSU)

Historical context

Liberia: outline, history and context of forced migration



The Republic of Liberia was established in 1847 and is the oldest republic in Africa. The state was founded following the establishment of a private colony in what later became Monrovia (the current capital city) by the American Colonization Society (ACS) in 1821 and the subsequent arrival of several thousand freed slaves from the Americas, known as Americo-Liberians or Settler-Liberians.

For 133 years, the country's politics was dominated by the Americo-Liberians who ruled through the single political party, the True Whig Party and excluded indigenous Liberians from many political and economic opportunities. The Americo-Liberian settlers instituted a system of indirect rule through local chiefs. In 1980, Samuel K Doe, an indigenous Liberian from the Krahn ethnic group, took power in a coup d'état, beginning a period of military rule, characterised by the crumbling of existing political structures and social institutions, the mismanagement of state funds and internal repression.

In December 1989, the National Patriotic Forces of Liberia (NPFL), led by Charles Taylor, launched an attack on the Nimba County, in northern Liberia. The conflict spread to Monrovia, the capital city, and developed into a civil war between the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) and the NPFL in which ethnic identity was mobilised for political ends, with Gio and Mano soldiers joining the NPFL in order to retaliate against earlier attacks by Krahn and Mandingo AFL soldiers in the mid 1980s. In 1990, President Doe was executed by Prince Johnson, who led an offshoot of the NPFL. To escape the subsequent revenge massacres, a number of Krahn and Mandingo AFL soldiers fled to Sierra Leone where they formed the United Liberation Movement for Democracy (ULIMO). In 1990, ECOMOG, a peacekeeping force, from the Economic Community of West Africa (ECOWAS) was sent to protect Monrovia. ECOWAS set up the Interim Government of National Unity (IGNU) and installed Professor Amos Sawyer as the interim president of Liberia in 1991, but Charles Taylor did not recognise the new government. As a result, ECOWAS and IGNU governed the Monrovia area, whilst Taylor's forces controlled the remaining 90% of the country, known as 'Greater Liberia'. During the civil war, numerous factions competed for control of the country's natural resources and there was widespread looting and violence by both government and rebel fighters, resulting in the forced displacement of thousands of people.

A number of peace agreements and ceasefires failed to bring an end to the fighting until August 1996 when the Abuja Accords were signed, paving the way for democratic elections which were held in July 1997. Taylor was elected President, winning 80% of the votes. This was considered to be an indication that the electorate was keen to prevent further warfare, and regarded his presidency as the necessary price of peace. By the time of his election, it is estimated that 200,000 people had been killed, out of a pre-war population of approximately 2.8 million. A further 1.4 million people were displaced within Liberia and 700,000 refugees had fled the country. According to UNHCR estimates, approximately 160,000 of these refugees were in Cote d'Ivoire, 235,000 in Guinea Conakry, 14,000 in Sierra Leone and 17,000 in Ghana.

In 1999, fighting broke out in north west Liberia between forces loyal to Taylor and the Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), a coalition of groups which operated out of Guinea. This fighting spread throughout northern and western Liberia, and to the outskirts of Monrovia in January 2002. A rebel

group known as the Movement of Democracy for Liberia (MODEL) emerged in eastern Liberia and progressively gained control of most of eastern Liberia. In June 2003, peace talks were held in Ghana and also in that month the Special Court for Sierra Leone indicted President Taylor for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Sierra Leonean civil war since 1996. In August, President Taylor left Liberia and went into exile in Nigeria, leaving his Vice-President, Moses Blah to form an interim government. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement was then signed by all parties to the conflict and Gyude Bryant, Chairman of the Liberia Action Party, was chosen as interim leader of the power-sharing National Transition Government. The national unity administration is tasked with organising elections in 2005. The UN launched a major peacekeeping mission, as part of which they began to disarm former combatants; they were first deployed outside Monrovia in December 2003.

Sources of further information

A useful chronology of key events in contemporary Liberian history, including a timeline of the current conflict is provided by the BBC:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/country_profiles/1043567.stm

Human Rights Watch has also produced an up-to-date summary of the recent conflict:

http://hrw.org/english/docs/2004/01/21/liberi6977_txt.htm

Displacement and Liberian refugees

Liberian refugees figure prominently in the international refugee statistics. At the beginning of 2002, there were approximately 245,000 Liberian refugees worldwide, thereby constituting the 14th largest group of refugees in the world.¹ Between 1991 and 2001 an estimated 419,500 Liberians left their country as refugees² and during 2002 Liberian refugees formed the largest movement of refugees in the world. An estimated 105,000 fled the country during that year, mainly to neighbouring states: Sierra Leone, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire.³ At the beginning of 2003, a further 304,000 Liberians were classified as internally displaced persons (IDPs), having sought safety in another part of the country, rather than crossing an international frontier into a neighbouring state.⁴ Also during 2002, 22,000 refugees returned to Liberia from Côte d'Ivoire, forming the ninth largest national group of returnees.⁵ The displacement is still ongoing: between 1 January and 30 June 2003, over 66,000 Liberians fled to neighbouring countries. 37,027 fled in Côte d'Ivoire, 14,723 to Guinea and 14,385 to Sierra Leone.

Liberian refugee populations at end of 2002⁶

Country	Size of refugee population
Guinea	119,293
Sierra Leone	63,491
Côte d'Ivoire	43,000
Ghana	28,298
USA	14,868
UK	250

Resettlement

The UNHCR promotes three 'durable' (long-term) solutions for refugees: *repatriation* to their country of origin, *integration* in the country of asylum, and *resettlement* in a third country. Some refugees are unable to return to their countries of origin or to remain in the country where they have been granted asylum. Resettlement may therefore be the only safe and viable option available to them. Between 1992 and 2001, 12,789 Liberian refugees were resettled in industrialised countries around the world.⁷ In 2003, the United Kingdom established a quota resettlement programme, operated jointly with UNHCR, and intends to resettle 500 refugees during the scheme's first year. Criteria for resettlement are set out in the UNHCR's

¹ 2002 UNHCR Population Statistics (provisional) Table 4. Available from: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/statistics/opendoc.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=3f3769672&page=statistics>

² UNHCR (2002) *Statistical Yearbook 2001: Refugees, Asylum-seekers and Other Persons of Concern – Trends in Displacement, Protection and Solutions*, Geneva, UNHCR, Annex A.10. Available from: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=3dcb7f9e4&page=statistics>

³ UNHCR (2003) *Refugees by Numbers*. Available online from: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=3d075d374&page=statistics>

⁴ *ibid.*

⁵ *ibid.*

⁶ UNHCR (2002) 'Refugee population and major changes, 2002' from *2002 Annual Statistical Report: Liberia*, Geneva, UNHCR, 23 July 2003. Available from: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=3f437730e&page=statistics>

⁷ UNHCR (2002) *Statistical Yearbook 2001: Refugees, Asylum-seekers and Other Persons of Concern – Trends in Displacement, Protection and Solutions*, Geneva, UNHCR, Annex C.33. Available from: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=3dcb7f9e4&page=statistics>

Resettlement Handbook⁸ and in the UK's Quota Refugee Resettlement Programme policy instruction.⁹ An initial group of 19 Liberian refugees arrived in Sheffield in late March 2004 and they are due to be joined by a further 49 in April 2004. The group includes men, women and children who fled Liberia during the civil war in 1989 and have spent over ten years living in refugee camps in Guinea, unable to return to Liberia due to the ongoing instability.¹⁰

⁸ UNHCR (2002) *Resettlement Handbook*, Revised edition, July 2002: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/+ywwFqzvm6969K86xK86mFqA72ZR0gRfZNhFqhT0NultFqrpGdBnqBzFqmRbZAFqwDzmwww1FqmRbZ>

⁹ Home Office Quota Refugee Resettlement Programme – guidance to caseworkers, October 2003
<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?PageId=4448>

¹⁰ 'First refugees arrive under new scheme', Home Office Press Release 129/2004, 22 March 2004
<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/news.asp?NewsId=376&SectionId=1>

Profile of the Liberian population in the UK

There is a long history of migration to the UK from Liberia. Diane Frost's recent book on West African migrant workers¹¹ provides a detailed history of one aspect of this, the nineteenth century migration of Kru labourers and seafarers, originally from Liberia, as part of Britain's colonial trade with West Africa, and their subsequent settlement in Liverpool and other areas of the UK. This community formed a number of organisations in the second half of the twentieth century, such as the United Kroo National Society (first registered in 1948), and the Liberian People's Welfare Organisation. Contact details for a number of Liberian community organisations are provided in the [links and contacts](#) section below.

There is limited published material available about the Liberian population in the UK. A summary of largely quantitative data from the 2001 Census, UNHCR, and Home Office citizenship, immigration and asylum statistics is provided in the [statistics](#) section below.

Legal issues

Entry clearance

Liberian nationals need a valid visa prior to travel to the UK. Since 18 June 2003, this requirement has been extended to include Liberian nationals travelling through the UK.¹² As the British Embassy in Monrovia closed in March 1991, applications for entry clearance have to be made instead at the British High Commission in Freetown, Sierra Leone.¹³

Asylum claims

Between 1990 and 2003, the majority of asylum claims from Liberian nationals were refused at the initial decision stage (63% in total – see [statistics](#) section below for further details). According to the UK Home Office, from the early 1990s, Liberian asylum-seekers whose claims were refused were routinely granted Exceptional Leave to Remain (ELR) since the general humanitarian situation in the country precluded their removal. This policy ended in October 2002. The Home Secretary announced that from then on, each case would be decided on an entirely individual basis.¹⁴ However, the Home Office's most recent Liberia Bulletin (dated November 2003) explains that due to the current country conditions, the UNHCR has requested that governments do not enforce the removal of failed Liberian asylum seekers.¹⁵

¹¹ Diane Frost (1999) *Work and Community among West African Migrant Workers since the Nineteenth Century*, Liverpool, Liverpool University Press.

¹² 'Tighter visa regimes for sixteen new countries', Home Office press release 171/2001, 23 June 2003:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/news.asp?NewsId=288&SectionId=1>

¹³ Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK Embassies Overseas – Liberia:

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/ServletFront?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1007029395231&a=Collection&aid=1013618516007>

¹⁴ Liberia Bulletin 4/2002, Country Information Policy Unit, Asylum and Appeals Policy Directorate, 7 October 2002:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?PageId=3228>

¹⁵ Liberia Bulletin 6/2003, Country Information Policy Unit, Asylum and Appeals Policy Directorate, 5 November 2003:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?PageId=4601>

Country information

Home Office caseworkers assessing asylum claims from Liberian nationals use the Country Information Policy Unit's country reports and bulletins on Liberia¹⁶ as a guide to current country conditions. Liberia Bulletin 6 (published November 2003) notes that although there has been an improvement in security in the cities, and particularly in Monrovia, there has been a growing crime wave in the interior of the country, including looting, assaults on civilians, forced labour and rape, reportedly perpetrated by members of rebel groups. Caseworkers are reminded to take note of UNHCR's request in July 2003 that governments do not enforce the removal of failed Liberian asylum seekers.

Asylum and human rights appeals

An appeal determination by the Immigration Appeal Tribunal in December 2003 assessed the general human rights situation in Liberia and the risk on return, considering reports by Amnesty International and the Home Office Country Information Policy Unit. The Tribunal concluded that there were sufficient UN troops in Monrovia to keep the peace in the city and thus that no ordinary citizen was at a real risk of facing harm prohibited by Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights (torture, or inhuman and degrading treatment, or punishment). It also considered that the fact that Amnesty International had been able to visit the internal displacement camps in Margibi county, Bong county and Nimba county indicated that there were no security problems for the people living in those camps.¹⁷

Refugee resettlement programme

The Liberian refugees who come to the UK under the newly established resettlement scheme (the Gateway Protection Programme) will not go through the asylum process, since the scheme applies to those who have already been recognised as refugees by UNHCR.

¹⁶ Liberia Country Report, Country Information and Policy Unit, April 2004:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/filestore/Liberia%20April%202004.pdf>,

Liberia Bulletin 6/2003, 5 November 2003: <http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?PagelD=4601>

¹⁷ *T v. The Secretary of State for the Home Department* UKIAT 00164 [2003]:

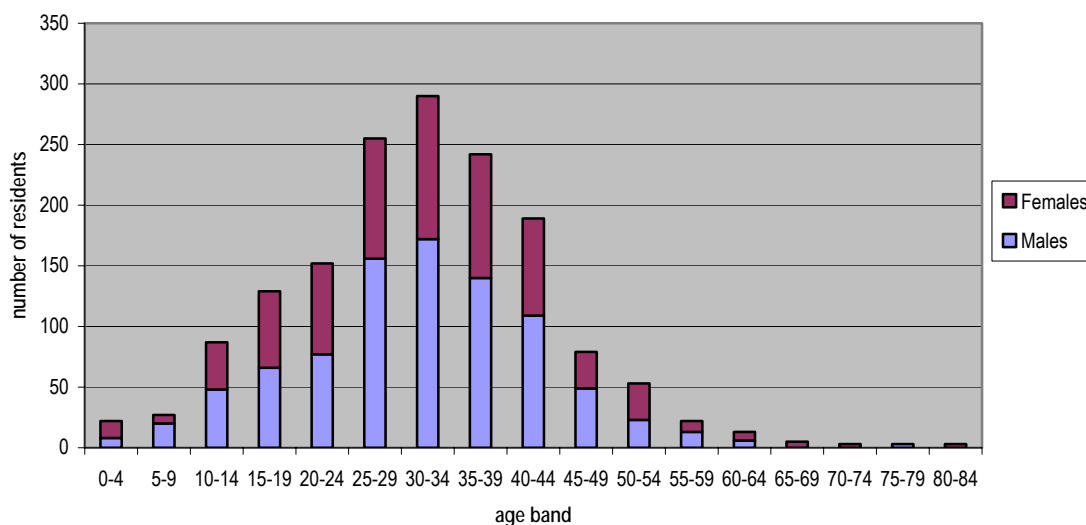
http://www.iaa.gov.uk/2003_ukiat00164_t_liberia.pdf

Statistics

Liberian population in the UK

Data from the 2001 Census¹⁸ shows that 1,577 people living in the UK were from Liberia of whom 980 (56%) were male and 687 (44%) were female.

Liberian resident population in the UK by sex and age group



	Total	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
Males	890	8	20	48	66	77	156	172	140	109	49	23	13	6	0	0	3	0	0
Females	687	14	7	39	63	75	99	118	102	80	30	30	9	7	5	3	0	3	3
Total	1577	22	27	87	129	152	255	290	242	189	79	53	22	13	5	3	3	3	3

¹⁸ Census 2001, Table ES03: Usual resident population by sex, country of birth and age group.
Signpost: Liberian refugees in the UK

Other sources of statistical data about the Liberian population in the UK are the annual statistics on grants of settlement and citizenship. These show that 520 Liberians were granted settlement in the UK between 1998 and 2002¹⁹ and 367 Liberians were granted British citizenship between 1997 and 2002.²⁰

Grants of British citizenship in the UK to Liberians

Year	Number of grants
1997	7
1998	24
1999	23
2000	63
2001	110
2002	140
2003	170

Liberian refugees and asylum seekers in the UK

However, it is difficult to accurately estimate the percentage of the Liberian population in the UK who are refugees. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that there were 250 refugees in the UK at the end of 2002.²¹ According to the UK Home Office, 3,015 asylum applications were received from Liberian nationals between 1990 and 2003 and 2,770 decisions were made. Of these 80 were granted asylum (3%), a further 950 (34%) were granted either Exceptional Leave, Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave and 1,735 (63%) were refused.²² At least 125 of those refused had their asylum appeals allowed (15% of all appeals determined),²³ indicating that at least 1,155 asylum applicants were given protection in the UK between 1990 and 2003 (38% of the total). 85 asylum applicants were removed or departed voluntarily between 1994 and 2003.²⁴ Details of Liberian asylum applications, outcomes and first tier appeals between 1990 and 2003 are provided in the graphs below.²⁵

¹⁹ Figures not included in the published annual or quarterly asylum statistics: supplied by Immigration Research and Statistics Service, Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office.

²⁰ Figures taken from Dudley, J. & Woollacott, S. (2004) *Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 2003* 07/04, 25 May 2004: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs04/hosb0704.pdf>, Dudley, J. & Woollacott, S. (2003) *Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 2002* 09/03, 28 August 2003: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs2/hosb903.pdf>, Dudley, J. and Hesketh, K. (2002) *Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 2001*, 06/02, 27 June 2002: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs2/hosb602.pdf>, Dudley, J. and Harvey, P. (2001) *Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 2000*, 9/01, 31 May 2001: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs/hosb901.pdf>, Kilsby, P. & McGregor, R. (2000) *Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 1999*, 10/00, 8 June 2000: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs/hosb1000.pdf>, Chilton, T. & Kilsby, P. (1999) *Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 1988*, 6/99, 20 April 1999: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs/hosb699.pdf>, Chilton, T. & Kilsby, P. (1998) *Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 1987*, 9/98, 9 April 1998: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs/hosb998.pdf>

²¹ UNHCR (2002) 'Refugee population and major changes, 2002' from *Annual Statistical Report: Liberia*, Geneva, UNHCR, 23 July 2003. Available from: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/openssl.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=3f437730e&page=statistics>

²² Humanitarian Protection and Discretionary Leave replaced Exceptional Leave from 1 April 2003.

²³ Only limited statistics are available relating to the outcome of asylum appeals – for 1995-1998 and 2002-2003. No figures are available for the years 1999, 2000 or 2001.

²⁴ No figures are available for removals and voluntary departures in either 1999 or 2000.

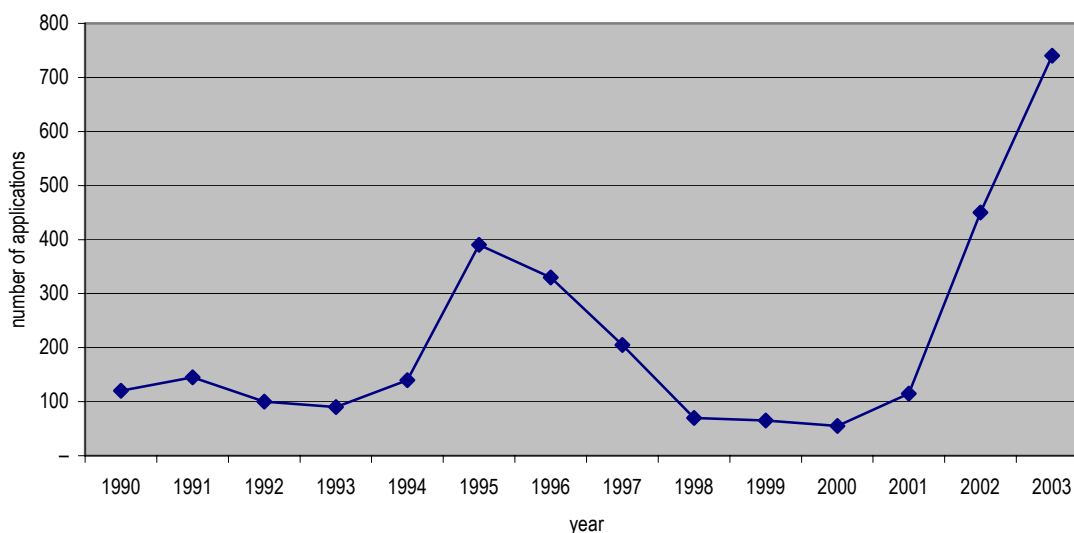
²⁵ In the UK, published statistical summaries of asylum applications and other types of migration to the UK do not include details of all national groups. Since Liberians are not among the largest groups of African asylum seekers or other immigrants to the UK, statistical data about the number of asylum applications from, or other types of migration to, the UK by Liberians is not provided in the published statistics, but is instead grouped together with a number of other nationalities in the 'other Africa' category. Such information may, however, be obtained on request from the

Asylum applications and outcomes

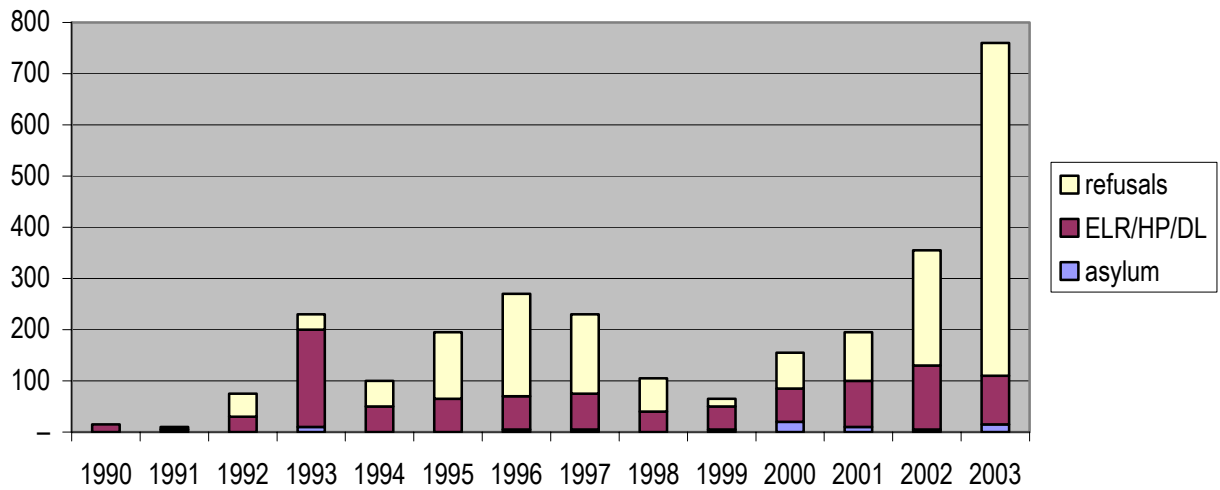
Asylum applications received in the United Kingdom, excluding dependants, and initial decisions on applications, nationals of Liberia, 1992-2003

Year	Applications			Decisions					
	Total	Port	In-country	Total decisions	Grants of asylum	Grants of ELR	Grants of HP	Grants of DL	Total refusals
1990	120	n/a	n/a	15	-	15	n/a	n/a	0
1991	145	n/a	n/a	10	-	5	n/a	n/a	5
1992	100	n/a	n/a	75	*	30	n/a	n/a	45
1993	90	n/a	n/a	230	10	190	n/a	n/a	30
1994	140	80	55	110	*	50	n/a	n/a	50
1995	390	260	130	200	-	65	n/a	n/a	130
1996	330	150	175	265	5	65	n/a	n/a	200
1997	205	70	135	235	5	70	n/a	n/a	155
1998	70	10	60	105	*	40	n/a	n/a	65
1999	65	10	60	65	5	45	n/a	n/a	15
2000	55	10	50	155	20	65	n/a	n/a	70
2001	115	5	110	190	10	90	n/a	n/a	95
2002	450	130	320	355	5	125	n/a	n/a	225
2003	740	330	415	760	15	10	*	85	650
Total	3,015	1,055	1,510	2,770	80	865	*	85	1,735

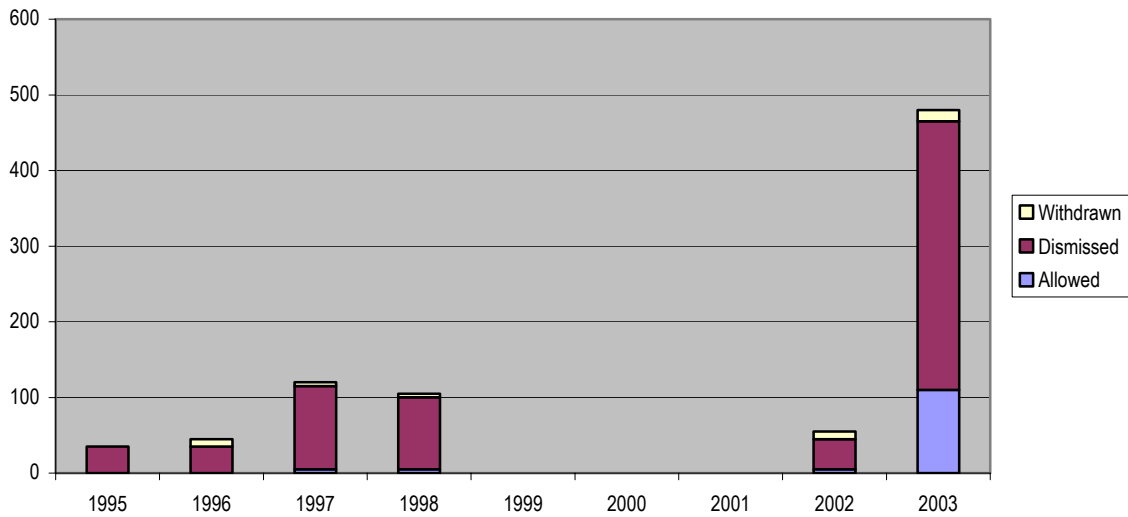
Asylum applications received in the UK from Liberian nationals, 1992-2003



Decisions on Liberian asylum applications, 1990-2003



Outcome of Liberian asylum adjudicator appeals, 1995-2003



N.B. No statistics are available for Liberian adjudicator appeals in 1999, 2000, or 2001.

NASS support

At the end of December 2003, 390 Liberian asylum seekers were in receipt of support from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS): 260 were living in NASS accommodation and the remaining 130 were in receipt of subsistence only support.²⁶

²⁶ Figures not included in the published annual or quarterly asylum statistics: supplied by Immigration Research and Statistics Service, Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office.

Real lives

Read about the experiences of Liberian refugees:

Abdul

Abdul, an asylum seeker from Liberia, describes the reasons for leaving his country and his journey to the UK by ship. This story is available as part of the Southampton schools Refugee Week competition materials:
<http://www.southampton-city.ac.uk/refugeeweek/Profiles.pdf>

Osman Bah

Osman, a former child soldier in Liberia, tells of his wartime experiences and explains how he sought protection in the UK as an unaccompanied child asylum seeker.
<http://www.opendemocracy.net/themes/article-10-1685.jsp>

Paul

Paul is a child refugee from Liberia, living with a host family in Sierra Leone, who describes the reasons for his flight and his life in exile.
http://www.unhcr.org.uk/youth/global_issues/education.htm#Paul

Marlboro Thomas

Marlboro explains how he fled Liberia and was smuggled into Europe where he sought asylum and describes the difficulties he faced as a refugee.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/static/in_depth/world/2001/road_to_refuge/journey/testimony.stm

Resources

Publications

This section contains references of useful resources on Liberia, including recent history, civil war, and displacement. If you would like to suggest a resource to be included in the list, please contact Rachel.Henson@kcl.ac.uk

Details and websites of organisations are listed in the [links and contacts](#) section.

UK policy on Liberian refugees and asylum seekers

Home Office Quota Refugee Resettlement Programme – guidance to caseworkers, October 2003
<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?PageId=4448>

Home Office Liberia Country Report, Country Information and Policy Unit, April 2004.
<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/filestore/Liberia%20April%202004.pdf>

Home Office Liberia Bulletin 6/2003, Country Information and Policy Unit, Asylum and Appeals Policy Directorate, 5 November 2003.
<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?pageid=2713>

Home Office Liberia Bulletin 4/2002, Country Information and Policy Unit, Asylum and Appeals Policy Directorate, 7 October 2002.
<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?PageId=3228>

Civil war

Adebajo, Adekeye (2002) *Liberia's civil war: Nigeria, ECOMOG, and regional security in West Africa*, Boulder, Colorado & London, Lynne Rienner.

Alao, Abiodun, Mackinlay, John and Olonisakin, Funmi (1999) *Peacekeepers, Politicians and Warlords: The Liberian Peace Process*, United Nations Publications.

Alao, Abiodun (1998) *The burden of collective goodwill: the international involvement in the Liberian Civil War*, Aldershot, Hants, Ashgate.

Aning, Emmanuel Kwezi (1994) *Managing regional security in West Africa: Ecomog, Ecomog and Liberia*, Copenhagen, Centre for Development Research.

Aning, Emmanuel Kwezi (1997) *The international dimensions of internal conflict: the case of Liberia and West Africa*, Copenhagen, Centre for Development Research.

Bennett, Olivia, Bexley, Jo & Warnock, Kitty (1995) 'Liberia', 27-49 in *Arms to Fight, Arms to Protect: Women Speak Out About Conflict*, London, Panos.

- Binitie, Austin O. (1998) *Blood and bones in Liberia*, Abidjan, Editions Souvenirs.
- Brehun, Leonard (1991) *Liberia, war of horror*, Legon, Adwinsa.
- Ellis, Stephen (1999) *The mask of anarchy: the destruction of Liberia and the religious dimension of an African civil war*, London, Hurst.
- Fawole, W. Alade (2001) *Military power and third-party conflict mediation in West Africa: the Liberia and Sierra Leone case studies*, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, Obafeme Awolowo University Press.
- Huband, Mark (1998) *The Liberian Civil War*, London, Frank Cass.
- Human Rights Watch (1994) *Easy prey: child soldiers in Liberia*, New York & London, Human Rights Watch.
- Nass, I.A. (2000) *A study in internal conflicts: the Liberian crisis and the West African peace initiative*, Enugu, Nigeria, Fourth Dimension Publishers.
- Ogunleye, Bayo (1995) *Behind rebel line: anatomy of Charles Taylor's hostage camps*, Enugu, Delta.
- Omonijo, Mobolade (1990) *Doe: the Liberian tragedy*, Ikeja, Sahel.
- Reno, William (1997) *Humanitarian Emergencies and Warlord Economies in Liberia and Sierra Leone*, World Institute for Economic Research, Working Paper No. 140, August 1997, The United Nations University.
- Vogt, M.A. & Aminu, L.S., eds., (1996) *Peace keeping as a security strategy in Africa: Chad and Liberia as case studies*, Enugu, Nigeria, Fourth Dimension Pub.
- Weller, M. (1994) *Regional peace-keeping and international enforcement: the Liberian crisis*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

History and general political analysis

- Beyan, Amos J. (1991) *The American Colonization Society and the creation of the Liberian state: a historical perspective, 1822 – 1909*, Lanham, New York & London, University Press of America.
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US Agency for International Development (USAID), Liberia – Complex Emergency, Situation Report, 8 October 2003

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/countries/mano_river/fy2004/Liberia_CE_SR02_10-08-2004.pdf

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<http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=3dcb7f9e4&page=statistics>

Online resources

See also the [publications](#) section for documents that are available online.

Country information summaries and guides

Amnesty International
2004 report, Liberia: covers events from January – December 2003
<http://web.amnesty.org/report2004/lbr-summary-eng>

BBC Liberia country guide
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/country_profiles/1043500.stm

CIA World Factbook – Liberia
<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/li.html>

Contemporary Africa Database – Liberian Institutions
<http://africadatabase.org/cgi-bin/s1?words=Liberia&restrict=institutions.africa&config=cad>

Essex University Children and Armed Conflict Unit - Liberia Country Profile
http://www.essex.ac.uk/armedcon/world/africa/west_africa/liberia/default.htm

Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK - Liberia country profile, last reviewed 12 January 2004:
<http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1007029394365&a=KCountryProfile&aid=1019744966050>

Global Connections: Liberia

U.S.-based site providing 'background information and resources for high school teachers, students, and the generally curious to gain a better understanding of key events of national and international significance'

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/liberia/>

Global IDP Database of the Norwegian Refugee Council – Liberia country profile

<http://www.db.idpproject.org/Sites/IdpProjectDb/idpSurvey.nsf/wCountries/Liberia> - can be downloaded

Human Development Indicators for Liberia (UN)

http://www.undp.org/hdr2003/indicator/cty_f_LBR.html

Human Rights Watch – Liberia

<http://hrw.org/doc?t=africa&c=liberi>

Hutchison/Tiscali country facts, Liberia

<http://www.tiscali.co.uk/reference/encyclopaedia/countryfacts/liberia.html>

INCORE (International Conflict Research, a joint initiative between the University of Ulster and the United Nations University) Conflict Data Service

Guide to internet sources on conflict and ethnicity in Liberia

<http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/cds/countries/liberia.html>

InfoPlease – Liberia

An information service providing authoritative answers to all kinds of factual questions since 1938—first as a popular radio quiz show, then starting in 1947 as an annual almanac, and since 1998 on the Internet.

<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0107718.html>

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Details of the ICRC's activities in Liberia and links to reports and articles by other organisations.

<http://www.icrc.org/Web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/liberia?OpenDocument>

Other online resources

African Commission on Human and People's Rights

Established by the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights which came into force on 21 October 1986 after its adoption in NAIROBI (KENYA) in 1981 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU.) the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights is charged with ensuring the promotion and protection of Human and Peoples' Rights throughout the African Continent.

<http://www.achpr.org/html/africancommissiononhuman.html>

The Black Presence in Britain – Black British History

<http://www.blackpresence.co.uk/index.htm>

Centre for Democracy and Development

A non-governmental organisation which aims to promote the values of democracy, peace and human rights in Africa, and especially in the West African sub-region.

<http://www.cdd.org.uk/index.html>

Electronic Immigration Network (EIN)

This site publishes case law relating to Liberians, and country of origin information. However, these are only accessible to members.

<http://www.ein.org.uk>

Every Generation Online

An online community resource to the black community in the UK to facilitate the personal development and empowerment of young people and to bridge the gap with the older generation through history, family genealogy and heritage.

<http://www.everygeneration.co.uk/>

Forced Migration Online

Dick, Shelly (2003) *Liberia*, Forced Migration Online Research Guide, June 2003.

<http://www.forcedmigration.org/guides/fmo013/>

The FMO site also has a number of searchable databases that provide access to online resources about refugees and asylum seekers.

<http://www.forcedmigration.org>

Home Office, Research Development and Statistics

This area contains online versions of statistical and research reports published by the Home Office, including those listed in the publications section.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration1.html>

Human Rights Watch

This website has a collection of relevant documents, publications and reports in its 'Africa: Liberia' section.

<http://hrw.org/doc/?t=africa&c=liberi>

HRW's World Report 2003, Liberia section is also available online.

<http://www.hrw.org/wr2k3/africa7.html>

OHCHR – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Contains information relating to human rights and human rights legislation around the world.

<http://www.unhchr.ch>

Oxfam – information about Oxfam's activities and policies relating to Liberia

http://www.oxfam.org.uk/what_we_do/where_we_work/liberia/index.htm

Port Cities

Details of the maritime history of port cities, outlining the diversity of their history and culture.

<http://www.portcities.org.uk/>

UK National Census 2001

Contains statistical information relating to the UK population, including data on country of birth.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/>

UNHCR – The UN Refugee Agency

Features statistics, maps, research papers, evaluations and details of UNHCR programmes. Items relating to Liberia can be identified using the search function.

<http://www.unhcr.ch>

US Department of State

Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2003: Liberia (published 25 February 2004).

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2003/27735.htm>

US Committee for Refugees

Information from the World Refugee Survey 2004, news and reports and real life testimonies can all be accessed from the Liberia country information page.

http://www.refugees.org/wrs04/country_updates/africa/liberia.html

Details of the UK/UNHCR quota resettlement programme

Resettlement - UNHCR in the UK

<http://www.unhcr.org.uk/resettlement/index.html>

The UK refugee resettlement programme – Refugee Council

<http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/refugeecouncil/what/resettlement.htm>

'Resettling Refugees' – article from Refugee Council's *InExile* magazine

http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/downloads/publications/inexile/samples/28_resettlement.pdf

UNHCR Easy Guide to Resettlement Programmes, 15 June 2003

[http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-](http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/+AwwBme1FyDewxwwwwwwwwwwwwFqzvxm_mXmX6hFqA72ZR0gRfZNtFqr72ZR0gRzFqmRbZAFqA72ZR0gRfZNDzmxwwwwwwwww1FqmRbZ/.opendoc.pdf)

[bin/texis/vtx/home/+AwwBme1FyDewxwwwwwwwwwwwwFqzvxm_mXmX6hFqA72ZR0gRfZNtFqr72ZR0gRzFqmRbZAFqA72ZR0gRfZNDzmxwwwwwwwww1FqmRbZ/](http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/+AwwBme1FyDewxwwwwwwwwwwwwFqzvxm_mXmX6hFqA72ZR0gRfZNtFqr72ZR0gRzFqmRbZAFqA72ZR0gRfZNDzmxwwwwwwwww1FqmRbZ/.opendoc.pdf)
[opendoc.pdf](http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/+AwwBme1FyDewxwwwwwwwwwwwwFqzvxm_mXmX6hFqA72ZR0gRfZNtFqr72ZR0gRzFqmRbZAFqA72ZR0gRfZNDzmxwwwwwwwww1FqmRbZ/.opendoc.pdf)

UNHCR – Protecting Refugees: Resettlement

<http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home?page=PROTECT&id=3b8366bc4>

Other political resources

Flags of the World, Liberia

<http://flagspot.net/flags/lr.html>

Maps of Liberia

From ReliefWeb, a project of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

http://www.reliefweb.int/w/map.nsf/Country?OpenForm&Query=Af_Liberia

Political Leaders of Liberia

<http://www.terra.es/personal2/monolith/liberia.htm>

Regents of the World (Liberian heads of State)

<http://www.info-regenten.de/regent/regent-e/liberia.htm>

Cultural resources

A guide to Liberian cultural and social norms – produced by the Resettlement Inter-Agency Partnership (RIAP) in February 2004 to assist front-line agency staff involved in the UK Resettlement Programme.

http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/downloads/publications/advisers_info/liberian_cult_feb04.pdf

Ethnologue.com – languages of Liberia

http://www.ethnologue.com/show_country.asp?name=Liberia

Liberian Collections Project – Indiana University's project which aims to collect, preserve and make available a comprehensive range of materials and information about Liberia for researchers, students and teachers, with special emphasis on reaching Liberians in Liberia and in the Diaspora.

<http://www.onliberia.org/>

Academic research centres

British Library African Collections

<http://www.bl.uk/collections/african.html>

Centre of African Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

<http://www.soas.ac.uk/centres/centreinfo.cfm?navid=669>

Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh

<http://www.cas.ed.ac.uk/>

Centre of West African Studies (CWAS), University of Birmingham

<http://www.cwas.bham.ac.uk/>

Columbia University African Studies department – Liberia resources

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/web/indiv/africa/cuvl/Liberia.html>

Stanford University Libraries and Academic Information Resources (SULAIR)

Africa South of the Sahara - Liberia

Directory of online Liberian resources, including details of historical archives and library collections

<http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/liberia.html>

University of Pennsylvania African Studies Centre - Liberia page

http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African_Studies/Country_Specific/Liberia.html

Networks and listservs

Discussion list on Liberian issues

To subscribe, send an email to: listserv@uga.cc.uga.edu

In the body of the message, type:

SUBSCRIBE LSA -L Firstname Lastname

West African Refugees and Displaced Persons Network

http://www.waripnet.org/initiatives/mass_influx.htm

News sites

All About Liberia - 'by Liberians in Liberia', includes news, sport, photos, and tourism information

<http://www.allaboutliberia.com/>

AllAfrica.com – Liberia news

<http://allafrica.com/liberia/>

Association of Liberian Journalists in the Americas

<http://www.liberianjournalists.org/>

Einnews.com – an online news service, founded in 1995, which draws political, business, cultural and scientific news from hundreds of sources.

<http://www.einnews.com/liberia/>

Friends of Liberia e-zine – an electronic newsletter produced by the non-governmental organisation, Friends of Liberia. The first issue was published in Summer 2004.

<http://www.birdnest.org/fof/>

IRIN News.org – from the United Nations Integrated Regional Information Networks, part of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

http://www.irinnews.org/frontpage.asp?SelectRegion=West_Africa&SelectCountry=Liberia

Liberia Life (from World News network)

<http://www.liberianews.com/>

Liberia Post – from World News network

<http://www.liberiapost.com/>

Liberian Connection (news and information website)

<http://www.liberian-connection.com/>

Liberian Dialogue (news and commentary)

<http://www.theliberiandialogue.org/>

Liberian Institute of Journalism

<http://www.lij.kabissa.org/lij/>

Liberian Orbit

News and features website which aims to 'preserve the ongoing history of Liberia, as well as highlight activities and archives of its West African environment'

<http://www.liberiaorbit.org/>

Liberian Post – internet magazine

<http://liberian.tripod.com/Post.html>

New Democrat, news site based in the Netherlands, includes news articles and letters

<http://www.newdemocrat.org/>

NewsTrove.com – Liberia, indexes and categorises news articles from a variety of English-language publications, including news media and political organisations

<http://newstrove.com/cgi-bin/search.pl?search=liberia&title=Liberia&category=world&alias=liberia>

OneWorld.net, Liberia news – international news site with a focus on human rights and development issues

<http://www.oneworld.net/article/country/430/>

The Palava Hut, Texas-based news and discussion site

<http://www.thepalavahut.org/>

The Perspective – news magazine based in Atlanta, Georgia and produced by Liberian Democratic Future (LDF), ‘a group of Liberians from different ethnic backgrounds, genders, religious beliefs and political persuasions who are dedicated to pluralistic, democratic Liberia’

<http://www.theperspective.org/>

ReliefWeb: Liberia – a project of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), ‘serving the information needs of the humanitarian relief community’. Includes up-to-date news postings, and activity reports and statements from humanitarian agencies

<http://www.reliefweb.int/w/rwb.nsf/ByCountry/Liberia?OpenDocument&StartKey=Liberia&Expandview>

Reuters/AlertNet - Liberian country information and links

<http://www.alertnet.org/thefacts/countryprofiles/218285.htm>

SaharaVillage.com - ‘an African and Liberian community exchange center’, based in Atlanta, Georgia:

<http://www.saharavillage.com/>

Yahoo – Liberia News

<http://news.yahoo.com/fc?tmpl=fc&cid=34&in=world&cat=liberia>

Reports of the UK resettlement programme

We’re in heaven after leaving African ‘hell’!, Sheffield Today, 23 March 2004

<http://www.sheffieldtoday.net/ViewArticle.aspx?SectionID=58&ArticleID=761379>

City Offers Safe Haven for Victims of Misery: ‘We should be proud to offer refuge from torture’, Yorkshire Post, 23 March 2004

<http://www.yorkshiretoday.co.uk/ViewArticle2.aspx?SectionID=55&ArticleID=761225>

UN refugees arrive in Britain, Guardian, 23 March 2004

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/guardianpolitics/story/0,3605,1175569,00.html>

City offers refugees protection, BBC news online, 23 March 2004

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/south_yorkshire/3559909.stm

UK refugee resettlement programme begins, Refugee Council press release, 23 March 2004

<http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/news/mar04/relea155.htm>

Government to open the door to Liberian refugees, Ananova, 7 August 2003

http://www.ananova.com/news/story/sm_806777.html?menu=

New refugee route set up, BBC, 7th August 2003

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/3130775.stm

UK may admit Liberia refugees, News 24, 7 August 2003

http://www.news24.com/News24/Africa/News/0,,2-11-1447_1398591,00.html

UK gets wide support for UNHCR resettlement scheme for vulnerable refugees, UNHCR, 4 September 2003

<http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/%2B4wwBmeP-bVCwwwwwwwwwwwFqnN0bItFqnDni5AFqnN0bIDzmqwwwwww/opendoc.html>

Caselaw cited in this guide

T v The Secretary of State for the Home Department UKIAT 00164 [2003]

http://www.iaa.gov.uk/2003_ukiat00164_t_liberia.pdf

Determinations of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal from 2003 and 2004 are available from the UK Immigration Appellate Authority's website:

<http://www.iaa.gov.uk/>

Caselaw and commentary is also accessible to members of the Electronic Immigration Network (EIN) at

<http://www.ein.org.uk>.

Projects and initiatives

This section aims to provide basic information relating to a number of current or recently completed projects and initiatives relating specifically to Liberian refugees and asylum seekers. ICAR is not aware of any recent or current research, training or other projects specifically targeting Liberian asylum seekers and refugees in the UK. If you would like your project to feature in the list and ICAR's projects database, then please contact Rachel.Henson@kcl.ac.uk

Links and contacts

This section aims to provide contact details for organisations and individuals whose work relates to Liberian refugee and asylum seeker issues. Some of these links refer specifically to Liberians in the UK, while others refer to the African community more generally but have been included here because they are also relevant for Liberians.

This list will be updated as other useful links and contacts are identified. If you would like to add details of your organisation to these pages, then please email Rachel.Henson@icar.org.uk

Links to publications are provided in the [resources](#) section.

Please note that all these organisations are UK-based. If you are calling from outside the UK, please prefix the number with country code 44 and omit the initial 0.

Liberian organisations in the UK

Liberians In Britain Encouraging Reconciliation Internationally And Nationally (L.I.B.E.R.I.A.N.)

LIBERIAN aims to advance the social and economic development of Liberians resident in Britain and those who are internally displaced and in refugee camps, to improve their living conditions through the provision of education, advice, information and counselling, and to advocate for peace and reconciliation amongst Liberians globally. It holds regular meetings and fundraising events as well as promoting the rights of Liberian refugees and asylum seekers, and lobbying the British government to help resolve the conflict in Liberia and to support post-war reconstruction efforts. LIBERIAN is also a member of the Management Committee of the Northamptonshire Black History Project.

17 Tate Grove
Hardingstone
Northampton
NN4 6UY
T 01604 761386
M 0779 388 4509
E Liberian_uk@yahoo.com
<http://liberianpeople.tripod.com>

Liberian Medical Association

The Association's members are all medical doctors in the UK and they meet on a six-monthly basis. The Association works to support medical facilities in Liberia, through fundraising and sending books and journals, and it has close links with the Monrovia department of Medicine. They also offer advice to Liberians in the UK.

Contact: George Flahn, Chair
T 0121 552 0031
E gn@flahn.freerve.co.uk

Liberian Union

The organisation provides advice and information to Liberians in the UK (including asylum seekers and refugees) about a number of issues including education, housing, immigration matters, and social security benefits.

180 Lightbowne Road

Manchester

M40 5EE

Contact: Mr Moses Kerkula, Chairman

T 0161 205 8819

E mkerkula@tiscali.co.uk

Academics, researchers and other country experts in the UK

Philippa Atkinson

Tutorial Fellow, Development Studies Institute (DESTIN), London School of Economics,

Ms Atkinson is the author of the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) quarterly reports on Liberia which cover economic and political developments in the country. She has been researching Liberia and the sub-region of Africa since the early 1990s and was particularly involved in aid policy research from 1996-2000.

Development Studies Institute (DESTIN)

London School of Economics and Political Science

Houghton Street

London

WC2A 2AE

T 020 7849 4652

E P.M.Atkinson@lse.ac.uk

Dr David Brown

Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute

Dr Brown conducted doctoral research on the political economic of Eastern Liberia and has an ongoing interest in the region. He was Oxfam-UK's regional representative for coastal West Africa from 1983-1987 and University Lecturer in Social Development and Development Management at the University of Reading from 1987-1996. As part of his current work at ODI, he undertakes frequent advisory missions for the UK Department for International Development (DFID) on governance and social development issues and also conducts programme reviews and evaluations for a number of European development assistance agencies.

Overseas Development Institute

111 Westminster Bridge Road

London

SE1 7JD

T 020 7922 0329

F 020 7922 0399

E d.brown@odi.org.uk

Maxson Sahr Kpakio

Max Kpakio practiced as a journalist and a human rights worker in Liberia, before leaving the country in early 2000, and seeking refuge initially in Ghana and then in the UK. He has been in the UK since December 2001 and currently lives in Swansea. Max is a member of the Exiled Journalists Network run by the Refugees and the Media project of The PressWise Trust. He has contact with members of the Liberian community in the UK and speaks English and Kissi.

E smax2006@hotmail.com

<http://www.ramproject.org.uk/directory/> [search for 'Liberia' or by name]

Dr 'Funmi Olonisakin

Director, Conflict, Security and Development Group, International Policy Institute, King's College London. Dr Olonisakin has written extensively on security and gender. Her work has examined the impact of state collapse in Liberia and Sierra Leone and the role of peacekeeping organisations. She was formerly an adviser to the United Nations Secretary General's Special Representative on War Affected Children and is a member of the International Governing Council of the Centre for Democracy and Development, an NGO which promoted democracy, peace and human rights in Africa with a particular focus on the West African sub-region.

Conflict, Security and Development Group, International Policy Institute

King's College London

The Strand

London, WC2R 2LS

T 020 7848 2946

F 020 7848 2748

E funmiolonisakin@runbox.com

<http://people.africadatabase.org/people/profiles/profilesforperson12852.html>

Alex Vines

Head, Africa Programme, Royal Institute of International Affairs

Alex Vines was a member of the UN Panel of Experts on Liberia from 2001-2003. He has been a Senior Researcher in Business and Human Rights at Human Rights Watch since 2002, and formerly worked in their Arms and Africa Divisions. His research includes African politics, UN embargoes in Africa, and Liberia and regional security.

RIIA

Chatham House

10 St James's Square

London

SW1Y 4LE

T 020 7957 5713

F 020 7957 5710

E chungvines@aol.com

<http://www.riia.org/index.php?id=2-&eid=2>

Non UK-based Liberian organisations

Friends of Liberia

A non-governmental organisation based in Washington DC that assists Liberians in rehabilitation and development, focussing on education, human rights, community development and good governance. Hosts a Liberia news email bulletin.

<http://www.fol.org/>

Liberian Studies Association

A non-profit scholarly organisations created to provide a means for effective cooperation among persons interested in furthering research on Liberia in all scholarly disciplines, including the sciences, social sciences and humanities, on topics relevant to the Republic of Liberia and adjacent areas. The Liberian Studies Association publishes the bi-annual *Liberian Studies Journal*.

<http://faculty.uncfsu.edu/doyler/lsapq.htm>

African organisations in the UK

The Africa Centre

The Africa Centre, a charity established in 1961, aims to promote positive awareness about Africa, and to help to empower the African diaspora in the UK, and to support Africa's development aspirations. The Centre has a library, bookshop, bar and restaurant and hosts the Contemporary Africa Database, a participatory online project, designed to provide easily accessible and current information concerning prominent Africans, African organisations, and dates in the African calendar.

38 King Street

Covent Garden

London

WC2E

T 020 7836 1973

F 020 7836 1975

E: info@afriacentre.org.uk

<http://www.afriacentre.org.uk/>

African Education and Training Initiative (AETI)

AETi is a development charity involved in providing education and employment training for individuals and community organisations working with and on behalf of African communities in Greenwich and Bexley boroughs.

48-50 Artillery Place, Woolwich, London, SE18 4AB, T: 020 8316 5123, F: 020 8317 4172, E:

info@aeti.org.uk

www.aeti.org.uk

Africa Educational Trust

The AET was founded in 1958 to support the anti-apartheid struggle and independence movements in Africa. During the 1970s and 1980s its work involved helping exiles and refugees in the UK to receive the qualifications and skills they needed to reform and develop their home countries. Refugee support currently forms about 25% of their work, the remaining 75% being to support education and development projects in Africa.

38 King Street
London
WC2E 8JR
T 020 7836 5075/7940
F 020 7379 0090
E aet@cwcom.net
<http://www.africaed.org>

African Studies Association of the UK (ASAUK)

Founded in 1963, ASAUK is a registered charity which seeks to promote lively debate in the academic study of Africa. It seeks to foster the dissemination of knowledge and public awareness of African issues, and to build and strengthen links with African universities and related institutions. It holds a biannual conference and sponsors workshops, symposia and conferences around the UK.

ASAUK
c/o School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)
Thornhaugh Street
Russell Square
London
WC1H 0XG
T 020 7898 4390
F 020 7898 4389
E info@asauk.net
<http://www.asauk.net/>

Royal African Society

The RAS describes itself as 'Britain's primary Africa organisation.' It publishes *African Affairs* [<http://afraf.oupjournals.org/>] and organises meetings, discussions and other activities to strengthen links between Africa and Britain and encourage understanding of Africa and its relations with the rest of the world.

c/o School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)
Thornhaugh Street
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F 020 7898 4389
<http://royalafricansociety.org/>