



**Mexico 2024 Report
Solidarity Trip & RFM Mexico Assembly
November 10-22, 2024**

Just days after the US election, Quixote Center traveled throughout Mexico to meet with our local partners, the Franciscan Network on Migration (RFM Mexico), and other stakeholders to understand the current migration situation and analyze the country's readiness for what is to come. Together with three migrant justice professionals from the United States, we began with a week-long Solidarity Travel to the southern state of Tabasco to learn about the experience of migrants as they cross the border with Guatemala or have been deported by Mexican authorities from the US - Mexico border. We visited a total of 5 migrant shelters, including La 72 in Tenosique where we also met with Honduran consuls as well as with the Mexican agency in charge of granting or denying refugee status, COMAR (Comisión Mexicana de Ayuda a Refugiados).

Quixote Center then visited the Franciscan community in Queretaro who have been mobilizing resources and raising awareness of the struggles migrants face as they transit through Mexico. Finally, we joined the RFM Mexico national assembly in the northern city of Monterrey where we met migrant shelter and meal program coordinators operating in the north of the country. During these 12 days in Mexico, Quixote Center met with dozens of human right defenders, government officials and asylum seekers, trying to get a deeper understanding of the impacts of U.S. border externalization policies (restricting access to the U.S. further south of its border with Mexico all the way down to Panama).

In this report we share our observations from this journey, first describing the state of the migrant shelters and meal programs in Mexico, then breaking down the main threats migrants face as they attempt to reach the US border and finally reviewing the paths of regularization in Mexico and in the US. We close with policy recommendations for the new administrations of both nations.

The State of Migrant Shelters in Mexico

The main migratory path between Guatemala and Mexico leads migrants to Tapachula in the state of Chiapas where the Mexican National Immigration Institute (INM) detains them until they can either pay their way north or wait until they get an appointment with US immigration officials through the CBP One app. Because of the high number of people transiting through this route, many human rights organizations have established a presence in Tapachula, and most resources are channeled there. In fact, on November 5th, 2024, the migrant caravan of 300 people “La Bendición de Dios” left Tapachula to be later intercepted by the INM in Oaxaca and dispersed to different parts of the country by bus.



Quixote Center led a small delegation of migrant justice professionals to Tabasco, along a lesser-known migratory path that takes migrants through El Ceibo in Guatemala up to Tenosique and later to Villahermosa. On August 23rd, 2024, the US Customs and Border Patrol Agency expanded the access of their CBP One app for asylum seekers to sign up for an appointment from the southern states of Chiapas and Tabasco. Shortly after, the INM announced bus services for CBP One applicants with a confirmed appointment from the cities of Tapachula and Villahermosa. We wanted to learn more about this service, which was presented as a way to protect the integrity and safety of asylum seekers as they try to reach one of the eight ports of entry where they can make their case to enter legally into the United States.

We spent our first day in Villahermosa, the capital of Tabasco, and went directly to the INM offices downtown, where we had tried to arrange a meeting with their delegates for over a week. The information clerk told us to go to another INM compound in the industrial area of the city where they deal with everything related to the CBP One application process. There, we found a crowd of people outside the compound, trying to get in to get transit passes or other kinds of assistance. An air of tension and hostility reigned in this desolate place on the outskirts of the city, where desperate people filled the street, exposed to the elements. They had been through so much since arriving in Mexico and now they found themselves at the mercy of the National Migration Institute, an agency with a [long history of crimes, abuses and malpractices](#).



Although most migrants taking this path are from Honduras, we met people from many different countries waiting outside the INM building, including from Haiti, Venezuela, El Salvador and Ecuador. Some of them were part of a group of 71 people who had been kidnapped by a cartel in Oaxaca, held captive for two weeks, robbed, and beaten. Once released, the INM made them sign deportation orders, making them believe it was a transit pass. They were then sent back to Villahermosa, dropped off and left stranded with nowhere to go and nothing left but the clothes on their backs. The INM makes migrants sign deportation orders, but they don't have the resources to actually deport them.

The INM, open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., did not let us inside their compound. Instead, they tried to send us back to the first INM office we had visited earlier, eventually telling us that the bus services they announced that were intended to transport migrants with CBP One appointments to the US- Mexico border are not consistently available in Villahermosa. They claim that there are not enough asylum seekers with a confirmed CBP One appointment to justify this service and that these operations are mostly conducted from Tapachula in Chiapas. Only two such buses had left from Villahermosa since they promoted this service at the end of August. Before leaving we shared some information about the CBP One app with migrants waiting outside INM and encouraged them to go to the Amparo shelter downtown. Only one member of the group made it there that day and was extremely grateful for the tip.



At noon, we visited the [Amparo shelter](#) that started their operation 18 years ago to serve families who had loved ones interned at the nearby hospital. With the increasing number of migrants, they decided to also accommodate this population and provide them with a multitude of services: room and board for an average of two nights, health and psychological assistance, legal counsel, donated clothes and laundry space. It is only a night shelter, but they serve three meals a day, and if they have enough food, they also

feed individuals who couldn't secure a bed for the night. They even installed public showers and toilets in the exterior to serve the community at large, recognizing their limited bed and mats capacity that get overwhelmed through the continuous cycles of peaks and valleys of people transiting through Villahermosa.

Amparo shelter staff told us that 90% of the people they serve have been deported by the INM at the US - Mexico border, sending them back to the southern border in Tabasco. Most of them try entering the US again by getting a CBP One appointment. As a reminder, the CBP One app works much like a lottery system in which only 1450 appointments per day are accepted. Asylum seekers must check the app at 10:00 a.m. every day to verify if they were offered an appointment, and if not, they must apply every day between 12:00 and 23:59 for another shot.

CBP states that active accounts which have waited the longest have a higher probability of being approved for an appointment. The average wait period varies between 6 and 12 months.



We spent the next day with our local partners at the migrant home [La 72, Hogar - Refugio para personas migrante](#) in Tenosique, 4 hours south of Villahermosa and located where the infamous cargo train La Bestia used to depart before the Tren Maya project brought it to a stop in 2022. Migrants used to hop on and off cargo trains all the way to the US - Mexico border from Tenosique. Now they must travel to Villahermosa and then to Coatzacoalcos in Veracruz to hop on cargo trains heading north. With La Bestia no longer operational, Tapachula became the main

entry point into Mexico for migrants. Nevertheless, La 72 shelter had 100 residents the week we were there. Just like at Amparito, many had been deported back from the US - Mexico border, and most were using the CBP One app. Some were trying to get their refugee status in Mexico.

La 72 is named in remembrance of the 72 migrants who were massacred in Tamaulipas in 2010. The project initially started as Pies Descalzos, beginning serving meals to migrants before they hopped on La Bestia. Today, a team of 3 full time staff, 3 nuns and 2 volunteers run the operation under the helm RFM Mexico. As it is a longer-term shelter, residents help in many areas, especially with cooking, cleaning and getting firewood. La 72 currently has a human rights defense area which provides legal counsel to migrants and advocates for migrant justice in the community and at a national level through coalitions. However, they do not have any medical or psychological services since Doctors Without Border relocated to Tapachula. Only the Red Cross comes in twice a week to do checkups from their bus.



During our time in Tenosique we met with the migrant community and spent quality time with the nuns and the staff. We even met with the Consuls from Honduras who have seen an increase in their nationals asking for legal assistance and guidance on how to use the CBP One app. We shared all the information we had and answered their questions to the best of our ability, encouraging migrants who want to enter the US to keep using the CBP One app before the change in US Administrations in January 2025. Many asylum



seekers mentioned glitches with the app, including error or fraud messages, and names appearing misspelled or partially missing. Such details worry them as entry rates to the U.S. are low and they believe there are border officials looking for any excuse to turn people down.



The next day, we visited two very different shelters. In the morning, we were given a tour of the government run Centro de Asistencia Social para Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes Migrantes (CASANNAM). It opened in response to the tragic fire at an INM detention center in Ciudad Juarez killing 40 migrants in March 2023. The Mexican government decided to create this new facility to “welcome” migrants. The sub-director of the operation kept using the term “channeling” when referring to how migrant families end up in this center. The INM channels migrants to this

shelter while they begin the paperwork with COMAR to achieve refugee status in Mexico. They made it seem as if it was something voluntary for the migrant and kept saying it was an open-door shelter where folks were free to walk away anytime they wanted.

The reality is that as new “guests” register, they need to surrender all their valuables including passports and phones. It makes it hard to believe that exiting this facility was as open as they claimed. The entire space was suspicious, one of their staff was following us around taking pictures (hopefully these won’t be used by them to give them any credibility). There were only two families staying there on the day we visited. With a capacity of 250 beds, three meals a day (ordered, not cooked on site), medical, psychological, and educational assistance, they have the resources to alleviate a lot of pain. Instead, they serve as a de facto detention center for migrant families who are released once their papers are registered in COMAR. Many end up at La 72 where they later find out that they still don’t appear in the COMAR system.



In the afternoon we traveled to El Ceibo in Guatemala to visit la [Casa del Migrante Belen](#) run by a life-long human rights defender, an amazingly passionate and genuine man who shared the incredible journey that led him to operate this short-term overnight migrant shelter. He started helping his father as a child, serving meals to migrants and people in need. They later created a de facto shelter until building an official shelter in 2018. Meeting this warm and loving human after meeting the cold-hearted government workers in the morning was a stunning contrast. They only had 10 guests on the day of the visit, but it fluctuates daily as people want to get to Tenosique where they can start using the CBP One app. It was inspiring to learn how Andres deals with the daily struggles and threats of being a human rights advocate. He talks to everyone, the local

community, authorities and cartels, making it clear that he won't interfere with their operations and expects the same from them.

A member of our delegation described her experience that way:

"The most memorable moment of the trip for me was visiting El Ceibo, Guatemala. There was something incredibly disconcerting about the ease of our trip to visit Casa Belen, compared to the difficulties that migrants face traversing that stretch between the border and La 72. We literally did not even have to show our passports at the border, and it took us only an hour to drive to El Ceibo from Tenosique. Meanwhile, migrants are confronted with INM, cartels, and natural dangers while traveling the same stretch and it can take them three days or more of walking to reach La 72. To me, this experience exemplified why it's essential to do things like the solidarity trip, in order to learn directly from people like Andres, who are so dedicated to their work. However, it also showed how we will never be able to truly experience what migrants go through, due to the privileges we hold as US citizens."

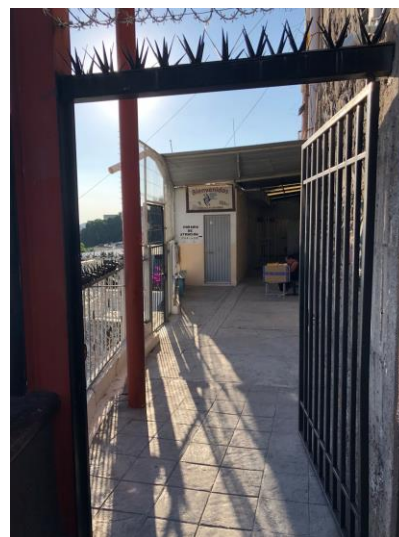
On our last day in Southern Mexico, we visited the [Casa Betania shelter](#) in Salto de Agua, Chiapas. Located right next to the railroad tracks where La Bestia used to pass, this 12-year-old shelter was very quiet, with only two guests on the day we visited. It is run by three Catholic nuns who described how this migratory route has been completely taken over by the cartels. "Everybody in town is a coyote", the shelter director said. Cartels have checkpoints along the path where they extort migrants before guiding them to the shelter, making them believe that the shelter belongs to the cartels. The nuns then need to gain the migrants' trust as they explain that they have no affiliations with organized crime. The risk of being kidnapped and extorted has become too high for migrants who have gradually been abandoning [the route](#) taking them from Tenosique to Palenque to Salto de Agua in



favor of the Tenosique to Villahermosa to Coatzacoalcos path as they make their way back on the tracks towards the northern part of the country.

Despite the dangers, migrants still arrive every day at Casa Betania where they stay around 3 to 5 days. They receive a hygiene kit, three meals a day, legal counsel and basic medical assistance. Currently 90% of their guests are from Honduras, others come from Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Venezuela. They accept all migrants, whether they are unaccompanied minors, whole families, single adults. Many do their paperwork at the COMAR office in Palenque a couple of hours away while they stay at the shelter before moving on.

After our Solidarity Trip to Tabasco, Quixote Center visited our local RFM partners in Queretaro to learn more about the migration situation in the central area of the country. In this affluent and touristic city, migrants have been pushed away from the center to the periphery. Before the COVID pandemic, the Franciscan community had set up a meal program that fed hundreds of migrants a day as they were passing through. Now only the diocese has a short-term migrant, volunteer run shelter, [Albergue Migrantes Toribio Romo](#) that had no guests on the day we visited but demonstrated a high level of organization, resources and readiness. They can only offer room and board for one or two nights before directing migrants two hours north to San Luis Potosi where the Catholic organization Caritas runs a larger operation which offers many services including job placements for longer stays.



RFM Mexico plans to start a new meal program in Queretaro, along with spiritual accompaniment, for migrants transiting through or seeking to settle down in this fast-growing city.



usually fill up on most nights.

Finally, Quixote Center participated in [RFM Mexico's national assembly](#) in Monterrey where we gained a better understanding of the reality migrants are facing in the northern part of the country. Another fast-growing city of over 5 million inhabitants, the Franciscan community and the diocese have already established meal programs and shelters for both migrant and houseless populations. We visited [Casa INDI](#) which serves thousands of meals a day and offers a bed for thousands of people every night. Their shelters

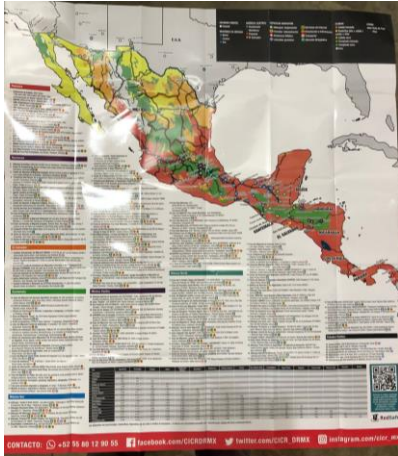
At RFM Mexico's national assembly, we learned about two other operations in the north. La Casa Franciscana Guaymas in the state of Sonora receives migrants mostly from Africa, in particular from Cameroon as well as people from Egypt, Israel and India. It is a small, short-term shelter with a capacity of 20 beds where they also provide migrants with legal counsel. The language barrier has been a challenge but with the help of technology, they manage to share essential information with their guests. They serve 400 meals a day to migrant and homeless populations, and donate clothes, but mostly provide a safe space from the perilous environment around them.

Casa del Migrante Frontera Digna located in Piedras Negras, Coahuila is another short-term shelter part of the Franciscan Network on Migration, operating at the port-of-entry of Eagle Pass, TX. Franciscan nuns and migrant volunteers run this 30-year-old shelter which received up to 800 migrants a day at its peak in 2020. As with many other operations, they started out serving meals from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. At this border town, migrants face multiple dangers. In addition to the cartels and migration authorities, the Rio Grande has taken over 70 lives this year alone with its sudden rise and falls. Most found bodies end up in mass graves.



Most shelters we visited were operating well below their full capacity as the cycle of migration was at a low point. With a predicted increase in deportation of undocumented immigrants from the US in the next four years, it is fair to anticipate that these shelters will play a vital role as Mexican nationals seek to resettle and immigrants of other nationalities (although President Sheinbaum announced that Mexico would not receive deportees from other nationalities) figure out their next move. Many shelters and meal programs are asking themselves; how will they be able to resolve this situation?

Main Threats for Migrants and Deportees in Mexico



The [Spanish Red Cross](#) created a map of shelters and an app with resources for migrants transiting from Panama to the U.S. border with Mexico. However, the INM prohibits shelters from handing it out to migrants as they want to make the journey as difficult and treacherous as possible for these already vulnerable people. This is what stood out the most during our time in Mexico: the role of the INM and the Mexican National Guards who have been deployed to militarize the border, pushing people back south.

The Catholic nun representing the Frontera Digna shelter in Piedras Negras tells the migrants waiting for their CBP One appointment to go to Monterrey and get a job there in the meantime. With the heavier INM presence at this border town, the authorities constantly apprehend and deport migrants back to their southern border. Many migrants have testified fearing the Mexican authorities more than the cartels. With the militarization of the border, the INM now works with the National Guards to implement the US-sponsored border externalization tactics. Their abuses have been widely reported; [since 2019, people have filed more than 5,600 complaints](#) against INM to the National Commission on Human Rights. This year alone, INM has detained 925,000 migrants transiting through Mexico.

Migrants who survived crossing the treacherous Darien Gap at the Panama border with Colombia report that crossing through Mexico is much worse. Between 2007 and 2021, the [Jesuit Help Service for Migrants investigated 1,280](#) disappeared migrants, 75% of whom had been in an INM detention center. The INM coordinates their operations with the cartels. There are 6 checkpoints between Monterrey and the border, at each of them migrants must pay if they want to keep moving on. Those who run out of money get stripped and have their cavities checked. People are kidnapped, beaten, tortured, raped and disappeared, a sickening constant of this human tragedy. Coalitions like las Madres Buscadoras (searching mothers) discover mass graves; DNA tests reveal that many victims are migrants.

RFM Mexico's facilitator for the central area of the country told us that usually migrants keep in touch with their families up to Mexico City and many lose contact between the capital and Queretaro where cartels and migration authorities' prey on them for extortions. In defiance of the Mexican authorities and putting their lives on the line, [the collectives of searching mothers have recovered 1230 bodies since 2019 while also locating 1300 living persons who were forcefully disappeared](#). The fact that the Mexican government refuses to take responsibility in the search efforts is further evidence of their collusion with the cartels. This state-sponsored terror tactic had been in place since the 1960's; today the official number of disappeared persons is [close to 120,000](#).

As the coordinator of Casa Franciscana Guaymas stated at [RFM's assembly](#) "if migrants were free to transit through Mexico, they would not need to hire coyotes (smugglers)". The current scheme is mutually beneficial for the cartels and the corrupt government officials who see migration as an income stream even more profitable than drugs and weapons. Illegal weapons trafficking from the United States feeds this corruption, with lax gun laws and border enforcement in the US for products leaving the country. This is one of the main root causes of immigration to the US as well as internal displacements elsewhere.

According to [Stop US Arms to Mexico](#), "from 2010 through 2022, Mexico experienced more than [214,000 gun homicides](#), constituting more than two every three murders in the country. Over [two million migrants](#) transited Mexico for the U.S. in 2023. A recent survey of migrants seeking asylum at the U.S. border found more than half had experienced "persistent and unrelenting gunfire" before arriving to the U.S. This isn't new. A 2017 [study](#) found that two thirds of migrants in Mexico experienced violence. [More than 379,000 people](#) in Mexico have been forced to flee their homes as a result of violent conflict, as of early this year – with record numbers displaced in 2021." Any government who is serious about controlling migration must address arms trafficking from the US to Latin America and the Caribbean by supporting legislation that would mitigate this phenomenon. Quixote Center has been actively focusing on this issue, mobilizing resources and coordinating actions through our advocacy days with US Senators asking them to cosponsor bills and letters to the administration with specific measures that they can take to stop the flow of weapons that destabilize entire nations and regions.

In addition to cartels and Mexican authorities, the third threat migrants face is environmental. Crossing deserts and rivers is notoriously deadly, especially when people are misinformed or dropped off in hazardous areas by the INM.

Paths to Regularization for Migrants

In the United States:

Politicians keep on saying that migrants should use legal paths to enter a country, but what are these legal paths exactly? First and foremost, based on international and US laws, requesting asylum as you enter a country like the United States is legal with or without a CBP One appointment. Asylum status is given to people who are persecuted in their country of origin based on their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or social group. As we reviewed in the previous section, people who are fleeing violence or climate change will have more difficulty making a strong asylum case in front a CBP official or an immigration judge. They need to establish a credible fear of persecution, for instance a person who is a victim of extortion by the cartels could claim that their government has capitulated to organized crime and in many cases are even complicit in such crimes.

Another very common reason people migrate is for lack of economic opportunities in their country. These are not grounds for asylum requests in the US or in Mexico. This cause of

migration should be processed through a temporary H-1B work visa or H-2A for agricultural workers, but these are capped each year by Congress and extremely expensive for the companies sponsoring the foreign worker. Currently the legal migration pathways to the US through different visas are:

- Family sponsorship
- Employer sponsorship
- Humanitarian protection
- Special skills
- Green-card lottery
- Adoption
- CHVN parole processes for Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela nationals

Other visas also consider entry based on diplomatic, religious, performers and other skills. The USCIS, which oversees reviewing and processing applications, is understaffed and under-resourced, creating never-ending backlogs. Not only are these visas prohibitively expensive for most people, but there are also no guarantees of a positive outcome.

In Mexico:

The Mexican Commission Helping Refugees, COMAR, is the institution charged with processing humanitarian protection demands. In addition to the five criteria accepted in the US, Mexico also recognizes gender-based persecution as ground to be granted refugee status. We visited their office in Tenosique, Tabasco, and met with their sub director who was struggling to provide us with updated data. They are still in the process of digitizing everything but just like USCIS, they are underfunded, and each staff member has the duties of three workers. Under former president Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, the number of COMAR offices went from only 4 in 2019 to 10 currently with another 2 down the pipe. 80% of all their refugee status requests are processed at their office in Tapachula, Chiapas. Most applicants are from Honduras, followed by Cuba, Haiti, El Salvador and Venezuela. It takes COMAR officials between 45 and 100 days to reach a resolution, if the resolution is negative, the applicant may appeal within 15 days. They can still be placed in a third category of “Complementary Protection” which allows them to stay in Mexico and get a work permit.

COMAR staff seem well-meaning and try to help as many people as they can with the little resources they have. [In 2024, 80% of applicants were either granted refugee status or complementary protection.](#) This vital service for thousands of non-Mexican nationals will be ever more important in the next four years. They will need to modernize their system quickly to be able to keep up, starting by digitizing their process and hiring more staff. This would be a signal to the commitment the new Mexican government has expressed in favor of a welcoming and humane treatment to all migrants transiting through or settling in the country.

Policy Recommendations

In Mexico:

For policy recommendations in Mexico, Quixote Center, as physical participants and witnesses of RFM Mexico's National Assembly, we adhere fully to their [Statement](#) and stand in solidarity with the fundamental humanitarian assistance the Franciscan Network on Migration provides to thousands of migrants every year. These human right defenders serving on the frontlines of the migrant justice struggle offer hope, kindness and spiritual accompaniment for people who are fleeing danger or injustice in their home country. We want to highlight the three main statements for the new Mexican government that RFM Mexico published on their website.

We urge the authorities at all 3 levels of government to:

1. Respect the commitments to humanism that the government of President Claudia Sheinbaum has reaffirmed as a policy focused on social welfare and equality.
2. Promote people-centered immigration policies, recognizing an individual's access to their rights regardless of their migratory status in the country, based on the provisions of the Mexican Constitution and the international human rights mechanisms to which the Mexican State is party.
3. Create cooperation strategies with different international agencies in order to provide comprehensive solutions to migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless persons within the national territory.

The new Mexican president recently named a new director to the INM and we hope this move will prove beneficial for the migrant population and align with her rhetoric on the matter. Another important action that her administration needs to implement is increasing the budget of COMAR so that they can hire more personnel and digitalize their process in all their offices while also identifying new strategic locations to expand the scope of their operations.

One recent [positive news](#) from Mexico is the ruling by the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation (SCJN) that will change the migration scenario in Mexico. The highest court has granted an injunction, filed by the Jesuit Refugee Service and the Alaíde Foppa Legal Clinic, which forces the reform of the migration law to create a registry of detained migrants. More transparency is essential to protect the rights and dignity of every migrant who is held at one of INM's detention centers.

In the United States:

During the lame duck period of the current US administration, there are many things that the federal government can do to safeguard the safety and rights of the most vulnerable immigrants.

1. Redesignate TPS now for Haiti which would protect 37,000 Haitians who arrived since the last designation, and offer some protection to Haitians who already have TPS that will expire on February 3rd, 2026;

2. Redesignate TPS for Nicaragua, which is about to expire on July 5th, 2025, given the well-founded inability of people to safely return to their country;
3. Extend work permits and expedite work permit processing for people who have received parole as part of the Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans (CHNV) program.
4. Expedite the asylum and protection processes for exiled prosecutors, justices, journalists and environmental and human rights defenders from Central America and Mexico in the United States.
5. Restore access to asylum at the US-Mexico border. Rescind the Securing the Border Final Rule and the Circumvention of Lawful Pathways Rule, among other rules, and issue an urgent interim proclamation and rule that would facilitate increased appointments through the CBP One mobile application, allow processing of individuals at ports of entry once individuals with CBP One appointments have been processed, and restore access to asylum between ports of entry.
6. Finalize the Modernizing H-2 Program Requirements, Oversight, and Worker Protections Rule, which would significantly increase protections for agricultural and non-agricultural workers.

President Biden has less than two months to act to protect Haitian and Nicaraguan immigrants whose Temporary Protection Status will expire during the next Administration, and to offer TPS to recently arrived immigrants from those countries. Quixote Center encourages everyone to [take action](#) on the first three recommendations.

Conclusions and Next Steps

It is crucial to follow the guns, to expose the network of suppliers from the source in the US all the way to the cartels and gangs in Haiti and Latin America. Quixote Center and our partners will continue pressuring the US government to pass the [following bills](#) through Congress:

- The Armas Act - Americas Regional Monitoring of Arms Sales Act – HR 6618 / S 4647
- The CATCH Act -Caribbean Arms Trafficking Causes Harm Act – HR 7799 / S 4067
- Stop Arming Cartels Act – HR 8427 / S 2926
- Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act – S396

This legislation would help to contain the illegal flow of weapons leaving through the southern border and Miami River while fentanyl and cocaine are smuggled in the opposite direction, a circular business for the cartels.

Human migration will never stop; it is a natural process that is manipulated by the push and pull levers the US government orchestrates. Instead of spending billions of dollars on persecuting

and criminalizing migrants, it could spend it to stop the guns coming out and the fentanyl coming into the United States through the Mexico border. So many lives could be saved, so much suffering avoided.

Recognizing our shared humanist values and celebrating the miracle of life will bring us back to the path of sanity and wisdom, so that we can all see the truth, that there is no other, we are all one.

Thank You



Quixote Center would like to thank everyone who made this Mexico 2024 trip an insightful one. First and foremost, our partners with the Franciscan Network on Migration in Mexico, La 72 staff who coordinated all the meetings in Villahermosa, Tenosique and El Ceibo, every member of the Solidarity Trip delegation, every shelter and meal program who opened their doors to us, the people on the move who shared their stories with us and our generous supporters who have contributed to the RFM Mexico Assembly.

“I think anyone who is wanting to get a deeper understanding of the lived experiences of people on the move and those who are supporting them along the way should go on this trip. I found it very fascinating to speak with Mexican government officials and learn about Mexico’s immigration policies and the process to gain refugee status in the country. I found learning how various shelters are run and how they work in coordinations can offer us new ways of supporting migrants in the US. I strongly encourage people working in the human rights space to join a solidarity trip organized by Quixote Center.” 2024 Solidarity Trip Participant.

More Pictures:

[Mexico 2024 Solidarity Trip](#)

[RFM Mexico Assembly](#)