Chair of the Board

- **Location:** Remote, with occasional travel in Europe
- **Time commitment:** Approximately 2–3 days per month
- **Remuneration:** Voluntary (expenses reimbursed)

About Refugee Support Europe

Founded in 2016, Refugee Support Europe provides practical support for displaced people in the UK and Europe, and advocates for systemic change. We bridge the critical gap between arrival and settlement through our dignified, choice-based system, offering essential goods in welcoming community spaces. Our advocacy is shaped by our on-the-ground work, demonstrating that a welcome built on dignity and solidarity is possible – with benefits to the whole community.

As we enter our next phase of growth, we are strengthening our governance, expanding our partnerships and deepening our impact. We are now seeking a Chair who shares our belief that every person seeking safety deserves dignity, compassion and meaningful support.

We are a small charity, with six members of staff (some of whom are part-time) and six highly experienced trustees.

The role

The Chair will provide strategic leadership to the Board of Trustees and act as a key partner to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and senior team. You will guide the charity's long-term vision, ensure robust governance and champion our mission externally.

Key responsibilities

- Lead the Board, in collaboration with the CEO, in setting strategic direction and ensuring effective oversight, strong governance and risk management.
- Lead and manage the business of the Board, providing an appropriate structure for its operation (including any sub-committees) and ensuring it is effective in its decision-making and in the support and guidance it provides to the CEO.
- Work with the CEO to ensure Board members receive accurate, timely and clear information on matters within their responsibility, so the Board can make sound decisions, monitor effectively and provide advice that promotes the charity's success.
- Ensure that decisions taken by the Board are effectively implemented under the direction of the CEO.
- Lead the Board in supporting the development of, and assessing the performance of, the CEO.
- Provide support, advice and a sounding board for the CEO, while respecting executive responsibility.
- Uphold and promote our humanitarian values in all aspects of leadership.
- Represent the charity with partners, funders and external stakeholders.

What the time commitment involves

- Attending and chairing quarterly Board meetings.
- Participating in committee meetings and strategic planning sessions as required.
- Regular meetings with the Chief Executive.
- Representing the charity externally when appropriate.

About you

We are looking for a Chair who brings both governance strength and mission-driven leadership.

You will bring

- Board or leadership experience (charity or humanitarian sector experience desirable but not essential).
- A strong understanding of governance and the responsibilities of charity trustees.
- Strategic thinking, sound judgement and the ability to lead through complexity.
- Excellent communication and relationship-building skills.
- A collaborative, supportive leadership style that inspires confidence.
- A deep commitment to the dignity, rights and wellbeing of refugees and displaced people.

This is a voluntary role with a meaningful opportunity to influence real change for people facing displacement across Europe.

How to apply

Please send a CV and a short statement (maximum two pages) outlining your interest and suitability to Maggie.duff@refugeesupporteu.com with the subject line **Chair of Trustees – Application**.