

Special Issue

The Shifting Sands of Refugee Protection: Normativity, Crisis, and Contemporary UK Asylum

Message from the Guest Editors

With the UK, building on previous legacies of offshoring, such as those seen in Australia and now becoming one of the most active states in terms of steps to limit the ability of people to seek sanctuary, this Special Issue brings together a range of experts on refugee protection whose knowledge and experience pertains, inter alia, to UK asylum law and practice. It will explore policy and legislative changes introduced by the British government in the years 2022–2024, with a view to understanding how different elements of the Refugee Status Determination process and ensuing refugee rights have been impacted. The works across this Special Issue draw on scholars with specialised expertise, such as understanding of LGBTQIA+, women’s and, children’s asylum claims, expanding criminalisation, externalisation as well as legal aid and situating the UK in a comparative and global perspective. This is accompanied by broader analysis of the systemic shifts we have witnessed across the UK asylum system.

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Laws is an international, open access journal featuring rigorous scholarship on critical developments in governance, courts, agencies, and social order. Analysis and synthesis, theory and practice, and empirical and doctrinal work have appeared in the journal; contributions that bridge these traditional boundaries are particularly welcome. The social sciences and humanities generate insights both from and for the legal system. While theory grounds *Laws* in a timeless dialogue shaped by traditions of inquiry, legal practice ensures that scholars are addressing pressing problems. Both normative and positive scholarship can aid policymakers, judges, and agency officials. *Laws* brings together the work of theorists and practitioners, and a diverse range of empirical researchers, to promote the progress of foundational legal norms.

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