Founded in 2006, BAJI is a Black US-based national organization that fights for the rights of Black migrants and African Americans through organizing, legal advocacy, research, policy, and narrative building to improve the conditions of Black communities by advancing racial justice and migrant rights.

Migration is a human right and not unprecedented. Nearly 1 in 3 forcibly displaced persons are from majority Black countries, a share that is projected to continue increasing over time.

Yet, the right to migrate, particularly as it pertains to people of African descent, is consistently under attack. The anti-Black policies that migrants of African descent face throughout the world have resulted in a universal experience of anti-Blackness, militarized borders, exclusion, violation of human rights and international law, targeted hyper-surveillance, criminalization, brute force, and death. Specfically in the United States, the disparate treatment faced by Black migrants in the civil immigration system is amplified by the anti-Blackness of the criminal punishment system that over-criminalizes all Black people in the US.

Migrants of African descent continue to be disproportionately targeted by the criminal punishment and immigration detention and deportation systems working together. Around the world, anti-Black racial profiling by law enforcement and immigration enforcement systems results in a police-to-deportation pipeline that criminalizes migrants of African descent and forcibly removes and separates Black migrants from families and communities. As we indicated in further detail in the reports linked below:

* In the United States, 76% of Black migrants who are deported are deported because of contact with law enforcement, mainly due to racial profiling and harsher criminal punishment.
* Black migrants are victims of racist police violence, including assault, torture, and killings. Black migrants are also the victims of violence by local law enforcement and immigration enforcement agents. Patrick Loyoya, Bade Ali Jabir, and Chiewelthap Mariar are only a few of the Black migrants killed by local law enforcement over the past year. CBP and ICE agents have inflicted violence on Black migrants, especially at US borders and detention centers.
* A new FOIA request corroborated a previous study that found that 24 percent of all people in solitary confinement were Black, despite Black migrants accounting for only four percent of the total ICE detention population from 2012-2017
* By June 2022, the U.S. paroled 82% of Ukrainian migrants into the US to seek asylum in comparison to just 9% of Black migrants seeking asylum in the same timeframe.

We want to highlight the need for the United Nations General Assembly to address the dehumanization of migrants of African descent around the globe pursuant to UN General Assembly resolution 77/205, which makes a "global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action”. The human rights and dignity of migrants of African descent are violated with impunity through local law and immigration enforcement systems and exploitative labor schemes - both rooted in colonialism and chattel enslavement. Abolition of cops, cages, and borders is the only solution to these concerns, and this UN General Assembly should lead the way.

The work of nations at the UN General Assembly must include prioritizing and actualizing the right to migrate and the right to be free of the violence of policing and incarceration in all of its forms, including immigration enforcement systems. The United Nations prides itself on being a champion of human rights, and advocating for Black migrants across the globe is a necessity for such a champion. Addressing the current anti-Blackness of the US immigration system that renders Black people's migration in search of freedom and human flourishing as warranting draconian, violent, and sometimes deadly responses is a necessity for such a champion.

We urge the UN General Assembly to prioritize the work required to protect Black migrants wholistically.

**BAJI Statement:**

1. [Violence by Custom & Border Patrol (CBP) and Immigration Customs & Enforcement (ICE)](https://baji.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/CRCLComplaintRegardingTheWRAP_Final.pdf)
2. [The Caging and Abuse of Black migrants via detention](https://baji.org/our-work/abuse-of-black-immigrants-in-new-orleans-ice-detention/)
3. [Racial profiling and policing funnel Black immigrants into the criminal legal system resulting in deportations.](https://baji.org/2022/02/16/when-we-see-police-we-see-deportations/)
4. [BAJI Demands Equitable Protections for Black Migrants](https://baji.org/our-work/baji-demands-equitable-protections-for-black-migrants/).

**Reports:**

1. [Uncovering the Truth](https://baji.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Uncovering-the-Truth.pdf)- Violence and Abuse Against Black Migrants in Immigration Detention
2. [Criminalizing Blackness](https://m4bl.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/CB_REPORT.pdf)- An analysis of the Impacts of the 1994 Crime Bill and 1996 Immigration Bill on Black People and Policy Recommendations to Address the Harms Caused
3. [The State of Black Immigrants](https://baji.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/sobi-fullreport-jan22.pdf) (SOBI)- Part I: Statistical Portrait of Black Immigrants in the United States. Part II: Black Immigrants in the Mass Criminalization System.
4. [Shadow Report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)](https://rfkhr.imgix.net/asset/US-Coalition_anti-Black-Discrimination-in-Immigration__CERD-Report_072222.pdf)- This Shadow Report is submitted for the combined tenth, eleventh, and twelfth periodic review of the United States (“US”) by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (“Committee”). The Report provides selected research and analysis focusing on US immigration and refugee laws, regulations, policies, and practices that subject Black non-citizens to racially discriminatory treatment in violation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (“Convention”).