

CHARLES UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Institute of Political Studies
Department of Political Science
Geopolitical Studies

Master's Thesis

2024

Juan Manuel Cerezo Samperio

CHARLES UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Institute of Political Studies
Department of Political Science
Geopolitical Studies

**Repercussions of Human Rights Violations in
International Migration of Latin America, case study:
Mexico as a migration corridor**

Master's thesis

Author: Juan Manuel Cerezo Samperio

Study programme: Geopolitical Studies

Supervisor: PhDr. Malvína Krausz Hladká, Ph.D.

Year of the defence: 2024

Declaration

1. I hereby declare that I have compiled this thesis using the listed literature and resources only.
2. I hereby declare that my thesis has not been used to gain any other academic title.
3. I fully agree to my work being used for study and scientific purposes.

In Prague on 31st July 2024

Juan Manuel Cerezo Samperio

References

CEREZO SAMPERIO, Manuel. *Repercussions of Human Rights Violations in International Migration of Latin America, case study: Mexico as a migration corridor*. Praha, 2024. 68 pages. Master's thesis (Mgr.). Charles University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Institute of Political Studies. Geopolitical Studies. Supervisor PhDr. Malvína Krausz Hladká, Ph.D.

Length of the thesis: 134,950 characters with spaces

Abstract

This thesis seeks to offer a more comprehensive and profound understanding of human rights violations in migration, taking as a case study the territory of Mexico as a migratory corridor due to its importance which has catalogued it not only as the main migratory corridor in Latin America but also as the busiest in the world. Derived from the risk conditions that exist when using this migratory corridor, too many violations of the human rights of migrants are derived and added to the high influx of this corridor, an impact is being generated in the geopolitics of the region. The future directions of further enlightening the protections of human rights in a wider range of social, political, and legal affairs would be more targeted and constructive.

Abstrakt

Tato práce se snaží nabídnout komplexnější a hlubší pochopení porušování lidských práv při migraci, přičemž jako případovou studii bere území Mexika jako migračního koridoru kvůli jeho významu, který jej katalogizoval nejen jako hlavní migrační koridor v Latinské Americe, ale i také jako nejrušnější na světě. Odvozeno z rizikových podmínek, které existují při využívání tohoto migračního koridoru, se odvozuje příliš mnoho porušování lidských práv migrantů a přidává se k vysokému přílivu tohoto koridoru, vytváří se dopad na geopolitiku regionu. Budoucí směry dalšího osvětlení ochrany lidských práv v širším spektru sociálních, politických a právních záležitostí by byly cílenější a konstruktivnější.

Keywords

International Migration, Mexico, Latin America, Human Rights, Migration corridor, Migration policies, Geopolitics

Klíčová slova

Mezinárodní migrace, Mexiko, Latinská Amerika, lidská práva, migrační koridor, migrační politika, geopolitika

Title

Repercussions of Human Rights Violations in International Migration of Latin America,
case study: Mexico as a migration corridor

Název práce

Dopady porušování lidských práv v mezinárodní migraci Latinské Ameriky, případová
studie: Mexiko jako migrační koridor

Acknowledgement

First, I would like to express my gratitude to my parents, because it is thanks to their unconditional support that I have reached this point in my academic life, and they have made me the person I am today.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the teachers who at some point in my school career have influenced my way of thinking, of seeing the world and have contributed to my critical thinking, because without them I would not have the vision of the world that surrounds us.

I also thank my friends, those who I had a hard time leaving in Mexico but, despite the distance, they continue to be part of my life and I feel them close to me at all times, my friends from around the world who have been my support to continue this path, those who entered my life since I began this adventure of living in Prague who have become my family, my home, who have made me realize that, despite so many differences between countries, languages, cultures, the similarities in our desires and goals made us coincide.

Finally, I dedicate this thesis to all the migrants who undertake a journey into the unknown, human beings with feelings, desires and the right to live a better life, to have a second chance, the discriminated, the rejected, the violated, victims of a system that has not allowed them to find peace.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	1
I. INTRODUCTION	3
II. WORKING HYPOTHESIS AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS	6
A. Objectives	6
B. Specific objectives of the study	7
III. JUSTIFICATION AND RELEVANCE	7
IV. METHODOLOGY AND METHOD	8
V. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	8
A. Research Design	8
B. Secondary Data Analysis case study approach.....	9
C. Justification for the chosen methodology	10
VI. LITERATURE REVIEW	11
A. Human rights theories in the context of migration	11
B. Challenges and Critiques of Applying Human Rights Theories to Migration	13
C. Intersectionality and the dynamics of human rights in migration	14
D. Previous Studies	15
1. INTERSECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND GEOPOLITICS	16
1.1 Analysis of how human rights violations influence geopolitical dynamics:	16
1.2 Impact of migration policies on regional stability.....	17
2. HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY OVERVIEW OF MIGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA	18
2.1 Historical evolution of migratory flows in Latin America.....	18
2.2 Contemporary Migration Trends	18
2.3 Patterns and Trends	19
2.4 Factors Driving Migration	20
2.5 Impacts of Migration on Sending and Receiving Countries	21
3. MEXICO AS A MIGRATION CORRIDOR	23

3.1 Mexico’s significance as a migration corridor	23
4. HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN MIGRATION.....	27
4.1 Factors Contributing to Human Rights Violations in Migration.....	28
4.2 Consequences for Migrants and Society	29
4.3 Human Rights Challenges and Policy Failures in the Mexico-United States Migration Process	32
4.4 Human Rights Violations in International Migration through Mexico	34
4.5 Overview of prevalent human rights violations	34
5. GEOPOLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS	38
5.1 Impact on Mexico-United States Relations	38
5.2 Linkages between human rights abuses and geopolitical implications	39
5.3 Bilateral Relations (Mexico-US and Mexico- Central American countries)	42
5.4 Impact on diplomatic relations between countries involved.....	43
5.5 Regional Dynamics	44
5.6 Collaborative efforts or tensions within Latin American countries	45
5.7 Influence on regional security and stability.....	46
6. POLICY RESPONSES AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	49
6.1 Mexican Government Policies.....	49
6.2 Role of international cooperation in migration management.	51
6.3 Proposals to improve collaboration between countries and international organisations.....	52
6.4 Recommendations for Policy Improvement.....	52
6.5 Policy suggestions based on research findings.....	53
6.6 Proposals to guarantee the protection of the human rights of migrants.	54
6.7 Bilateral Cooperation and Diplomacy	54
CONCLUSION.....	57
LIST OF REFERENCES.....	62

I. Introduction

Global migration is a complex phenomenon that has significant consequences for both migrants and the societies they enter or seek refuge in. In Latin America, particularly in Mexico as a crucial migration route, serious violations of human rights, such as violence, exploitation, and prejudice, are prevalent (Amnesty International, 2020; Human Rights Watch, 2019). These violations not only harm migrants' immediate well-being but also have broader geopolitical implications that extend beyond national borders. Understanding these repercussions is crucial for developing effective policies and interventions.

This research aims to identify and analyse the most prevalent human rights violations in the international migration process in Mexico. By assessing the impact of these violations on migrants' well-being and examining the broader geopolitical implications, this study contributes to a deeper understanding of the multifaceted repercussions of human rights violations in international migration. The working hypothesis is that human rights abuses in migration corridors like Mexico significantly influence geopolitical dynamics in Latin America and beyond.

Methodologically, this study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative data analysis with qualitative case studies. Quantitative data from governmental and non-governmental sources will provide a statistical overview of migration trends and human rights violations. Qualitative data, gathered through interviews and field observations, will offer in-depth insights into the individual experiences of migrants and the systemic issues they face.

The movement of people through Mexico is not only a humanitarian issue but also a geopolitical one (Casillas, 2006). Migratory movements influence the relationships between countries of origin, transit, and destination, particularly between Mexico and the United States, with significant implications for the international community (UNHCR, 2020). Previous studies have highlighted how migration control policies and migrants' resistance strategies interact and shape complex social and state dynamics. This research aims to delve deeper into this interrelation, analysing how violence and socio-economic insecurity in countries of origin and transit intertwine with governmental policies regulating migration.

Empirical data and detailed analysis will be provided to offer recommendations for policymakers and non-governmental organisations to develop more effective and humane interventions. The study intends to fill a critical gap in academic knowledge about the repercussions of human rights violations in the context of international migration through Mexico, providing valuable insights into the complexities of migration and the urgent need for policies that protect the rights of all migrants.

The repercussions of human rights violations in international migration, particularly in Latin America with Mexico as a case study, are crucial for understanding the challenges and complexities faced by migrants in the region. Migration laws in Latin America and Mexico are distinctive, making them a significant focus for study. The resulting backlash has made migration laws highly susceptible to change, shifting between control and openness. This paradox is also seen in the migration policy of the United States, known for its openness and democracy. Despite macro-policies in place, migration control remains a significant aspect of political strategies (FitzGerald, 2022).

The journey of migrants through Mexico often involves forced migration, human trafficking, migrant detention, discrimination, and violence. These human rights violations not only infringe upon the dignity and safety of migrants but also have far-reaching consequences on their physical and mental well-being. Forced migration, driven by factors such as violence, poverty, and political instability in their home countries, compels individuals to embark on perilous journeys. Along the way, many fall prey to human traffickers, face arbitrary detention, and endure various forms of discrimination and violence (Sánchez, 2020).

Moreover, the geopolitical dynamics of the region play a crucial role in either exacerbating or alleviating these violations. The interplay between national policies, international relations, and regional stability significantly influences the migration process and the treatment of migrants. Understanding the broader geopolitical repercussions is essential for developing comprehensive strategies to protect human rights and manage migration effectively (Campos-Delgado & Côté-Boucher, 2024).

In recent years, migration from Latin America to other regions of the world has intensified due to socio-economic and political changes within these countries, such as economic instability, political corruption, and human rights violations. These factors have created the

necessary conditions for large-scale migration. Several disputes and human rights violations experienced by migrants have received particular attention in the international arena. There is a growing body of academic and political literature linking human rights violations to migration, discussing how these breaches can influence the decisions made by individuals and groups to leave their home countries (Faret et al., 2021).

By examining the types of human rights violations migrants face, the factors contributing to these violations, and the broader geopolitical implications, this study seeks to provide a nuanced understanding of the migration crisis in Latin America.

II. Working Hypothesis and Research Questions

The movement of people across borders, particularly through Mexico, has been marred by human rights violations, including violence, exploitation, and discrimination. Understanding the repercussions of these violations is crucial for developing effective policies and interventions. This research seeks to address the gap in scholarly knowledge regarding the consequences of human rights abuses in the international migration process.

1. What are the broader geopolitical repercussions of human rights violations in the context of international migration in Latin America?
2. In what way do the geopolitical factors of the region influence the violation or guarantee of human rights?

A. Objectives

1. To identify and analyse prevalent human rights violations in the international migration process in Mexico.
2. To assess the impact of these violations on the well-being of migrants.
3. To examine the broader implications of human rights abuses on the geopolitical landscape of Latin America.

The objective of this research is to contribute to the analysis and understanding of the relationship and interrelations between the forms of migration control (at borders and routes) and the strategies and forms of resistance of migrants, composition dynamics of the various societies (and state entities) in which they are inserted. To understand and analyse how violence operates in places other than the violence exerted by the state (directly or indirectly), this involves studying the way in which social and economic insecurity in migrants' countries of origin and transit is intertwined with the governments that regulate migration.

The repression faced by migrants from Latin America in the migratory corridors of Central America and the USA is presented as a focus of analysis, considering various human rights violations as well as the possibility that those violations generate new mobilities and migratory corridors in the region (Leyva-Flores et al., 2019). Against this background, the

case of Mexico is taken as a particularly meaningful example and provides the space and setting for the work of this research.

B. Specific objectives of the study

The literature review informs us that there are complex relations between the intensification of political violence and human rights violations, also waged during non-war scenarios, and the intensified emigration of individuals who seek protection. During the Venezuelan crisis, such violations gained importance as causes of both the necessity for flight and travel and of experiences of forced migration. In their analysis, Courbage and Fargues think that since 1945, the human rights rhetoric and the embracing of human rights discourses in international politics – with fluctuating norms about rights to protection and assistance in the hands of developing international organisations and national governments – has significantly spoken the language of emergency during migrations. Moreover, human rights violations comprise one of the reasons behind the intensification of the rejections of requests for asylum. (Thomas Wassink, 2020) (Coscia & Gutiérrez-Romero, 2023)

The present study focuses on examining the impact of human rights abuses on the international migration of Latin Americans. Specifically, we are investigating the experiences of individuals from Venezuela, Nicaragua, Honduras, and El Salvador as they migrate through the corridor from Mexico to the United States. In the case of Mexico, our analysis suggests that heightened violence, stemming from the increased militarization of public security and the widespread influence of drug trafficking organisations, has influenced the decision of Mexican individuals to emigrate to the United States. (Odgers-Ortiz and Cluster2020)

III. Justification and relevance

If the studies of migration have frequently been treated not as a simple local phenomenon of social transition, but as an actual and truly real process of social production that is at base of every counter-image: every newborn person is a migrant from the first to the second temporal place of the existence.

Violations of migrant's human rights is an example of violence experienced by undocumented/not entitled third-country national migrants who are in transit through Mexico to the US and whose number never ceases to grow along the years. What the Capital does in terms of politics about these vulnerable subjects is dynamic and should be flexible towards the contemporary socio-political, juridical, economic, and social context of the migrant phenomenon. Using an analysis of the international juridical framework assumed by the States, with a particular analysis of the States involved the needed policies (or their absence) in the respect of human rights of migrants in transit.

IV. Methodology and Method

1. **Research Design:** Secondary Data Analysis
2. **Data Collection:** Document Analysis: Systematic review of relevant documents and reports (Academic Literature, NGO Reports, Government Reports); Use of statistical databases and reports from international organisations; Content analysis of documents, reports, and media reports.
3. **Data Analysis:** Descriptive, Thematic, Comparative and Trend Analysis.

V. Theoretical Framework

A. Research Design

To derive the theoretical framework, it was utilizing a bi-national migration model (México and the US) that includes data from the beginning stages of this unique migration flow, major sending nations, and the number of irregular migrants that the United States apprehended from these sending states over the period in question. Expansion of this kind of migration, researchers argue, correlates with “voyage scenarios” as opposed to structural ones. It views foreign violence in the form of severe persecution and/or civil conflict, good governance, and natural disaster and environmental degradation as “push factors” that can drive people from sending nations. In contrast, global and familial integration for an historical period, diasporas, transnational families and/or communities, and an economic pull in highs and lows have the opposite effect and should be viewed as “pull factors.” Together, these push and pull factors intermingle to aid human smuggling networks and impact illicit migration.

Mexican migration research has focused on the root causes of migration, such as poverty, and the consequences of migration, with limited research on the bottom-up effects. It accomplishes this by examining international migration flows of Central Americans during the height of Mexico's "war on drugs," which increased by 165% from 2010 to 2014, in part due to an increase in drug violence in the country. Unfortunately, drug cartels are not the only actors that forcibly displace people; states can also use displacement to control and regulate the movement of their citizens. This is seen primarily at (and around) international border regions, the starting point of this forced migrant flow. Third, this is the first study of its kind to use highway network data, a powerful but under-utilised data source, and spatial and econometric models to investigate the causes and consequences of a specific type of forced migration (Coscia & Gutiérrez-Romero, 2023).

B. Secondary Data Analysis case study approach

This thesis aims to demonstrate how Mexico's role as a country of origin, transit, and increasingly as a destination, impacts immigration enforcement and social discrimination across Central America. Immigrants often express their sense of alienation with phrases like "We are not from here and not from there," highlighting their marginalized status and the stigma of being labelled as 'criminals' under the controversial procedures of the National Institute of Migration (INM) (Manek et al., 2022).

To thoroughly analyse Mexico's multifaceted role in migration control, this study will utilize secondary data from various sources. These sources include governmental reports, non-governmental organization (NGO) publications, academic journals, and news articles. Specifically, data from the National Institute of Migration (INM), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and Human Rights Watch will be examined to understand the policies and practices affecting migrants in Mexico.

The methodology involves a comprehensive analysis of existing data on migration trends, detention and deportation statistics, and human rights reports. This will be complemented by case studies of specific migrant experiences to illustrate the broader trends identified. By using qualitative and quantitative data, this study will explore the following topics:

1. The implementation and impact of Mexico's migration policies as influenced by the United States' 'vertical border' policy.
2. The externalization and reordering strategies employed by Mexico in managing non-Mexican nationals.
3. The socio-political dynamics within Mexico that contribute to the treatment and perception of migrants.

By integrating these methodologies, the research will provide a detailed understanding of how Mexico's role in migration control shapes the experiences of migrants and affects regional geopolitical dynamics. This comprehensive approach will allow for a nuanced analysis of the intersection between immigration enforcement and social discrimination, offering valuable insights for policymakers and advocates working to improve the conditions for migrants in Mexico.

C. Justification for the chosen methodology

The methodology selected for this research is justified by the need to comprehensively understand the multifaceted nature of Mexico's role in international migration, not only as a transit country but also as a destination for displaced people from Central America and beyond. This research focuses on secondary data analysis and a case study approach to provide a thorough examination of human rights violations affecting migrants in Mexico.

Given the complexity of the migration phenomenon and the intertwined factors influencing it, secondary data analysis allows for a broad and in-depth understanding by utilizing existing data from reliable sources such as governmental reports, NGO publications, academic journals, and news articles. These sources provide valuable insights into migration trends, policies, and human rights conditions, which are crucial for this study.

By employing a case study approach, the research delves into specific instances and experiences of migrants, illustrating the broader trends and impacts identified through secondary data. This methodology enables a detailed exploration of how Mexico's migration policies, influenced by the United States' 'vertical border' policy, affect migrants' lives. The

case studies offer concrete examples that highlight the socio-political dynamics and human rights challenges faced by migrants.

In summary, the chosen methodology of secondary data analysis combined with a case study approach is justified as it provides a comprehensive and detailed understanding of the human rights violations and geopolitical implications of migration through Mexico. This approach is well-suited to addressing the research questions and objectives, offering valuable insights for policymakers and advocates aiming to improve conditions for migrants.

VI. Literature Review

A. Human rights theories in the context of migration

The research combines elements and concepts from different fields, involving multidisciplinary and interdisciplinarity. Furthermore, to contend with the complex phenomenon of migration, different conceptual frameworks, theories of migration and human rights, are explored. Despite their separateness, the research will engage in interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary debates, as intended. The challenges of migration are explored through the theories connected with human rights protection in the context of migration. The literature on migration increasingly connects it to human rights. Theories change over time, as new questions arise in the field. As will also be seen, they do not necessarily replace so-called ‘new theories’, either, leaving the literature with a panoply of influential approaches. These datasets are not necessarily distinct; indeed, many different theories can often serve to answer one question. (Steiner, 2023)

The relationship between migration and human rights underlies this research. Its aim is to determine whether migrants' human rights are protected in law and practice. Determining the theoretical relationship between migration and human rights should help to address this question, to determine if migrants have specific types of human rights, whether all universal human rights are universal or if the rights of nationality or equivalent rights are at higher risk of being violated, and whether specific types of migrants' rights are at risk. The complex reality of migration has led researchers to develop different theoretical frameworks. This research analyses locked concepts and aims to describe these in the context of migration. Conducting multidisciplinary research requires theoretical eclecticism and diversity.

Consequently, different theories are developed within the fields of both migration and human rights, offering interesting and complementary insights. (De Haas, 2021)

Recent research has heightened awareness of the direct and indirect costs of human rights violations faced by migrants traversing Mexico. Migrants frequently endure kidnapping, robbery, extortion, and rape along these perilous routes (Miranda-González et al., 2020). Studies often focus on the Northern America/Central America Commitment Transition to the US as a permanent migration route. However, newer non-permanent migration routes have emerged in response to the violence on traditional paths, attracting increasing scholarly attention.

Traditional migration routes through Mexico have become high-risk corridors, endangering migrants' safety, integrity, and health. Mexico's long history as a migration route from Central America to the United States offers a valuable case study for examining the limitations of the international human rights regime, particularly its failure to halt violations against migrants (Leyva-Flores et al., 2019). Ferrero (2003) typifies these continuous violations as stemming from inadequate guarantees of migrant rights, encompassing both human rights and international refugee law. There is evidence suggesting that the current harsh conditions along these routes may be intentionally designed to deter migration to the United States by increasing the suffering of migrants (Gutiérrez-Romero & Salgado, 2022).

B. Gaps in the Literature

Despite significant growth in the academic literature on migration and human rights in Latin America, critical conceptual and empirical gaps remain. Several factors highlight the need for further research:

1. **Evolution of Awareness:** Over the past twenty-five years, there has been a significant shift in governmental and societal awareness regarding human rights and migration in Latin America (Venturi et al., 2022). This shift is particularly notable in the context of forced migrations and the regional structural violence and humanitarian crises that have emerged. Previously, migration policies were viewed through the lens of permanent settlement or "morning gates."
2. **Complex Governance:** Changes in governance within the Global South, both theoretical and empirical, drive the need for a deeper understanding of how post-

colonial and post-authoritarian contexts influence migration policies and human rights enforcement (Cruz-Riveros et al., 2022).

3. Lack of Comprehensive Studies: There is a relative shortage of both theoretical and empirical studies on migration, forced migration, and human rights in Latin America. This lack of research leaves significant gaps in understanding the pioneering transformations in human vitality and the socio-political dynamics of migration in the region. Anecdotal evidence from journalism often highlights the disintegration of community belonging among Mexican and Central American migrants, raising crucial questions about identity and place (Barrios de Stein, 2019).

Human rights, migration control, forced migration, and crime in Latin America possess both specific regional characteristics and broader global implications. Addressing these gaps is essential for developing a comprehensive understanding of the issues and improving the protection and treatment of migrants.

C. Challenges and Critiques of Applying Human Rights Theories to Migration

National and international authorities have made efforts to ensure that migrants have their human rights respected. Many authors confirm the establishment of a special set of principles for the rights and freedoms of non-citizens, that is, a division of rights not based on their universality, but according to the territorial or personal connection of non-citizens to the state. These attempts, according to the critique of normative theories concerning the legal status of migrants, express the representative authoritarian character of the rights paradigm regarding social exclusion. Admittedly, in many cases, special status is indeed against migrants, but on the other hand, it also includes specific protection mechanisms. Anyway, migrant legislation has been featured by two opposing models: states of origin usually claim for a convention of norms attributing immigrants the status of emigrants of the country of origin, biased on labour rights of concerned people, as well as their respect in the host country; states of destination usually extend to immigrants ordinary civil and social rights, usually enjoyed by resident citizens. (Cintra et al.2023)

As the area of human rights has long been stigmatized with rhetoric of universality but without real substance, the use of this idea has become compromised. Despite the adoption of most human rights conventions, human rights in much of the world are not the concern of the international community but the instrumentalities for the legitimization of illiberal

governments or the powers of "northern" industrialized states. The application of human rights to such broad areas of social life as migration poses an ontological challenge for human rights. Immigration is not an entirely new issue for human rights theory, but it is not sufficiently seen as a reason for the re-evaluation of general human rights premises. (Squire, 2020)

D. Intersectionality and the dynamics of human rights in migration

According to the primary and secondary results in recent field investigations, an illegal transit practice is taking place on the southern Mexican border with Guatemala with a high degree of human rights violations. The abuse of power, absence of rule of law and social violence have placed Mexico as part of the migration itinerary of people from other countries who suffer in the Mexican territory (institutional racism) and who, in many cases, do not have the resources or the right to fully exercise their human rights. (Sánchez, 2020)

The crossing of the border is the first momentous event of deviation from the rules, because the transit as irregular is an offense, as a border crossing document is required. Those who attempt to cross the border remain detained, at least a few days, in detention centres provided by the INM (National Institute of Migration) without access to a telephone, contact with the outside world, access to exercise and with minimal food in obnoxious conditions (torture). The transit of irregular migration is conducted because of the war, violence, insecurity and lack of employment, gang abuse and extortion, gang force mandatory recruitment, fear of trafficking in persons, family reunification and intrafamily violence. For example, in Chiapas, the crossing or the first detainment are events of laying off from the data of life of regularity, because no record of use is taken, the characteristics of use in danger and exploitation, such as attitude and the relationship with the organized crime. In the transit by the Mexican territory, the Sabines government signed an agreement with the influx of Gang members in Tapachula, García Cabeza de Vaca and Moreno Valley. This kind of alliance is beneficial to Gang members and is seriously harmful to migrants. (Catron et al., 2023). On 30 September 2019, the Mexican President circulated his proposal for the implementation of the remaining actions for the compliance with the T-MEC (treaty of free trade Mexico, United States and Canada, as it is titled in Spanish), without understanding general guidelines or specific strategies with an integral vision and integral of the migratory phenomenon from the point of view of the full respect and the guaranty of human rights of people, of the migrants, boys, girls, and teenagers.

Central America is the epicentre of human rights abuses due to violence, inequality, and poor socio-economic conditions. The countries in this region have become some of the top countries of origin for mobility in recent decades, not only in Latin America but also in other parts of the world (Gutiérrez-Romero & Salgado, 2022). Among the six countries with the highest number of irregular border crossers in the United States between 2014 and 2019 were Mexico and countries of the Northern Triangle of Central America (NTCA): El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, which represent 62.7% of all people apprehended by border patrol officials. In the case of Mexico, the US context has been the main recipient of human rights abuses from mixed migration flows globally, and particularly in the case of Central American citizens. According to the International Organization for Migration, in Mexico, 2018 was the year in which the two most important transit flows were recorded, which represented a mass migration break: the entry of 50 000 migrants from the NTCA and the arrival of 75 000 irregular migrants from the Caribbean (Catron & Vignau Loria, 2021).

E. Previous Studies

In the field of migration, studies on the causes of international migration (Djajic 1989; Kiker 1999; Kugler 2004), networks (Liu and Zhang 2018), remittances (Lucas and Stark 1985), and return migration (Beine, Docquier, and Rapoport 2001) reached large research interest. However, the impact of the violation of human rights on migration has not been rigorously examined, and the theoretical framework to analyse it is very sporadic. Although human settlement formation in Malthus, Ricardo, and Simon was a long-standing study (Das 1970), and early analysis on environmental displacement took place from the end of the nineteenth century (Ellis 1813), the size and transformative nature of the phenomenon was not known until the last decade (Piguet et al. 2011).

Violence and human rights violations are one of the leading drivers of migration, according to the Global Peace index 2018. Accordingly, there is an evolving literature on conflict and migration that now encompasses a variety of conflicts. David Hume's (orig. 1777) argument about the value of a common political authority for establishing governance risks is applied to displacement in Mancini (2009).

1. Intersection of Human Rights and Geopolitics

1.1 Analysis of how human rights violations influence geopolitical dynamics.

Human rights violations have profound implications for geopolitical dynamics, affecting international relations and regional stability. Violations such as persecution, discrimination, and violence can lead to forced migration and refugee flows, impacting both sending and receiving countries. (Betts, 2013). In addition, undermine stability within nations and regions, often leading to mass displacement and refugee crises. These violations can trigger international responses and influence diplomatic relations between countries. In addition, the violations of human rights can strain the diplomatic relations between countries. When countries are accused of systemic human rights abuses, it can lead to international condemnation and sanctions, affecting their geopolitical standing (Donnelly, 2013).

Human rights violations, such as persecution, discrimination, and violence, have far-reaching consequences that extend beyond individual suffering to impact geopolitical dynamics at regional and global levels. According to Betts (2013), "failed governance and systemic human rights abuses are key catalysts for survival migration, where individuals and communities flee their countries in search of safety and dignity". These violations often lead to mass displacement and refugee crises, challenging the stability and governance of affected regions.

The treatment of human rights within a country can significantly affect its international standing and diplomatic relations. Donnelly (2013) asserts that "the recognition and protection of human rights practices increasingly influence how states interact with one another, affecting diplomatic discourse and international agreements. Countries accused of widespread human rights abuses face scrutiny from the international community, which can result in diplomatic isolation, economic sanctions, or interventions by international bodies such as the United Nations.

The analysis of how human rights violations influence geopolitical dynamics underscores the interconnectedness between human rights, migration, and international relations. By examining case studies and scholarly perspectives, thus contributes to a deeper understanding of the role of human rights in shaping global governance and diplomatic discourse.

1.2 Impact of migration policies on regional stability

When discussing the protection of migrants in local policies, we face another reality. Although some components are important in any immigration issue – no discrimination, access to rights (such as fair treatment), and their corresponding duties, actions to induce the inclusion of migrants in the host society (or/and country by transit), and so on – there are many structural differences among aliens in the same country. The beginning of such differences is, obviously, the legal status of the foreigner in the national territory. There are four legal statuses of foreigners in a national territory: tourist, customer of the protected measure (refugee, granted annually), regular, and irregular investors. (Sánchez Nájera & Freier, 2022)

Mexico has a unique situation regarding migrant legal figures. Approximately 1.2 million migrants enter the country through the "south doors" – Belize and Guatemala – and transit Central America without necessarily using the mentioned entries (Casillas, 2006). In 2008, Mexico granted 27,469 migratory documents, of which 18,019 were temporary admissions, including 4,240 workers and 13,779 visitors for humanitarian reasons (González-Murphy & Koslowski, 2011). Through humanitarian visa programs, which have since been converted into temporary permits for humanitarian reasons, the Mexican government provided free medical care, several levels of education, protection against criminal activities, and the right to enter and leave the national territory, return to any country, and reunite families (Berg, 2018).

This policy framework is notably protective, considering the common sanctions and xenophobia towards irregular migrants seen in various regions (Alba & Castillo, 2012). Another notable aspect of Mexican policy was the proposed legalization (or amnesty) options that potentially benefited up to 6% of the estimated irregular immigrants dwelling in the country (Papademetriou, 2011). Circular migration presents an important challenge in the Mexican context. One third of the 11.8 million irregular migrants in the USA are Mexican. Due to several factors, including structural economic transformations in Mexico and a declining birth rate, around 4 to 4.1 million Mexicans are currently residing in the USA (Passel & Cohn, 2018). The visa for stayers or stoppers (TWV in Spanish acronym) presented a convenient way of benefiting both governments and the migrants themselves (Robertson, 2014)

2. Historical and Contemporary Overview of Migration in Latin America

2.1 Historical evolution of migratory flows in Latin America.

The international migration has been a fundamental factor behind significant political, economic, social, and demographic changes in the modern world. Academic researchers, policymakers, and international organisations have always been interested in understanding the patterns and trends of international migration, and the reasons, or the pushes and pulls, behind such migration. However, few literatures are about the human rights aspect of such migration. Analyse the repercussions of human rights violations in international migration, the ever-increasing complexity of human rights violations, either by state or non-state parties, has gradually shifted from a theoretical debate into reality for many who have suffered from such violations. (Koczan et al., 2021) Such nature of human rights violations has been further complicated when they are exploited in the international migration process. It is likely that a combination of factors contributes to the violations of human rights in migration, including the global political and economic imbalances, the national interests of the states, diverse kinds domestic and international legal frameworks, and the discrimination against diverse kinds of migrants. Also, the impact of human rights violations in migration, which may include the sufferings of individual migrants and the potential harm to society. The repercussions and the guidelines empower us to scrutinize the political and social impacts of these violations in a more critical way. Such understandings will provide a solid foundation for policymakers and legal advice to develop the legislative and executive strategies to better protect human rights on both domestic and international levels. (Simpson, 2022)

2.2 Contemporary Migration Trends

According to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2017), international migration in Latin America has increased continuously over the past half century, with the number of international immigrants estimated at 29.2 million in 2000 and expected to reach 62.1 million in 2015. It is found that a sizeable portion of the out-migrants of any Latin American country move to a few specific countries. For example, out of 23 countries in Latin America, 94% of all emigrants from Cuba in 2015 moved to the United States, 92% of all emigrants from El Salvador in the same year also moved to the United

States, and 87% of all emigrants from the Dominican Republic also chose the United States as their new destination (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 2017). These results suggest a strong tendency of the migration stream from the Latin American to Caribbean region to the United States. On the other hand, most of the immigration destinations had remained the same over the years, namely the United States, Spain, Argentina, and Venezuela, due to the historical and cultural ties. In addition, the research also shows that a sizeable portion of the Latin America and Caribbean population growth is because of the immigrants' population, particularly in the Caribbean region. In 2017 there were 6.3 million immigrants from the rest of the world in the Caribbean countries, while the Caribbean countries had received only 3.4 million of international immigrants. Both North America and South America had the net-increase of the immigrants' population, but the growth is much pronounced in the Caribbean region. Also, the total of 6.1 million immigrants residing in the Caribbean countries made up almost 10.5% of the overall population in the region (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 2017). This evidence reveals that the migrants have played an important role in shaping the demographics in the host countries. On one hand, the political and socioeconomic situation in the sending countries prompt the residents to leave and seek for the better future for themselves and as well as their families. On the other hand, the opportunities and economic growth in the host countries are attractive to the people in the sending countries, especially when the host countries offer better working and living conditions compared to the origin countries. (Dao et al., 2021)

2.3 Patterns and Trends

Traditionally, there have been several patterns with respect to international migration in Latin America. Immigration flows have been intra-regional, although inter-continental migration - primarily to North America and Europe - has been increasing. However, more recently this trend has been reversed due to the economic crisis in Europe and the increasingly aging population in many Western countries. The growth in Asian and African economies and the decreasing fertility rates of the countries in the North has provided further incentive for Latin American migrants to stay within the region. (Brumat2020)

Despite the large body of literature which highlights regional variations in migration rates and demographic profiles, there is a surprising lack of analysis on the national, agrarian

dynamics that help to perpetuate such trends over time. For example, it is noted that Brazil, Argentina and Mexico are the primary destination countries in the region, absorbing significant proportions of Bolivian, Paraguayan and Guatemalan citizens. However, given the large size and diverse macro-regions that exist within these countries, it cannot be assumed that the national-level data is representative of immigrant experiences across the board. Similarly, it is acknowledged that, in general, the highest rates of migration per population are found in the more economically developed places such as Uruguay, Trinidad and Tobago and Costa Rica. However, such normative statements may overlook the regional disparities found within countries such as Colombia, where the coastal regions are significantly wealthier than the more rural, southern municipalities. Seasonal migrations are another common feature of South American mobility patterns. Muscular, male labour forces for the farming and construction industries, for example, are often bolstered by the arrival of temporary workers in the harvesting and building periods. (Chaves-González & Echevarría Estrada, 2020) However, it is important to remember that these are not always consistent. It seems, then, that the international migration patterns of Latin America can largely be characterised by distinction from global trends, containing unavoidable distortions caused by several regionally specific push and pull factors.

2.4 Factors Driving Migration

The increasing population in Latin America is accompanied by a higher number of people who are in the ages of being economically active, as well as those who are seeking a better standard of living. However, the existing social and economic policies in the countries cannot sustain this demand. For example, the population between the ages of 15 and 64 in Latin America makes up 65% of the total population, indicating a high population of the working-class people. However, the policies in many countries in the region do not support the entire population in terms of employment and other basic needs. (Busso & Messina, 2020) This means that there is a high unemployment rate, underemployment, and inequality in the countries. On the other hand, the global demand for labour has continued to rise following the increasing of global integration. This has led to the development of new industries and convergence of multinational corporations in some urban centres in Latin America. For example, the increased production of export crops and low-skilled work has been experienced as multinationals seek to maximize their profits through seeking a lower

cost of labour. The main beneficiaries of this labour are the foreign investors as well as the local elite. In the process, many local people are denied job opportunities, their lands taken, and environmental degradation occurs. For example, Mexico has been a major supplier of labour in low-skilled jobs to the US. Such a pattern where labour-exporting countries develop new industries to satisfy the global demand for labour is very critical in explaining international migration.

2.5 Impacts of Migration on Sending and Receiving Countries

Yet, one outstanding consequence of international migration is that the migrants are sure to face sets of problems like encountering relatively rigid class allometries of the receiving societies; being structurally excluded from the conventional labour market that could enable them to lead a decent life and often they end up with drastically low income, poor working conditions plus the absence of legal and social security rights which culminates in social exclusion and deprivation. First and foremost, sending countries especially in Latin America which experience a relatively large scale of mass migration are likely to suffer 'brain drain' which the home country often struggles to secure dynamic phase of economic growth and political stability for nationally sustainable developments due to the outflow of high skilled labours. For instance, the Human Development Index (HDI) values of countries like Mexico and Dominican Republic for the year 2000 were 0.750 and 0.720 along with 13.2% and 32.1% of labour forces occupied in agriculture respectively. However, the HDI values declined to 0.747 and 0.709 in 2005 while the percentages of agricultural labours decreased to 12.9% and 31.1% correspondingly. This example illustrates the adverse impacts on economic development and social progress in less developed countries through the players of higher production relations and indirectly leading to the unequal exchange in the international political economy. (Borja, 2020) On the other hand, the phenomena of social exclusion in the receiving countries have been emerged as a factor that needing to be pay attention to because in the world of 'globalized urban economy', the consumption-based cities increasingly tailored the pace of life, rhythm of daily activities and patterns of social interactions especially to those people who able to involve in the circuits of the real prosperity. Such phenomenon has been revealed by the fact that many America cities are forged by oversized, situationally defensive places and driven by the consistence of 'rational' decisions making that detached from real human experiences comparing those yet to be

socially excluded from the privileges of the prosperity due to differences in trends of prosperity. This situation is perfectly applicable to the migrants whom working and living in this environment, the disadvantaged groups as the 'structurally out of sync' and 'temporally maladapted'. Such exclusion often being portrayed in two divergent aspects; the symbolic form of isolation that results in loss of dignity and self-esteem within the community and a material form that encompasses the inability to take advantage of the market opportunities and constrained access to the counsel of legal and social rights.

3. Mexico as a Migration Corridor

3.1 Mexico's significance as a migration corridor

Mexico occupies a strategic position in the migration system of the region. Its geographical location between South and Central America and the United States has long made it both a destination and a transit country for migrants. The use of Mexico as part of the route to the United States has a long tradition. Although there was a significant decrease in the number of Mexican emigrants after the 2008 economic crisis, transit migration in Mexico has become an increasingly visible phenomenon, particularly since the mid-2010s due to many people from Central America fleeing violence and insecurity in their home countries. Most migrants from the North Triangle countries of El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala enter Mexico through the southern border, where they are exposed to risks and immigration control measures, according to the 2019 Mexico Migration Profile. As the US government reinforced border control and externalized its immigration control program, particularly after the 9/11 attacks, Mexico started to take on new geopolitical importance in US migration. For example, in the mid-2000s the US launched the Merida Initiative, a bilateral security program aimed at dismantling criminal organisations in Central America and their cross-border smuggling and trafficking routes. In 2008, the first Merida Initiative project, the Northern Border Integration Program, began targeting border links to thwart smuggling and drug-related violence. However, these security and border governance initiatives have had an indirect impact on the magnitude and profile of migration in Mexico. As a result of the intensified controls over Mexico-U.S. borders and the measures to combat organized crime, a shift from circular to settled and linear patterns of migration in Mexico have been identified. This may lead to an increase in illegal stay and segmentation and disadvantage, which require more focused attention in both the migration literature and public debate. Such a shift in the migration pattern may present new challenges for the Mexican government to integrate and accommodate the needs of migrants from the Central America region. Given the complexities and rapid changes in Mexican migration, research on Mexico as a migration corridor should not only focus on the phenomenon itself, but also aim to uncover the way in which Mexican migration is adapted, governed, and governed differently, and rethink the impact of current policies on migrants' daily life. The Mexican diaspora is one of the largest in the world (13.0 million migrants in 2017), only

preceded by that of India (15.6 million), a situation that reflects the weight and presence of the Mexican population abroad. Many of our compatriots abroad reside in the United States of America (11.6 million), a country with which we form the main migratory corridor in the world: Although there has been a substantial increase in the participation of women in the period of 2010 to 2017 (46.5 to 48.1%), men continue to be the majority.

3.2 Geographical and Demographic Context

Mexico's critical position at the intersection of Latin America and the United States makes it a key centre for global migration. The 3,145 km border it shares with the U.S. is a major entry point for those wishing to enter the United States, while its borders with Guatemala and Belize to the south are also important entry points for migrants from Central America. The varied geography of Mexico, which includes deserts, mountains, and rivers, poses significant challenges for migrants, although transportation infrastructure such as highways, railroads, and ports of entry, along with the well-known La Bestia train, assist in the movement of people. Most migrants passing through Mexico come from the Northern Triangle countries of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, where they flee violence, political instability, and economic hardship, but there is an increasing number of migrants from South America, the Caribbean, and even African and Asian countries who use Mexico as a transit route. The broad range of migrants includes families with children, unaccompanied minors, young adults, women, and children, reflecting the widespread impact of the migrant crisis. The Mexican government has implemented several policies to manage the flow of migrants, including increased border enforcement, detention, and deportation efforts, but has also issued humanitarian visas and temporary work permits to some migrants. Non-governmental organisations offer aid, shelter, legal assistance, and medical care to migrants in Mexico, addressing their humanitarian needs while in transit. Border towns and transit points in Mexico often experience economic and social stress due to the influx of migrants, leading to stretched resources such as housing, healthcare, and public services. Migrant populations sometimes settle in Mexican communities, leading to cultural exchanges and integration challenges, with local attitudes towards migrants varying widely, influenced by economic conditions and social dynamics. Overall, Mexico's geographic and

demographic significance as a vital corridor for international migration cannot be overstated. (Diehl, 2022) (Cooley et al., 2022)

3.3 Historical Significance

The historical significance of Mexican territory as a migration corridor is closely tied to its geographical location and socio-political landscape. Mexico has long served as a crucial route for migrants due to its position as a link between Central and South America and the United States. Over time, migration patterns through Mexico have been influenced by historical events, economic conditions, and political developments within the country and the broader region. (Hanson et al., 2023) During pre-colonial times, Indigenous peoples moved across regions for trade, warfare, and resettlement, laying the foundation for migration in the area. The arrival of Spanish colonizers in the 16th century further shaped migration patterns, with significant movement of people, including forced migration due to slavery and the relocation of Indigenous populations. Mexico's strategic position became evident as a gateway for Spanish expansion and resource extraction, further embedding its role in regional migration dynamics. (Meade, 2022) The 19th century brought about substantial changes with Mexico's independence from Spain, resulting in territorial adjustments, including the loss of vast territories to the United States following the Mexican American War. These changes had profound impacts on migration, as displaced populations moved within the redefined borders and sought new opportunities. The influx of migrants also put pressure on local economies and infrastructure, leading to social and political tensions. The mid-20th century marked a significant shift with the Bracero Program, which allowed Mexican labourers to work temporarily in the U.S. agricultural sector. This program facilitated legal migration and set the stage for subsequent undocumented migration due to economic disparities and demand for labour. Mexico increasingly became a transit country for migrants from Central America fleeing civil wars, economic instability, and political repression. The influx of migrants has put significant strain on Mexico's resources and infrastructure. In the 21st century, Mexico's role as a migration corridor has become more pronounced and complex, as large-scale movements of people seeking asylum and better opportunities have intensified. The tightening of U.S. immigration policies has placed additional pressure on Mexico to manage and control the flow of migrants. Mexico has

implemented various policies and initiatives to address migration, including enhanced border security and cooperation with the United States. (Hernández-León et al.2022) The historical significance of Mexican territory as a migration corridor underscores its enduring role in regional migration dynamics, shaped by economic, political, and social factors. Understanding this historical context is crucial for comprehending current migration challenges and human rights violations within this corridor, providing a foundation for developing informed policies to protect migrants' rights and address the underlying causes of forced migration.

3.4 Role in Regional and Global Migration Flows

Mexico plays a dual role within the regional migration framework, acting as both a transit and destination country. Specifically, migrants from Central America, such as Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, pass through Mexico with the aim of reaching the United States. However, many end up staying in Mexico due to stricter border control or in search of better opportunities. The influx of migrants has posed significant humanitarian challenges for Mexico, with difficulties in providing resources and infrastructure leading to calls for more comprehensive migration policies and international cooperation. The presence of migrants has a notable impact on the country's economy and society, contributing to sectors like agriculture, construction, and domestic work while also straining public services and infrastructure in some areas. As the main gateway to the United States, Mexico plays a crucial role in the global migration landscape, with policies and practices that can influence broader regional migration trends. Mexico collaborates with international organisations and neighbouring countries to manage migration flows, participating in initiatives like the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) aimed at providing protection and solutions for refugees and migrants in the region. Recent years have seen shifts in migration patterns, with an increasing number of migrants from South America, the Caribbean, and even Africa and Asia transiting through Mexico due to economic, political, and environmental factors. (Ghys & Inzunza-Acedo, 2023) (Sánchez, 2020)

4. Human Rights Violations in Migration

Migration through the Mexican corridor is rife with a multitude of human rights violations that have a significant impact on the dignity, safety, and overall welfare of migrants. These violations occur at various stages of the migration journey and involve different actors, including state authorities, criminal organisations, and other non-state actors.

This section is focusing on the rights of migrants. The international legal frameworks guaranteeing the rights of all persons, including migrants, are presented. The limited prospects for the vertical accountability of human rights violations are discussed. This section concludes with a succinct analysis of the International Migrant Rights Regime. A "right" can be simply understood as a valid claim or entitlement of a person towards another party. In the context of social science, it is the entitlements of a claimant enshrined in norms and laws over other right holders.

It is important to appreciate the nature of rights, as it provides more than material benefits and the rules that society operates by. The meaning of roles, sources, conceptions, and conflicts of rights are considered. (Hathaway, 2021) This chapter delves into the prevalent human rights violations experienced by migrants, exploring the contexts and methods through which these abuses take place. The violations are extensive, covering forced migration, human trafficking, migrant detention, discrimination, violence, and legal rights violations. These abuses not only violate the fundamental rights and dignity of migrants but also have profound impacts on their physical and psychological well-being. Addressing these violations requires comprehensive policies that prioritize the protection of human rights, enhanced international cooperation, and effective legal frameworks to safeguard the rights of migrants throughout their journey. Forced Migration occurs when individuals are compelled to move due to factors such as violence, persecution, environmental disasters, and extreme poverty. (Heyman, 2021)

These circumstances often lead to perilous journeys where migrants are at considerable risk of exploitation and abuse. Violence and Persecution force many migrants, particularly from Central American countries, to flee gang violence, domestic abuse, and political persecution. Economic Deprivation also plays a significant role, as extreme poverty and lack of opportunities push individuals to migrate despite the known risks, often leading to exploitative labour conditions in both transit and destination countries. Human Trafficking, including forced labour, sexual exploitation, and slavery, is a grave violation that migrant

populations often face. Migrant detention often involves significant human rights abuses, with inhumane conditions and arbitrary detention being common. Discrimination against migrants is pervasive, manifested in racial and ethnic discrimination, as well as legal discrimination due to undocumented status. Migrants are frequently subjected to violence from criminal gangs, corrupt officials, and even local populations, including physical assault, murder, extortion, and kidnapping. Violations of legal rights often occur due to lack of access to justice and protection mechanisms, denying migrants asylum and refugee protections while also lacking legal representation. (De Haas, 2021)

This chapter has provided an overview of the major human rights violations faced by migrants traveling through the Mexican corridor. Subsequent chapters will explore the specific impacts of these violations on migrant well-being and the broader geopolitical implications for Latin America.

4.1 Factors Contributing to Human Rights Violations in Migration

Understanding the factors that contribute to human rights violations in migration is crucial for developing effective interventions and policies to protect migrants. These factors are complex and interrelated, involving economic, social, political, and environmental dimensions. We must understand the primary factors that generate human rights violations along the migration corridor through Mexico, examining how these factors intersect and exacerbate the vulnerabilities of migrants. This understanding lays the groundwork for developing strategies to mitigate human rights violations and improve the overall well-being of migrants.

Economic deprivation, social exclusion, political instability, environmental degradation, and complex geopolitical dynamics all play significant roles in shaping the migration landscape. Addressing these factors requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach that considers the diverse challenges migrants face. Effective interventions must prioritize human rights, ensure protection for vulnerable populations, and address the root causes of forced migration. (Van et al.2020)

The economy has a big effect on migration and human rights abuses due to factors like poverty, economic inequality, and exploitation of cheap labour. For example, migrants from poverty-stricken areas often can't afford a safe journey, while economic disparities push people to take risks in search of better opportunities. Also, many migrants are exploited

because of their legal status and financial desperation, leading to low wages and bad working conditions. Social factors like relying on smugglers and social networks put migrants at risk of exploitation, extortion, and abuse. Discrimination based on race, ethnicity, and nationality can also lead to violence, exclusion, and limited access to essential services. These social factors contribute to human rights abuses during migration. (Derenoncourt, 2022) Additionally, political conditions and policies can have a significant impact on migration flows and how migrants are treated. For instance, instability, conflict, and corruption in transit countries can lead to extortion, arbitrary detention, and a lack of accountability for abuses against migrants.

Tough immigration policies in destination countries can push migrants into irregular channels, increasing their vulnerability to risks and human rights abuses. Environmental changes and disasters also drive migration and make migrants more vulnerable. For example, climate change worsens environmental damage, leading to loss of livelihoods, food insecurity, and displacement. Natural disasters create chaotic conditions that traffickers and exploiters can take advantage of.

Lastly, geopolitical dynamics in the region influence migration patterns and how migrants are treated. Ineffective regional cooperation can make it hard to protect migrants and address human rights abuses, while conflicts between countries can lead to policies prioritizing national security over human rights, resulting in harsher treatments of migrants. (Kaczan & Orgill-Meyer, 2020) Also, U.S. immigration policies significantly impact migration patterns in Mexico and Central America, with policies restricting asylum and increasing border enforcement pushing migrants into more dangerous situations and making human rights abuses worse. Thus, the international Aid and Development Programs: Insufficient or misdirected international aid can fail to address the root causes of migration, leaving migrants without the support needed to ensure their safety and rights.

4.2 Consequences for Migrants and Society

Particularly under the aspect of migration, the consequences - positive and negative - for a society must be considered. It is not only the question of political decency to respect human rights, but also a question of long-term political thinking. Authorities, small or big, feel the failure of experienced violations of human rights to be an outright danger for the stability of their own political systems. When mentioning violations of human rights, we all have

our own idea of what it is. The answer to the same question of a Turkish Bedouin, observing his own conception of basic human rights of modern society, would be quite a different one than that of a Western politician. (Fisk, 2020)

It should be noted that the violation of foreign nationals' human rights by the host country can lead to the violation of the rights of this country's nationals in different ways, like economic impact, social tension, and erosion of democratic accountability and legitimacy of the rule of law. These violations often lead to needs being revealed which require an immediate response, while creating conditions for economic, administrative, and political systems to stop the violation itself. Ignoring these needs, the host country government not only allows the violation of fundamental human rights of foreign nationals to continue, in many cases, it further exacerbates the situation, which in turn can have very serious consequences in the future, including armed conflicts, mass human rights violations, or at the very least an erosion of the international credibility of local and international institutions.

The violation of migrants' human rights can lead to social tension between society and local and foreign communities, further deteriorating the migrants' situation, resulting in public anxiety and fear in the host country's population, and entailing community xenophobia and aggression which directly affect the local population and, in some cases, also threatens the fundamental rights of the host country's nationals.

The violation of migrants' human rights by the host country denies migrants the realization of their social rights and can have long-lasting consequences for both the host country's social community and for the migrants. The impact of the host country on the cause of the problem, its perpetration, and consequence is determined by how willing they are to halt the violation of the fundamental human rights of this vulnerable community. The mismatch between the rights personal feeling and low community social welfare as well as the gap between high expectations and the absence of opportunities prove to be very real human rights for both the permissible community and the human rights of foreign nationals and can lead to isolation, crisis of trust, and legitimacy of governance. (Costello & Mann, 2020)

When human rights of migrants are violated (being denied access to food, water, health care, safety, shelter, and sexual and reproductive health care), the immediate result is that the

physical health and vitality of the vulnerable person and his/her family are negatively affected. The first right that is often negatively affected in the migrant's home of work is the right to food. The right to life is dependent on the availability of food.

By living below the bread line, they do not have enough money to make a nutritious diet possible and they are exposed to undernutrition, substance abuse, and criminal activities, both with long-term effects on health and consequences for future employability. Furthermore, internalized trauma, fear for the health of significant others in the home country, and discrimination are negatively associated with the mental health of staying, non-refugee migrants. Although these stressors impact on the mental health of asylum seekers, their impact is weaker or absent for staying migrants. (Verelst et al.2022) Moreover, discrimination as perceived ethnic threat does not seem to be a serious health risk perception for asylum seekers, whose legal protections are dependent on an assessment of desperation and on recognized, specific persecution. For asylum seekers, every asylum opportunity is accepted as the only chance to survive, so asylum seekers are running away from their precarious situations and the fear of state persecution, imprisonment, or assassination. Every day, many asylum seekers are defined as exiles. Such a life cannot be enjoyable, and many families are seriously traumatized.

Asylum seekers are imprisoned in their memory minds and in their daily life. They are traumatized, discriminated against, exploited, humiliated for who they are, and by inhabitants of the host country. It is the history of the xenophobia of the elderly and current migration debates. This history is connected to the deaths, precarious lives, and mental health problems of asylum seekers and their children. (Korp and Stretmo2020) Those who perceive persecution find the asylum Hell is preferable to the insecurity of their home. Unwanted exiles are so confused. Frightened, innocent children cry for help. Their mental health is seriously at risk, and children and women are considered easy victims of sexual abuse. The asylum Hell seriously influences their daily life and mental health. Unpleasantly, asylum seekers need a better life, should receive protection in the host country, and have the decision of protection taken quickly enough to minimize their terrible uncertainty.

Access to education is another important aspect of integration that is enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. However, the national legislation of receiving states often places

significant obstacles to access education for children of migrants and refugees, in particular, irregular migrants, as well as accommodations for their language skills (Espindola & Jacobo-Suárez, 2020). The overriding argument is that the state has no responsibility over children who reside illegally and that their presence in the receiving state is temporary. In addition, national legislation usually does not contain clear rules on the presence of the parents of undocumented children in educational institutions, registration in educational institutions, and the rights of both parents and children in relation to education.

For society in general, there are not only negative but also positive consequences. The issue of social protection and the rights of migrants with a view to preventing their violations are not widely studied. The decrease in the flow of migrants into the country is a complex consequence of the violation of the rights of migrants, on the one hand, and the deep and multidimensional consequences of the barrier to trade, on the other. The paper points out the negative consequences at a formal level, that is, in the creation of legal barriers to the inflow of people into it. (Simpson, 2022) Societies benefit from migration to the extent that they are willing to assume responsibility for developing special institutions that facilitate the adjustment of migrant workers to the labour market and protect them from discrimination.

4.3 Human Rights Challenges and Policy Failures in the Mexico-United States Migration Process

The Mexico-United States migration process is characterized by violations of migrants' human rights, as well as failures of public policies. This is why it is imperative to know the primary migratory challenges that Mexico faces to understand the importance of migration and the human rights of migrants. It is essential to understand the need to promote a policy landscape linked to binational and hemispheric approaches that prioritize the economic development of the region to make migration a decision and not an obligation to survive. (Kehm) This coincides with the opinion that people should have the right to live where they are born and could develop according to their expectations and life projects. Migrating does not have to be a "solution" but a "product" of freedom.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), when defining Mexico as a country of migration, alluded to the need to generate alternative development for the population so that it could take root. At the same time, Mexican society and their representatives have worked

to develop legislation that respects and guarantees the rights of the population, tighten surveillance tools to protect them, and thus guarantee the integrity, dignity, and life projects of migrants, who are the main actors in this system.

Mexico is the country of study being a country of origin, transit, destination, and return for the southern migration corridor. In different regions of the country, there are reports of discriminatory labour practices that restrict full exercise of human rights. In other words, limiting the construction of inclusive and socially, economically and politically equality citizenships. Migrating lives are also limited by histories of rights exclusion and tension emerging from different forms of genocide (classic and slow), like violence of a continuous system of dispossession and appropriation of natural goods of the Earth that become regions to extract items that are oriented to transnational speculative businesses. (Jacobo and Cárdenas, 2020) The analysis, which is carried out from the three main flows within Mexican migration, reveals the territories that are affected by violence, exploitation, and intensification of neoliberal matters. Furthermore, these dynamics amplify the symbolic, political, and ideological meanings of racial constructions producing prejudiced judgments toward indices' people, access to work, and limits on human rights in some of the states in the Mexican territory.

The research thus shows the urgency of reframing the attention of migratory processes in Latin America and the Caribbean from the importance of analysing the exercise of institutional and noninstitutional practices that sustain racial discrimination and limit human rights, considering that in the migration corridors of the region, and silence does mean complicity. (Thomas Wassink, 2020) (Garbett et al., 2022)

International migrations are often associated with changes in the economic, social and gender relations geography of the regions of destination and origin. Research on the international migration of Latin America highlights the social and racial dynamics that accompany the human groups contingent to migration, as well as the practices of human differentiation, performatively produced through various cultural constructions of gender, like sexuality.

4.4 Human Rights Violations in International Migration through Mexico

Thirty thousand disappeared, 60,000 bodies without relatives were buried, 24,165 bodies were identified but not received, and 300,000 people were killed from drug cartel violence and human rights violations in Mexico from 2008 to 2015 (Coscia & Gutiérrez-Romero, 2023). The situation of Central Americans, occasional citizens from other countries face the same situations. The National Human Rights Commission of Mexico has published annual statistics, 3,848; 3,819; 2,113 and 1,137 people were violated in their human rights in years 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2018, respectively (Rizzo Lara, 2024) (Brook et al., 2023). To prevent the large-scale spread of COVID-19, the government banned public demonstrations as these demonstrations violated the COVID-19 safety policy. The largest number of violations has been recorded in this period. Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas suffered the worst violence according to sex, age, and other victimizations. These three states were affected by 17,820, 13,676, and 11,876 people that victims were from 0 to 19 years old. These states were controlled by the two biggest drug cartels. Reducing or avoiding the chances of being victims of the large-scale violence and other organised crimes, sufferings, menaces, rapes, and distinct kinds of human rights have been forcibly expelled in the undocumented migration and crossing of Mexico. These human rights violations—mapped in three levels: pre-departure, intra-frontier, and post-entry—challenge migrants' temporary stay on the migratory corridor and generate a panic among them.

Mexico has become a large-scale labour migration corridor (Cruz-Riveros et al., 2022). However, the high frequency and systematic human rights violations against migrants and asylum seekers present long-term complications that concern both sending and receiving communities. While human rights issues are acknowledged in Mexico, there is a need for an approach that respects multicultural characteristics and integrates policies and programs oriented towards the protection of human rights. Instead, the current academic perspective often adheres to an extreme form found in international reports, which are typically not addressed sufficiently by specialists. Therefore, it is crucial to develop an interdisciplinary academic approach that incorporates human rights into educational policies and programs, ensuring comprehensive protection and enforcement for migrants and asylum seekers.

4.5 Overview of prevalent human rights violations

The situation of international migration flows through Mexico is characterized by widespread violations of human rights that affect thousands of migrants from Central America and other regions. These migrants encounter numerous challenges and dangers while traveling through Mexico, often becoming victims of violence, exploitation, and discrimination. These violations are prevalent due to various interconnected factors that create an inhospitable environment for migrants. One primary reason for the persistence of human rights violations is the weak rule of law in Mexico. Corruption is widespread within different levels of the government and law enforcement, leading to collusion between authorities and criminal organisations. (Human Rights Watch, 2019; Slack et al., 2016) This environment of impunity allows criminal groups to operate without fear of prosecution, perpetuating violence and exploitation against migrants. Organized crime groups, such as drug cartels, have significant control over large areas of Mexico, and have expanded their operations to include human trafficking and smuggling. Migrants, especially those who are undocumented, have limited access to legal protection and recourse, making them vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

Many migrants are fleeing dire socioeconomic conditions, including poverty, violence, and lack of opportunities in their home countries, which make them desperate and willing to take significant risks, rendering them easy targets for exploitation. (Vogt, 2018; Amnesty International, 2020). Additionally, immigration policies of both Mexico and the United States play a significant role in the human rights violations faced by migrants, as they often lead to dangerous and clandestine migration routes, increasing the risk of migrants falling into the hands of traffickers and smugglers. Migrants also face xenophobia and racism from local communities in Mexico, which can lead to social exclusion and violence, further marginalizing them. The journey through Mexico is marked by extreme physical hardship, as migrants often travel long distances on foot or by hitching rides on dangerous modes of transportation, facing harsh environmental conditions, lack of food and water, and inadequate shelter. Migrants also encounter challenges in accessing justice, with many incidents going unreported or not investigated due to fear of retribution or mistrust in the authorities, further perpetuating the cycle of violence and exploitation (De Genova & Peutz, 2010; Castillo, 2020). This is a significant obstacle that hinders the protection of migrants' rights and contributes to the perpetuation of human rights violations. In summary,

international migration flows through Mexico are marred by a range of human rights violations, including violence, exploitation, and discrimination. These challenges highlight the urgent need for comprehensive and humane migration policies that address the root causes of migration and protect the rights and dignity of all migrants.

Violence perpetrated against community members, particularly women, has also been reported to be a primary driver for fleeing to the US, while a training study conducted by the Latin America Working Group and the Washington Office for Latin America concluded that human rights abuses, primarily threats and extortion by police, military and gangs, force some Central Americans to flee. Analysts are now paying more attention to how “predictable” everyday violence captures the everyday lives of ordinary citizens, including this might shape decision-making and behaviour. Common violence should thus be understood as a form of structural violence, born of structural inequalities, and left unpunished due to corrupt and institutionally fragile states. (Latin America Working Group, 2017; Washington Office on Latin America, 2016).

One of the causes of migration, gender-based violence and precarious labour conditions in South-South migration corridors among Central American girls and women is the absence of sexual and reproductive health information and framework of law that protects their rights in the territory of transit. The programs and interventions to prevent gender-based violence and ensure work opportunities for migrant women, adolescents, and girls within the territory of transit are limited, reactionary, and do not contribute to development (Garbett et al., 2022).

The issue of violence and human rights violations have mainly driven the growth of children and adults that have moved from the Central American countries to Mexico to seek job opportunities due to the influence of globalization and immigration policies (Garbett et al., 2022). However, this forced movement occurs within the context of migrations in Mexico from countries such as Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador and is then forced to travel to countries in North America such as the United States of America, which represents a migration corridor. Given this complex reality, the children and adults that arrive to Mexico, spend time in this territory between short to long term and suffer situations of exploitation and/or abuse, which forces them to seek new migration routes to reach the United States of America, as well as initiate family reunification processes (Cruz-Riveros et al., 2022). These situations of exploitation/abuse are presented according to the internal trafficking modality of the forced labour trafficking framework, which impacts the rights of the migrant

population from its development, health, and security of the environment and the risk of becoming a victim or offender.

The violation of human rights in transit countries has increased in recent years. Mexico, as a transit country in the migratory process, violated the human rights of migrants through violence, exhibited by the cartels. This makes illegal immigration an extremely dangerous situation for Central American migrants, where they are subject to extortion, kidnapping, and murder. In Mexico, the structural violence produced by the state and the organized crime is naturalized in the social and migratory spheres, where the violence of groups of society towards the migrants for being of Central American origin is perpetuated.

There are reports of beatings, which can lead to loss of consciousness, as well as the use of plastic straps to bind migrants behind their backs and to transfer them to illegal detention centres by organized crime, under the eyes of the state, which minimizes these cases. Persecution and detention of drugs, murders, assaults, harm to family members, sexual abuse and deportation are common human rights abuses committed by organized crime and state entities that keep migrants away from the North. (Coscia & Gutiérrez-Romero, 2023) This is added to other layers of discrimination also tied to xenophobia.

This situation is aggravated when a migrant is a woman, since it is common for their bodies to be sold by organized crime and given the difficulties that a solo woman in transit faces, it becomes common for them, both by neighbours and the same authorities, to exploit women sexually in exchange for the possibility of continuing their journey in their own home. relationship with xenophobic rape. Since migrants are in legal limbo, they are already marginalized, and the situation gets worse if migrants are Indigenous people, discriminated against by both the Indigenous and *mestizo* (half-blood) inhabitants of Mexico.

The advantage of access to Mexican authorities, social institutions, as well as the most basic services, is given to that of the Mexican population. For years, Mexican society and its authorities have tried to differentiate themselves from the fact that they discriminate against Central Americans in Mexico.

5. Geopolitical Repercussions

5.1 Impact on Mexico-United States Relations

Reflecting a large, growing, and dynamic immigrant population, Mexico is emerging as a regional migration corridor that presents important geopolitical consequences (Gutiérrez-Romero, 2022). Latin American countries, particularly those in the Northern Triangle, suffer the negative consequences of Mexican border policy, which contributes to the physical and psychological harm of vulnerable people.

Mexico plays a significant role in shaping U.S. immigration policy towards its neighbouring countries to the south and is considered a key player in the U.S.'s efforts to prevent the entry of non-citizens into the United States. The Mexican government implemented new immigration policies in May 2018, including the issuance of humanitarian visas. However, there have been reports of human rights violations against vulnerable migrant populations by Mexican officials, often with the support of U.S. security and financial aid.

The United States is a major supporter of Mexico's security-focused approach, employing the concept of "violence of order" to understand and justify Mexico's border policy. (Massey, 2020) This concept refers to the systematic use of state-sanctioned violence to maintain control and order, often at the expense of human rights. By utilizing "violence of order" can examine how Mexico's migrant detention policies and practices contribute to human rights violations. Key aspects from this perspective contribute to evaluate the impact of prolonged detention periods on migrants' physical and mental health, as well as their access to legal recourse. Additionally, that shows investigation at instances where migrants are denied the opportunity to present their cases for asylum through credible fear interviews (CFI) or refugee status determinations, leading to their forced return to dangerous situations. The analysis will also assess cases where deported individuals face significant threats upon return, including violence, persecution, and human trafficking. Furthermore, examine the effects of family separations due to extended detention or deportation, including the long-term psychological and social consequences for children and parents.

By employing the "violence of order" framework would be possible move beyond mere description to critically assess the underlying mechanisms and policies that perpetuate human rights abuses within the Mexico-United States migration corridor.

5.2 Linkages between human rights abuses and geopolitical implications

The geographical location of Guerrero and Michoacan is strategically significant due to its proximity to major drug trafficking routes that connect South America to the United States, exacerbating local tensions and contributing to the formation of both local and transnational criminal organizations. The strategic significance of these states is highlighted by their rugged terrain and dense forests, which provide cover for illegal activities. In Guerrero and Michoacan, violence has been persistent, and both state and non-state actors have struggled to provide adequate protection.

From 2014 to 2018, Guerrero and Michoacan consistently ranked among the states with the highest rates of homicides and disappearances in Mexico. Specifically, Guerrero accounted for over 4,000 homicides in 2017 alone, making it one of the most violent states in the country (*Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía* [INEGI] of Mexico, 2018). Additionally, the National Human Rights Commission (Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos of Mexico [CNDH]) reported that 1,000 complaints of human rights violations were filed in Guerrero in 2018, reflecting a severe deficit in trust toward governmental protection (CNDH, 2018).

Comparatively, other regions such as Yucatan and Campeche reported significantly lower rates of violence, highlighting the distinct challenges faced by Guerrero and Michoacan. For example, Yucatan reported fewer than fifty homicides in the same year, illustrating the stark contrast in safety and security between these regions (INEGI, 2018).

This data shows that the extent of violence in Guerrero and Michoacan significantly depresses the level of trust among residents, particularly among less-educated individuals. This not only exacerbates social instability but also undermines efforts to address the human rights crisis in these areas. The ongoing violence and its deep-rooted causes demand a detailed and continuous analysis to better understand the socio-political dynamics and to devise more effective interventions. Such an analysis should include the exploration of the geographic and socio-economic factors that contribute to these disparities and the impact of national and international policies on the region's stability.

Mexico plays a dual role in global migration dynamics, not only as a major destination for South American migrants but also as a significant country of origin, with over 11.9 million Mexican migrants residing in the United States. However, the migration patterns within

Mexico vary significantly by region, reflecting diverse socio-economic conditions and security situations. (Masferrer et al.2022)

In states such as Guerrero and Michoacán, evidence suggests that 5 to 8% of the population are survivors of flaring, a term used to describe the intense and frequent violence these communities endure. Children and young people in these areas are particularly vulnerable, often facing multiform violence including child abuse, repression, and a lack of legal, social, and family support. For example, in Guerrero, the incidence of child abuse and domestic violence is reported to be significantly higher than in more stable regions like Yucatán, where community and family structures remain relatively intact and supportive. (Fregoso Bailón, 2024)

Driven by the harsh realities of state insecurity, deprivation, and economic insufficiency, many victims from these tumultuous regions choose to migrate. They often seek to join family members in the United States, drawn by the hope of better treatment and a safer environment. This decision is not just influenced by personal or familial connections but also by the stark contrast in living conditions between their home states and potential destinations.

The regional disparities within Mexico necessitate a more nuanced understanding of migration patterns. For instance, while northern states like Nuevo León and Baja California are more economically prosperous and experience lower rates of outward migration, southern states like Chiapas and Oaxaca, which grapple with higher levels of poverty and violence, see higher rates of migration. This disparity highlights the need for targeted interventions that address the specific needs and challenges of different Mexican regions, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. (Bada & Fox, 2022)

By focusing on these regional differences and the specific factors driving migration from each area, policies can be better tailored to prevent the root causes of forced migration and to support those who are most vulnerable. This approach also allows for more effective use of resources, ensuring that interventions are directed where they are most needed and can be most effective.

It is indeed the various geopolitical repercussions of migration corridors in which human rights violations occur that obligate other countries to incorporate immigration issues into

their geoeconomic and geopolitics analyses and this is what makes these corridors strategic, conditioned by country's particular geopolitical context.

The countries forming the Central American migration corridors, notably Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, exhibit a complex array of factors that catalyze the emergence of specific migratory routes. In these regions, violence predominantly manifests among youth gangs, or *maras*, who vie for control over unevenly distributed territories. Gangs dominating certain areas are viewed as outsiders in others, exerting both physical and symbolic violence that reshapes social boundaries and collective identities (Gutiérrez-Romero, 2022).

Applying the dialectic of migration as a theoretical framework provides a deeper understanding of how power dynamics and territorial control influence migration patterns. This approach suggests that migration is not merely a response to adverse conditions but is also a phenomenon that reshapes social and political structures (Ferrero, 2003). Therefore, intra-national migration in these countries becomes a continual cycle of displacement and return, where families and youths, though still citizens, are repeatedly forced to flee their homes due to localized insecurity and violence.

Moreover, cross-border migration, spanning merely 470 kilometres of land, is profoundly impacted by varying visa policies, security measures, and humanitarian regulations from each country. This type of migration highlights how state policies and regional tensions directly influence migratory routes and individual decisions, underlining the complexity of migration policies within an interconnected regional context.

Lastly, the pursuit of restful migration, aiming to transcend broader frontiers to reach sub-regional or extra-continental destinations, reflects a long-term strategy to find stable and safe solutions far from original conflict settings. This migration type is indicative of migrants' efforts to secure peace and safety in locations offering greater rights protections and life project opportunities (Massey, 2020).

This analysis, grounded in the dialectic of migration, reveals not only the immediate and apparent causes of migration, such as violence and insecurity, but also unravels how complex interactions between various governance levels and affected communities shape migratory experiences and routes. Viewing migration through this lens identifies opportunities to

reconstruct and reform the social and political structures impacted by these migratory movements, both in countries of origin and destination.

5.3 Bilateral Relations (Mexico-US and Mexico- Central American countries)

Relations between Mexico and the countries to the south of its border, which are the countries of origin of the migration streams that converge in Mexico towards the USA are invisible in the international academia. There are however two exceptions in the works of Duquette (2017) and in the analysis by Mosher Miller and Martin (2013); the former notes Mexico's foreign policy towards Central America since 2012 and reviews what contributes to the support of hostile migratory flows. The bilateral relationships between the countries placed on the Mexican migration perimeter should be improved by a lesser or greater human rights dimension although not explicitly charted by their migration policy (Chacón et al, 2015) influence the dynamics of the streams of people in dis/em(power)ed resistant migration. Beyond determining that the documentation of irregular transit can remain an important link for individuals in terms of legal access to MIDH by virtue of the bilateral agreements, how is it that the government's approach to strengthening R-Refugee Status and MIDH in Mexico? In its "most recent migration indicators in the region," the UN Refugee Agency shows that of 1046,213 non-national people with profiles activated in their system, Mexicans only represents 2379 of those persons. (Garbett et al., 2022) (Coscia & Gutiérrez-Romero, 2023) (Miranda-González et al., 2020)

Relations between the United States and Mexico are represented from the perspective of US policy. (Chacón et al, 2015) (Goodwin-Gill, 2009). It is recognizing the problem of weak protection of Central American migrants by Mexican authorities within Mexican territory, the identification of rectification possibilities by the Mexican counterpart, and the analysis of protection options from both. Latin American migrants are pushed from their countries by violence and decisive elements in migration policies on the aspect of nationality; author Cardona makes it clear that the Mexican government's migration policy is mainly limited to a deterrence function, geared toward minimizing the timing that these flows, particularly of Central American nationals, transit through the territory of Mexico; in that respect, it is aligned with US interests ("Super Brick"; 'Good Neighbours' etc.). Reiss analyses the "Security and Prosperity Partnership" known as the Rock Plan and the Beyond the Frontera

initiative, thought to respond to US border security priorities, chiefly that of stemming Latin American migration before migrants reach the Florida Strait and the Mexico-US border singled out as bioregions.

This US agenda was adopted by Mexico as a national security strategy and reference to continuing the Montego Bay geopolitics to the extent that protectively being alone in crime containment should be the priority.

5.4 Impact on diplomatic relations between countries involved.

The region of Central America, which includes Mexico, has some of the highest rates of crime and violence in the world, important levels of internal displacement, and a high volume of migrants. Many of these migrants leave their place of origin because of war, persecution, human rights violations, environmental disasters, and precarious labour conditions. (Venturi et al., 2022) These conditions, added to the extreme poverty situation experienced by most of the migrants, reveal Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala as active countries of emigration, and Mexico as an active migrant flow from Central America to the United States. (McFadden et al., 2022) Southern New Mexico is an under-recognized immigrant gateway community, characterized by a uniquely low percentage of the native-born population (38.5%), and a recently high Latinx/Hispanic population growth rate (31.8%).

A gap in the literature centres on complex health and human rights challenges of migrant families seeking asylum in the US. This article prioritizes reproductive justice based in human rights protections relevant to structural forces producing stress and trauma for women/men/other migrants amid socioeconomic, judicial, physical/psychological, political, and cultural elements complicating threats to embodied reproductive autonomy.

5.5 Negotiations and agreements influenced by human rights concerns.

Given its migratory significance, Mexico has been considered as an important entrepreneurship. However, surveys in five Mexican States on the experiences of migration governance and the potential costs of the support of Nicaraguan migrants are showing that available technologies, including a considerable large web camera disaster mitigation in

Mexico, many observed as non-technology. Nineteen out of twenty-one states have supported the Nicaraguans migration. (GONZÁLEZ and IMMIGRANT, 2022) Some may remain, few times, because of violence and repression, others will return to Venezuela, and the rest no just go to another country, especially Mexico. As a consequence of increasing participation in international migrations, the repression of peaceful demonstrations, human rights violation, vigilante on national TV (National Police), problems on TV channels' frequencies and prohibitions on broadcasting peaceful demonstrations compulsory blanket and mandatory electric motorcycles (top of a moratorium on their importation), taking action against the Internet, mobile phones and professional journalists and censorship of TV channels that have been taken off the air, human rights violations.

Violence in Central America increased sharply in the 21st century, specifically in the countries of the Northern Triangle—Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. However, Mexico has become a country of origin, transit, and destination of migrants (Manek et al., 2022). Factors that boost migration, from the Northern Triangle to Mexico are not only violence, but also social marginalization and the limitation of personal development prospects, unemployment, droughts, and earthquakes, among others. Mexico is considered a point of contact where people must transit if they want to reach the great “American dream,” and Latin America is one of the main migration corridors in the world. Given the importance of Mexico as a space for the transit and temporary settlement to get to the United States, the Mexican government has signed international migration agreements with United States, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador to avoid that migrants arriving to the borders of the United States irregularly transit through the Mexican territory. Given this scenario, 1.5 million Mexicans, and around thirty-three million Latin Americans live in the United States. Furthermore, varied migration portrays an ethnogeography transformation especially promoted by people with origins in Central and South America who are searching for better life conditions.

5.5 Regional Dynamics

Humanitarian claims of Mexican immigration officials fail to consider the actual effects of these policies upon migrants seeking protection in Mexico (Garbett et al., 2022). Moreover, significant literature identifies fleeing protection as facilitating racial/ ethnic discrimination among migrants, due to the varying treatment and levels of protection afforded to different nationalities despite similar protection needs (Lewis, 2019). Furthermore, this lack of

institutionalized protections creates a vacuum for widespread human rights abuses impacting migrants and non-migrants alike. Migrants who attempt to transit through Mexico for the United States must negotiate the country as a migration corridor. These conditions have led to several negative repercussions in the countries of origin of migrants (FitzGerald, 2020) while simultaneously spurring migration-related deaths and disappearances in Mexico (Goldring & Landolt, 2012) (Miranda-González et al., 2020). These dynamics of marginalization and exclusion along the entire trajectory of migrants are reflective of the securitizing impulse of the migration policies of high-income countries.

5.6 Collaborative efforts or tensions within Latin American countries

In the context of human rights violations, in 2014, 4.5 million Central American children and adolescents lived in organized crime-affected areas, while in the same year, organised crime affected half of Latin America's municipalities. (Leyva-Flores et al., 2019) In 2017, widespread security and humanitarian emergencies dragged down Mexico's overall score on the Social Conflict Map, making it the second largest conflict-facing country in Latin America and the highest-scoring country (96 points) in the northern region.

Confounding and worsening these conditions are the unclaimed murder of 94% of war crimes. Not even those recognized as victims of human rights violations exercise their individual right to the "*juez competente*" [the appropriate court] and/or the '*juez natural*' [the judge according to law], as a determination of the constitutive element of a genocide of dissidence and a racial apartheid state means that the domestic military healthcare workers' accidental finding of security force fatal intervention (1994-2013) and 5 years of the 19 Mexican War on Drugs mortality has been misinformed. The civilians inter alia are only infected with the alleged implication, denial, and obstacle to justice (1946–2013 intentional war death revictimization), instead of truth, justice, and reparations. The human rights of the living inter alia are compounded by the disappearance of the discovery of 'starlight tours' (State-level femicide), public health emergency domestic violence homicides, and the Africanization of the American continent with a stigmatized health condition. (Gutiérrez-Romero, 2022)

In addition to the above, Latin American countries of origin of migration to the United States (US) are not solely countries of origin, but also transit corridors and destination countries.

These itinerary-structured countries foster particularly ‘centrifugal’ migration pressure, because from one country to another: (1) a similar level of safety, well-being, and development (Central America to Mexico and Mexico to the US); (2) a similarly extreme insecurity (Guatemala to Mexico); or (3) a similar level of poverty and food insecurity (Honduras to Mexico), which multiplies the factors of family fragmentation in Latin American migration scenarios. This integrative climate focused on joint agreements, actions, and decisions between the countries concerned ‘reveals’ that internal crises are no longer separable from each other and that each of them ‘answers’ catastrophic migration through the Others’ triage (‘internal colonialism’ in migration).

The migratory pull scenarios and challenges present in the literature encompass a wide range of issues that cannot be treated in isolation from each other. These include the cost of anti-migration measures in international politics, the extraterritorial extension of U.S. internal and external migration policies, the emergence of collective massive inclusion rights for vulnerable populations abroad, and the position of the European Union in Latin American and Caribbean migration dynamics. Public violence on the migration routes, particularly affecting Central American migrants, poses significant threats to their safety and well-being. For instance, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), "an estimated 500,000 migrants from Central America cross into Mexico each year, facing numerous dangers such as violence, exploitation, and abuse" (IOM, 2020). This is particularly evident in border cities like Nuevo Leon and Tijuana, which are critical junctures for migrants heading to the United States. These cities face unique challenges in managing the influx of migrants, providing support, and ensuring security.

Public health issues also play a crucial role. A study by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) found that "migrants in Mexico and Central America face significant barriers to accessing health care, resulting in adverse health outcomes" (PAHO, 2018). The right to health is often compromised due to inadequate healthcare infrastructure and restrictive immigration policies.

Additionally, policies and immigration tools developed in the context of U.S. and Mexican immigration policy shifts have profound impacts on migration dynamics. According to the Migration Policy Institute, "the U.S.-Mexico border enforcement budget increased from \$263 million in 1986 to \$4.6 billion in 2016, reflecting the heightened focus on immigration

control" (MPI, 2017). This escalation has led to complex enforcement landscapes that challenge both countries' capacity to manage migration humanely and effectively.

The interplay between immigration and development in Mexico highlights the necessity of considering economic factors. As noted by the World Bank, "remittances from Mexican migrants in the U.S. reached \$36 billion in 2019, representing a vital source of income for many families" (World Bank, 2020). These economic dynamic underscores the need for comprehensive policies that address the root causes of migration while supporting sustainable development.

Finally, the legal framework governing migration, including the enforcement and use of rights in Latin America and the Caribbean, must be strengthened. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) emphasizes the importance of legal security for migrants, stating that "legal recognition and protection are essential for ensuring migrants' rights and integrating them into host societies" (UNHCR, 2019).

These interconnected issues require a coordinated approach, both politically and judicially. Politically, regional responsibility-sharing mechanisms and multilateral responsibility-elimination modes are essential for equitable burden distribution. Judicially, the development of legal security for migrant populations is critical for safeguarding their rights and fostering social inclusion.

5.7 Influence on regional security and stability

The reason why Guatemala–Mexico migration is to be understood as a case of forced economic migration resides in the fact that Guatemala has never been at war with Mexico, and many Guatemalans abandoned their country not for lack of opportunities but to earn money to secure a 'better' future in a context of severe poverty and high levels of violence. A legal trend was observed in 2012 through Increased Immigration Instruments and the consideration of a framework law in 2018-2019. These legislative regimes are closer to protectionism and contribute to the transformation of a passage area and spatial coercion of refugee seekers. Such policies lead to reduced respect for international protection, resulting in the return to Central America of protected, protected-status migrants and further violations of the human rights of those fleeing violence and extreme poverty. (Friedman & Ferreira, 2022)

Mexico passed from being a country of migration to a country of transit and destination of migrants and refugees. Mexico's migration policy has attempted to balance between the country's traditional migration priorities - promoting the immigration of foreign technical and scientific workers and the emigration of low-skilled workers to the United States - and its more recent international responsibility of providing asylum and protection to Central American and other refugees. (Rojas-Wiesner, 2022)

6. Policy Responses and Recommendations

To address internal migration in Mexico, laws and policies aim to create a democratic, integral, and equitable development. The development of the Mexican population is approached with a global perspective, considering human capital and social capital that leads towards the fulfilment of necessities, increasing the quality-of-life indicators, and providing access to productive activities for all citizens, particularly for the most vulnerable groups. Specific objectives aim to lead migratory movements towards the economic, social, political, and cultural development of Mexican migrants, their families, and each of the communities in Mexico, strengthening national unity. (Rizzo Lara, 2024)

The principal areas of focus for the advancement of Mexican migrants and their families encompass economic support, social support, educational and cultural support, youth support, special support for Mexican women living overseas, democracy, as well as physical, mental, and environmental health. Additionally, the law outlines guiding principles for migration policies, such as upholding human rights, respecting cultural diversity and understanding the migration phenomenon, defending freedom and migrants, coordinating migration policies at all levels and geographical areas, and improving living standards to discourage migration.

6.1 Mexican Government Policies

The government agency responsible for migration matters is the *Secretaría de Gobernación* (Secretariat of Governance). The office within the Secretariat dealing with migration is the *Dirección General de Control y Seguimiento Migratorio*. The Secretariat and the *Dirección* are responsible for the formulation of policies for the control of migration, the integration of migrants into society, and the promotion of the labour, social and cultural areas. Their specific functions are to provide the services that facilitate the study, expediting, control and vigilance of traffic and immigration control; and to verify the subsequent situation of migrants under the Law of Population, in keeping with international migration laws, and adjacent to borders or at checkpoints other than those for domestic travel. Nonetheless, the Secretariat lacks the necessary support to optimally regulate the migratory phenomena and the formulation of measures that facilitate the integration of migrants into society and improve the migratory flow at international borders, the situation of migrants in the form of

control that could help in the verification of their legal status in the country, and in the respect for the human rights in public safety and traffic control.

There is another governmental office dealing with migration control. This office deals with requests of exit papers, consular cards, the National Migration Institute (INM, as it is titled in Spanish), among other forms of promotion of Mexican communities abroad. In conclusion, although there are many governmental offices dealing with the immigration of people, there is an obvious lack of articulation among these offices to offer the necessary services swiftly and efficiently. The administration also lacks infrastructure to support and maintain its policies. The large volume of migration has exceeded the government's control capability. The labour, social and cultural agencies cannot absorb all the migrants that enter the country.

In relation to the funds available, there is also a large imbalance between the funds allocated to the Southern Border Control Program and the funds allocated to migrant shelters, and the training and families of migrants, pressuring the attention of the latter to become avenues of organized illicit migration. Even programs such as the Mexico-EU Ara Program, which have displayed a significant increase in funds in recent years, still lack sufficient funds to respond to the proposals presented by the migrant community. Without a doubt, there are clear needs and funds to improve the administrative infrastructure for the control of migratory flows and to provide services to the migrants present in the country.

The Mexican government is the biggest imitator of the immigration policies of Western industrial countries. (Martin, 2022) This is because it has not only copied the legislation of those countries, but its policymakers also mimic the rhetoric employed. It is surprising that since those measures are focused on the criminalization and restriction of immigration and on publicizing them to legitimize these measures by indicating that those are the most emblematic strategies utilised to deal with international overpopulation and the damage, danger, and violence stemming from it. This position is contradictory since for decades it made bilateral efforts with the American government to assure the largest labour supply possible for the United States through the insertion of Mexico into the model of the American guest-worker program. (Runde et al.2021)

The course has changed even though the United States has implemented walls, technological barriers, and legal measures that have become interdependent actions, sealing off the labour

market which judges the economic success of the United States (Bissonnette & Vallet, 2021). Furthermore, an important political right is involved since international migrations are characterized as a national security concern. The government insists on the supposed violation of the United States' sovereignty by streams of immigrants and transgressions of their national territory. They have omitted the violations of the rights of those individuals who are trapped in the territory due to labour needs, undocumented status, or due to being recipients of racial discrimination.

6.2 Role of international cooperation in migration management.

International cooperation on migratory matters is an explicit commitment assumed by Mexico in the realm of its foreign policy. The legal framework to which it is subject is vast and includes many principles, rules, and guidelines in place to deal with migratory phenomena. (Masferrer & Pedroza, 2021) However, faced with the significance and importance of this global phenomenon and its repercussions on the social, political, economic, and national safety of the affected countries, these appear insufficient, arousing the need to revise and strengthen the guiding principles of international cooperation between states, international organisations, and other social agents.

As regards states, Mexico actively works to translate the terms of the legal framework into concrete action. This is notably the case concerning the problem of observing human rights in its own territory or attending to the migratory flow initiated in the Caribbean region from the crisis generated by the blockade and isolation of Cuba and Haiti. Fortified by the principle of geographic proximity, Mexico attempted to channel this flow by participating in a multilateral initiative together with Costa Rica, Venezuela, and Panama. The initiative's aim was to oversee the Caribbean islands' migratory movements to guarantee a greater level of institutional control, transparency, and respect for human rights among the countries involved, as well as to foster the dialogue being maintained between the traditionally receiver countries for Haitian and Cuban migratory flows. (Deza et al., 2024)

6.3 Proposals to improve collaboration between countries and international organisations.

The high international mobility of the Mexican population has numerous and varied repercussions on the integration of the immigrants in the host societies as well as the regularization of the undocumented immigrants. These are matters that every country deals with, with greater or lesser success, and that are points of constant friction in relations with the country of origin. On the other hand, the deepening of economic and cultural relations intensifies the bilateral nature of the migration phenomenon, to the point that each time a greater number of countries transmit their citizens to various destinations. Tensions increase, above all when the "wall" is raised to substitute the "bridge," as some complain, and the voices of wisdom are outnumbered.

Countries and international organisations are increasingly convinced of the importance of sharing information and of working together with the country of origin in the matter of migration. To improve collaboration, it is necessary to carry out cooperative planning, strengthen the channels of communication, establish liaison relationships at the working level, and jointly evaluate the results of the intergovernmental and/or bilateral agreements or accords. The essential objective must be development with the creation of new sources of employment that make it profitable for the inhabitants to remain in their origin. On the other hand, the optimal integration of the immigrants should be a mutual objective, not only a responsibility of the host society.

6.4 Recommendations for Policy Improvement

Medium and long-term recommendations: It is essential to work together with the United States and Mexico on matters regarding international organisations, foreign governments, and non-profit groups that support and safeguard migrants in transit. While immigration reform proposals acknowledge this, it is crucial to make progress. We must focus on strengthening Mexico's consular network in the United States and the United States' consular network in Mexico. Consular protection for emigrants in these countries is implemented at both national and local levels. Therefore, it is imperative to develop comprehensive cooperation agreements that outline roles and resources. It is important for those managing consular networks to recognize the vital role that non-governmental organisations play in

directly assisting migrants when the consular network and local institutions are unable to do so. We should also establish an information exchange system in areas of mutual interest where migration may have consequences, including reciprocity agreements for health and safe repatriation in case of deportation, as well as effective genetic information exchange for identifying deceased migrants. We need to standardize procedures and information protocols to respond efficiently and transparently in the event of a natural or anthropogenic disaster that involves immigrants in national and international territories. Furthermore, both countries need to make significant improvements in controlling the movement of goods and people across borders to ensure citizens have greater freedom of movement.

Several organisations have put forth suggestions regarding the contentious issue of Mexican migration. These recommendations not only address migration policies, but also the underlying causes of migration. These causes have been discussed at length. It is important to remember that each recommendation is tied to conflicting values and choices, which forces us to confront the politics of the issue. The only way to address this is by bringing these politics into the open and allowing for an informed public decision. Let us review the recommendations made by different organisations and identify the conflicting issues they bring to light. The bipartisan U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform presented a comprehensive list of recommendations, which were then translated into legislative proposals and voted on by Congress. Some of the key recommendations include supporting initiatives that promote economic growth while acknowledging demographic trends and economic incentives for migration. The United States must devote significant resources to help our southern neighbours expand their economy, preserve natural resources, improve education, and reform public and private institutions.

6.5 Policy suggestions based on research findings.

Several key factors influence migration rates from Mexico, including job opportunities in both Mexico and the United States, changes in labour demand and skill requirements, demographic trends, social networks, and changes in immigration laws. According to the Migration Policy Institute, "fluctuations in labour demand and evolving skill requirements significantly shape migration patterns, as workers move to regions with better job prospects" (Migration Policy Institute, 2018).

To address these issues, Mexico needs to focus on increasing income and job opportunities, as well as promoting minority inclusion through high-tech, higher-wage development strategies outlined in the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). As highlighted in a policy brief by the Wilson Center, "the USMCA aims to foster economic growth by encouraging technological advancements and higher wages, which can reduce migration pressures by improving local employment conditions" (Wilson Center, 2019).

Improving the economy and narrowing wage gaps can help bridge the divide between urban and rural areas, and between educated and uneducated workers. According to a study by the World Bank, "addressing wage disparities and providing equitable job opportunities across different regions is crucial for mitigating migration incentives" (World Bank, 2020).

Additionally, short-term adjustments are needed to address the potential gap between skilled and unskilled workers. The International Labour Organization notes that "adapting to labor market needs requires targeted training programs and policies to support both skilled and unskilled workers" (International Labour Organization, 2019). Moreover, the impact of real exchange rate fluctuations on wages due to peso devaluation is another critical factor. As noted by the International Monetary Fund, "real exchange rate volatility can significantly affect wage levels, influencing migration decisions" (International Monetary Fund, 2020).

By implementing these strategies, Mexico can create a more stable economic environment that reduces the need for outward migration, while also addressing immediate labour market disparities and economic challenges.

6.6 Proposals to guarantee the protection of the human rights of migrants.

To ensure that migrants, especially those who are undocumented, receive full protection of their human rights, the Mexican government, through the Secretary of Foreign Relations (SRE), has put forward several comprehensive proposals within the framework of migration dialogue with the United States government. These proposals are based on extensive consultation and analysis of the current challenges faced by migrants, aiming to enhance legal protections and provide robust support systems.

One of the key proposals involves the development and implementation of new legal instruments at international, federal, and state levels aimed at exposing and penalizing human rights abuses. These instruments are designed to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their immigration status, have access to labour rights, which are recognized as universal human rights. This initiative draws on principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which emphasizes the universality of labour rights and the need for legal protections (UN General Assembly, 1948).

Furthermore, the establishment of specialized migrant accounts within the judicial system is being considered. This would involve creating multidisciplinary legal advice programs and special protection and defence programs to improve the system of judicial assistance. Such measures are intended to provide migrants with the necessary legal support to navigate the complexities of the legal system and to protect their rights effectively. These initiatives reflect recommendations from human rights organizations that advocate for stronger legal frameworks to protect migrants (Human Rights Watch, 2020).

Coordination between local and federal authorities is also a critical component of the proposed strategy. Developing programs and services dedicated to the protection of migrant human rights requires a concerted effort from both levels of government. Regular training for authorities on human rights standards and the establishment of effective mechanisms for reporting and addressing abuses are essential steps in this direction. The International Organization for Migration highlights the importance of coordinated efforts in safeguarding the human rights of migrants and ensuring their access to essential services (International Organization for Migration, 2021).

In addition, authorities in the working groups have agreed to strengthen the protection of the Mexican migrant population's human rights by developing non-discriminatory policies. These policies aim to create effective channels for complaints, protection, and defence of labour rights. Preventive measures in consular areas are also being established, with coordination between consular and federal authorities to address identified risks effectively. These measures are part of a broader strategy to ensure that migrants are treated with dignity and respect, regardless of their legal status.

By implementing these comprehensive proposals, Mexico aims to create a more supportive and protective environment for migrants, addressing both immediate and long-term

challenges. This multifaceted approach underscores the commitment of the Mexican government to uphold the human rights of migrants and to foster an inclusive and just society.

Conclusion

The conclusion of this thesis underscores the profound and multifaceted repercussions of human rights violations in the context of international migration through Mexico. These violations impact not only the migrants but also the geopolitical stability of Latin America and beyond. This research aimed to identify and analyse prevalent human rights violations in Mexico, assess their impact on migrants' well-being, and examine the broader geopolitical implications.

Initially, this research sought to analyse the repercussions of human rights violations in the migration process, using Mexico as a key case study within the Latin American migration corridor to the United States. This objective was driven by the considerable influence of Mexico on migration flows and the necessity of understanding how human rights violations affect not only migrants but also geopolitical relations and regional stability.

The consequences of human rights abuses in the context of international migration in Latin America have been examined in this thesis, with a particular emphasis on Mexico as a migratory corridor. Important discoveries demonstrate that migrants passing through Mexico, primarily from Central America but increasingly from regions as far-flung as Africa and Asia, face severe challenges, including violence, exploitation, and discrimination. The journey through Mexico is perilous, with many migrants falling victim to human trafficking, sexual violence, and other abuses. These violations are driven by systemic issues such as poverty, inequality, and weak governance structures in both the countries of origin and Mexico itself.

Mexico needs a new and comprehensive migration law to guarantee the rights of migrants in Mexican territory and promote their safe and just treatment through their transit to the United States. The aim of this bill is to recognise migrant human rights and the duty of the Mexican State to respect them; ensure no migrant is subject to any form of discrimination based on national origin, migrant status, sex, age, religion or other determining factors; guarantee migrant access to services such as education, health and social security. No migrant can be subject to inhuman, or degrading treatment and those who violate migrants' human rights must be punished.

Migrations in Mexico are characterized by the implementation of what is known as "Control and punishment," demonstrating significant institutional complexity and a broad array of legal and illegal actors. This involves a continuous exercise of de facto control through immigration apparatuses, systems, and security equipment. These actors feel empowered to contribute to the production of a controlled and deadly migration process. This research aims to understand the proliferation of violence and decode the strategies that people use to navigate through spaces that are not controlled by the state or organized crime, allowing them to continue living without interruption. While passing through Mexico, migrants are subject to a variety of human rights breaches, including as physical assault, extortion, kidnapping, and mistreatment at the hands of criminal groups and occasionally even the government. According to the Migration Policy Institute (Fragomen), these infractions increase the vulnerabilities of migrants and create a risky environment for their transit and settlement.

Analysing these violations is essential for creating effective policies and interventions that protect migrants' rights and address the root causes of migration. In Mexico, migrants often face various forms of violence and exploitation from criminal organisations and state entities, leading to a precarious and insecure existence (Vogt, 2018).

Impact on Migrants: Migrants' physical and mental health are impacted by the severe circumstances they live in. A long percentage of migrant's experience trauma, and they frequently lack sufficient access to social, medical, and legal help (UNDP).

The broader geopolitical repercussions of these human rights violations are significant. They contribute to regional instability by exacerbating socio-economic challenges in the migrants' home countries and straining resources in transit countries like Mexico. The migration crisis highlights the interconnectedness of regional security, economic stability, and human rights conditions. Mexico's strategic position makes it a crucial player in managing migration flows to the United States, and its role as a migration corridor has profound implications for its international relations and domestic policies.

The bilateral agreements between the U.S. and Mexico influence how migrants are treated and the extent to which their rights are protected. The treatment of migrants can affect a country's international standing and its relationships with other nations, leading to increased advocacy and intervention by international human rights organisations.

As it was analysed throughout this thesis, geopolitical factors such as economic disparities, political instability, and security concerns significantly influence the violation or guarantee of human rights in the region. In Chapter 3, I examined how countries like Honduras and El Salvador, characterized by weak governance and rampant corruption, often fail to provide adequate human rights protections. These conditions create environments where organized crime and violent gangs thrive, leading to prevalent and unpunished human rights abuses.

Addressing these issues requires comprehensive and coordinated efforts. Strengthening legal frameworks to protect migrants, improving accountability for human rights abuses, and enhancing international cooperation are essential steps. Regional development initiatives that tackle the root causes of migration, such as poverty and violence, are crucial for creating a more stable and humane migration process. Ensuring the protection of human rights for all migrants, regardless of their legal status, is imperative to comply with international human rights treaties and to mitigate the geopolitical repercussions of migration crises.

The economic instability and lack of opportunities, as discussed in Chapter 4, drive individuals to migrate. However, the journey itself is fraught with risks due to these adverse geopolitical conditions. Migrants face numerous dangers along traditional routes through Mexico, which have become high-risk corridors, as detailed in Chapter 4's analysis of Ferrero's work on migration routes. The persistent violence in states like Guerrero and Michoacan, as highlighted in Chapter 5, further exacerbates these risks, significantly impacting the migration process and the well-being of migrants.

In addressing my research questions, the findings confirm that human rights abuses in the context of international migration are deeply intertwined with broader geopolitical issues. As shown in Chapters 3 and 4, the lack of stable governance and economic opportunities in migrants' home countries pushes them towards dangerous migration routes. The detailed examination in Chapter 5 reveals how these geopolitical conditions not only drive migration but also shape the experiences of migrants as they face violence, exploitation, and inadequate protections.

The hypothesis that human rights abuses in migration corridors like Mexico are significantly influenced by geopolitical dynamics has been substantiated. The research has demonstrated that the interplay between national policies, international relations, and regional stability profoundly affects both the occurrence of human rights violations and the effectiveness of

protection measures for migrants. As I discussed in Chapter 5, the coordinated efforts between local and federal authorities, although necessary, are often insufficient in the face of systemic issues like corruption and organized crime.

Furthermore, the strategies migrants use to navigate these dangers, as explored in Chapter 4, highlight their resilience and agency despite the severe challenges they face. Migrants continue their journeys through innovative survival strategies, reflecting their determination to overcome the obstacles imposed by geopolitical and socio-economic adversities.

In conclusion, the human rights violations faced by migrants in Mexico have far-reaching consequences that extend beyond individual suffering. They impact the geopolitical stability of Latin America, strain international relations, and highlight the urgent need for a coordinated and compassionate response to the migration crisis. The crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border and the migration flows through Mexico are central to understanding the geopolitical dynamics of various countries and regions worldwide. The failure to guarantee even the most basic human rights for these individuals underscores the broader systemic issues that need to be addressed to ensure a humane and stable migration process.

Summary of Master's Thesis

Shrnutí diplomové práce

Porušování lidských práv má hluboké důsledky pro geopolitickou dynamiku, ovlivňuje mezinárodní vztahy a regionální stabilitu. Porušování, jako je pronásledování, diskriminace a násilí, může vést k nucené migraci a přílivu uprchlíků, což má dopad jak na země původu, tak na přijímací země (Betts, 2013). Navíc podkopává stabilitu uvnitř národů a regionů, což často vede k masovému vysídlení a uprchlickým krizím. Tato porušení mohou vyvolat mezinárodní reakce a ovlivnit diplomatické vztahy mezi zeměmi. Kromě toho mohou porušování lidských práv napnout diplomatické vztahy mezi zeměmi. Když jsou země obviněny ze systematického porušování lidských práv, může to vést k mezinárodnímu odsouzení a sankcím, což ovlivňuje jejich geopolitické postavení (Donnelly, 2013).

Globální migrace je složitý jev, který má významné důsledky jak pro migranty, tak pro společnosti, do kterých vstupují nebo ve kterých hledají útočiště. V Latinské Americe, zejména v Mexiku jako klíčové migrační trase, jsou vážná porušování lidských práv, jako je násilí, vykořisťování a předsudky, rozšířená (Amnesty International, 2020; Human Rights Watch, 2019). Tato porušování nejenže škodí okamžitému blahu migrantů, ale mají také širší geopolitické důsledky, které přesahují národní hranice. Pochopení těchto důsledků je zásadní pro rozvoj účinných politik a intervencí.

Tento výzkum si klade za cíl identifikovat a analyzovat nejčastější porušování lidských práv v procesu mezinárodní migrace v Mexiku. Hodnocením dopadu těchto porušení na blaho migrantů a zkoumáním širších geopolitických důsledků tento výzkum přispívá k hlubšímu porozumění mnohostranným důsledkům porušování lidských práv v mezinárodní migraci. Pracovní hypotéza je, že porušování lidských práv v migračních koridorech, jako je Mexiko, významně ovlivňuje geopolitickou dynamiku v Latinské Americe a mimo ni.

List of References

References:

1. Alba, F., & Castillo, M. Á. (2012). New approaches to migration management in Mexico and Central America. Migration Policy Institute.
2. Amnesty International. (2020). Forced to flee: Central America's Northern Triangle. Amnesty International.
3. Benza, G. & Kessler, G. (2020). Uneven trajectories: Latin American societies in the twenty-first century.
4. Berg, U. D. (2018). *Mobile Selves: Race, Migration, and Belonging in Peru and the U.S.* NYU Press.
5. Bissonnette, A. & Vallet, É (2021). *Borders and Border Walls*.
6. Bloemraad, I. & Menjivar, C. (2022). Precarious times, professional tensions: The ethics of migration research and the drive for scientific accountability. *International Migration Review*.sagepub.com
7. Brook, A. M., Clay, K. C., & Randolph, S. (2023). Human rights data for everyone: Introducing the Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI). In *Quantitative Human Rights Measures and Measurement* (pp. 67-82). Routledge. humanrightsmeasurement.org
8. Campos-Delgado, A. and Côté-Boucher, K. "Tactics of empathy: the intimate geopolitics of Mexican migrant detention." *Geopolitics*, 2024. tandfonline.com
9. Casillas, R. (2006). *La ruta del encierro: Migración indocumentada en México*. [The route of confinement: Undocumented migration in Mexico] National Institute of Anthropology and History.
10. Castillo, M. Á. (2020). Migratory dynamics and their effects on Mexico and the United States. *Journal of Migration and Human Security*, 8(3), 250-266.
11. Catron, P. & Vignau Loria, M. (2021). *The Economic Attainment of Mexican Refugees during the Age of Mass Migration*. osf.io
12. Cintra, N., Owen, D., & Riggirozzi, P. (2023). Problematizing the Migrant–Refugee Distinction in Latin America. In *Displacement, Human Rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health* (pp. 45-63). Bristol University Press.

13. Coscia, M. & Gutiérrez-Romero, R. (2023). Mexican violence displaces people, discourages international migration, and shrinks highway network connections. [PDF]
14. Costello, C. & Mann, I. (2020). Border justice: migration and accountability for human rights violations. *German Law Journal*. cambridge.org
15. Cruz-Riveros, C., Urzúa, A., Macaya-Aguirre, G., & Cabieses, B. (2022). How Do Health Teams Perceive International Migrant Users of Primary Care? ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
16. Dao, T. H., Docquier, F., Maurel, M., & Schaus, P. (2021). Global migration in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries: The unstoppable force of demography. *Review of World Economics*. springer.com
17. De Genova, N., & Peutz, N. (Eds.). (2010). *The deportation regime: Sovereignty, space, and the freedom of movement*. Duke University Press.
18. De Haas, H. (2021). A theory of migration: the aspirations-capabilities framework. *Comparative migration studies*. springer.com
19. Denier, N. & Masferrer, C. (2020). Returning to a new Mexican labour market? Regional variation in the economic incorporation of return migrants from the US to Mexico. *Population Research and Policy Review*. researchgate.net
20. Derenoncourt, E. (2022). Can you move to opportunity? Evidence from the Great Migration. *American Economic Review*. aeaweb.org
21. Deza, M. C., Rivero, L. M., Monge, M., & Ruiz-Arranz, M. (2024). Trends in International Economics Relations of Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic: Trade, Tourism, Foreign Direct Investment, and International iadb.org
22. Espindola, J. & Jacobo-Suárez, M. (2020). The ethics of return migration and education: transnational duties in migratory process. *Education and migration*. researchgate.net
23. Faret, L., Téllez, M. E. A., & Rodríguez-Tapia, L. H. (2021). Migration management and changes in mobility patterns in the North and Central American Region. *Journal on Migration and Human Security*, 9(2), 63-79. sagepub.com
24. Fisk, K. (2020). *Forced Migration and Political Violence*. Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics.
25. FitzGerald, D. S. "The sociology of international migration." *Migration theory*, 2022. escholarship.org

26. Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy LLP. (2023). Special Report: 2023 Latin America Immigration Trends Report. Retrieved from <https://www.fragomen.com/insights/special-report-2023-latin-america-immigration-trends.html>
27. Fregoso Bailón, R. O. (2024). Normalistas-Teachers and Coloniality of Power in Mexico. *Journal of Intercultural Studies*.
28. Friedman, M. P. & Ferreira, R. G. (2022). Making Peaceful Revolution Impossible: Kennedy, Arévalo, the 1963 Coup in Guatemala, and the Alliance against Progress in Latin America's Cold War. *Journal of Cold War Studies*.
29. Garbett, A., Cintra de Oliveira Tavares, N., Riggiozzi, P., & Neal, S. (2022). The paradox of choice in the sexual and reproductive health and rights challenges of south-south migrant girls and women in Central America and Mexico: A scoping review of the literature. [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/)
30. GONZÁLEZ, M., & IMMIGRANT, G. (2022). CENTRAL AMERICANS. *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America: Second Revised and Updated Edition*, 144.
31. González-Murphy, L. V., & Koslowski, R. (2011). Understanding Mexico's changing immigration laws. Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars.
32. Gutiérrez-Romero, R. & Salgado, N. (2022). New trends in South-South migration: The economic impact of COVID-19 and immigration enforcement. [PDF]
33. Gutiérrez-Romero, R. (2022). Violence in Guatemala pushes adults and children to seek work in Mexico. [PDF]
34. Hathaway, J. C. (2021). The rights of refugees under international law. [umich.edu](https://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/hathaway-j-c-the-rights-of-refugees-under-international-law)
35. Heyman, J. (2021). The US-Mexico border since 2014: overt migration contention and normalized violence. *Handbook on Human Security*. [researchgate.net](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/354111111)
36. Human Rights Watch. (2019). Every day I live in fear: Violence and discrimination against LGBT people in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Human Rights Watch.
37. Human Rights Watch. (2020). *Protecting the Rights of Migrants*. Retrieved from <https://www.hrw.org/topic/migrants>.
38. International Labour Organization. (2019). *Adapting to Labor Market Needs*. Retrieved from <https://www.ilo.org>

39. International Organization for Migration. (2021). *Human Rights of Migrants*. Retrieved from <https://www.iom.int/human-rights-migrants>.
40. International Monetary Fund. (2020). *Real Exchange Rate Volatility and Migration Decisions*. Retrieved from <https://www.imf.org>
41. Irene Deschak, C., Infante, C., Mundo-Rosas, V., Coral Aragón-Gama, A., & Orjuela-Grimm, M. (2022). Food insecurity and coping strategies in international migrants in transit through Mexico. [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/)
42. Jacobo Suárez, M. L., & Cárdenas Alaminos, N. (2020). Back on your Own: Return Migration and the Federal Government Response in Mexico. *Migraciones internacionales*, 11. scielo.org.mx
43. Ji, G., Cheng, X., Kannaiah, D., & Shabbir, M. S. (2022). Does the global migration matter? The impact of top ten cities migration on native nationals' income and employment levels. *International Migration*, 60(6), 111-128. [researchgate.net](https://www.researchgate.net)
44. Kaczan, D. J. & Orgill-Meyer, J. (2020). The impact of climate change on migration: a synthesis of recent empirical insights. *Climatic Change*. [davidkaczan.com](https://www.davidkaczan.com)
45. KEHM, N. (2021). The sociopolitical influence of the US-Mexican relation on migrants in Mexico [Masterarbeit, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz]. <https://unipub.uni-graz.at/obvugrhs/content/titleinfo/6286437/full.pdf>
46. Koczan, Z., Peri, G., Pinat, M., & Rozhkov, D. (2021). The impact of international migration on inclusive growth: A review. [imf.org](https://www.imf.org)
47. Korp, H., & Stretmo, L. (2020). The predicament of the child refugee—understanding health and wellbeing in the daily life of migrant children and young people. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-being*, 15(sup2), 1843268. [tandfonline.com](https://www.tandfonline.com)
48. Latin America Working Group. (2017). *Left in the Dark: Violence Against Women and LGBTI Persons in Honduras and El Salvador*. Retrieved from <https://www.lawg.org/left-in-the-dark-violence-against-women-and-lgbti-persons-in-honduras-and-el-salvador/>
49. Leyva-Flores, R., Infante, C., Pablo Gutierrez, J., Quintino-Perez, F., Gómez-Saldivar, M. J., & Torres-Robles, C. (2019). Migrants in transit through Mexico to the US: Experiences with violence and related factors, 2009-2015. [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/)
50. Lucatello, S. & A. Gómez, O. (2022). Understanding humanitarian localization in Latin America—as local as possible: but how necessary? [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/)

51. Manek, J., Galán-Santamarina, A., & Pérez-Sales, P. (2022). Torturing environments and multiple injuries in Mexican migration detention. [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/)
52. Martin, P. L. (2022). Migration and Economic Development. *Understanding Global Migration*.
53. Masferrer, C. & Pedroza, L. (2021). The Intersection of Foreign Policy and Migration Policy in Mexico Today. Mexico City: El Colegio de México. [colmex.mx](https://www.colmex.mx/)
54. Masferrer, C., Pederzini, C., Passel, J. S., & Livingston, G. (2022). Population Dynamics of Mexican Migration on Both Sides of the Border. In *Migration Between Mexico and the United States: IMISCOE Regional Reader* (pp. 1-36). Cham: Springer International Publishing. [springer.com](https://www.springer.com/)
55. Massey, D. S. (2020). The Real Crisis at the Mexico-US Border: A Humanitarian and Not an Immigration Emergency. *Sociological Forum*. [nih.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/)
56. McFadden, M., Marie Velez, C., & Mercedes Ávila, M. (2022). Pregnant Migrant Latinas at the US Border: A Reproductive Justice Informed Analysis of ICE Health Service Policy During “Zero-Tolerance”. [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/)
57. Migration Policy Institute. (2023). Amid major transformation in migration flows between U.S. and Mexico over past decade, new MPI and El Colegio de México report sketches road map for new binational policy approach. Retrieved from <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/news/amid-major-transformation-migration-flows-between-us-and-mexico-over-past-decade-new-mpi-and>
58. Migration Policy Institute. (2018). *Factors Influencing Migration Patterns*. Retrieved from <https://www.migrationpolicy.org>
59. Miranda-González, A., Aref, S., Theile, T., & Zagheni, E. (2020). Scholarly migration within Mexico: Analysing internal migration among researchers using Scopus longitudinal bibliometric data.
60. Odgers-Ortiz, O., & Cluster, D. (2020). The perception of violence in narratives of central American migrants at the border between Mexico and the United States. *Revue européenne des migrations internationales*, 1, 53-73. [openedition.org](https://www.openedition.org/)
61. Oyarte, M., Cabieses, B., Rada, I., Blukacz, A., Espinoza, M., & Mezones-Holguin, E. (2022). Unequal Access and Use of Health Care Services among Settled Immigrants, Recent Immigrants, and Locals: A Comparative Analysis of a Nationally Representative Survey in Chile. [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/)

62. Papademetriou, D. G. (2011). *Managing International Migration Better: Principles and Perspectives for G20 Countries*. Migration Policy Institute.
63. Passel, J. S., & Cohn, D. (2018). *U.S. Unauthorized Immigration Total Dips to Lowest Level in a Decade*. Pew Research Centre.
64. Piñones-Rivera, C., Liberona, N., Arancibia, R., & Jiménez, V. (2022). *Indigenous Border Migrants and (Im)Mobility Policies in Chile in Times of COVID-19*. ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
65. Rizzo Lara, R. L. (2024). *Managing irregularized migration in Mexico: Rhetoric of a renewed approach*. *Journal of Borderlands Studies*. tandfonline.com
66. Robertson, G. (2014). *Humanitarian Protection and the "Right to Remain" in Mexico*. *Refugee Survey Quarterly*.
67. Rojas-Wiesner, M. L. (2022). *More Than a Northward Migratory Corridor: Changes in Transit Migration and Migration Policy in Mexico*. In *The Routledge history of modern Latin American migration* (pp. 353-368). Routledge.
68. Runde, D., Sandin, L., & Parham, I. (2021). *Opportunities for US-Mexico Economic Partnership under the Biden and AMLO Administrations*. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). [HTML]
69. Simpson, N. B. (2022). *Demographic and economic determinants of migration*. *IZA World of Labor*. iza.org
70. Slack, J., Martínez, D. E., Whiteford, S., & Peiffer, E. (2016). *The geography of border militarization: Violence, death and health in Mexico and the United States*. *Journal of Latin American Geography*, 15(1), 7-32.
71. Sánchez Nájera, F. & Freier, L. F. (2022). *The Cartagena refugee definition and nationality-based discrimination in Mexican refugee status determination*. *International Migration*.
72. Sánchez, M. I. C. "Forced Displacement of Central American Communities: Human Rights Violations in their Transit through Mexico." *Perspectives on Global Development and Technology*, 2020.
73. Tan, N. F. & Gammeltoft-Hansen, T. (2020). *A topographical approach to accountability for human rights violations in migration control*. *German Law Journal*. [cambridge.org](https://www.cambridge.org)
74. Thomas Wassink, J. (2020). *International Migration Experience and Entrepreneurship: Evidence from Mexico*. osf.io

75. UNHCR. (2020). Global trends: Forced displacement in 2019. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
76. United Nations Development Programme. (2023). Migration as a development challenge in Latin America and the Caribbean. Retrieved from <https://www.undp.org/publications/migration-development-challenge-latin-america-caribbean>
77. United Nations General Assembly. (1948). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>
78. Van Hear, N., Bakewell, O., & Long, K. (2020). Push-pull plus: reconsidering the drivers of migration. In *Aspiration, Desire and the Drivers of Migration* (pp. 19-36). Routledge. ox.ac.uk
79. Venturi, C., Guízar-Sánchez, D., Elena Ramos-Tovar, M., Torres, M., D. Avellaneda, F., R. Torres-Hostos, L., & Matuk-Villazon, O. (2022). Health Through a Human Right Lens at the US-Mexico Border: Increasing Access to Healthcare for Central American Immigrants. ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
80. Verelst, A., Spaas, C., Pfeiffer, E., Devlieger, I., Kankaapä, R., Peltonen, K., ... & Derluyn, I. (2022). Social determinants of the mental health of young migrants. *European Journal of Health Psychology*. hogrefe.com
81. Vogt, W. A. (2018). *Lives in transit: Violence and intimacy on the migrant journey*. University of California Press.
82. Wasem, R. E. (2020). More than a wall: The rise and fall of US asylum and refugee policy. *Journal on Migration and Human Security*. sagepub.com
83. Washington Office on Latin America. (2016). *Children and Families Fleeing Violence in Central America*. Retrieved from <https://www.wola.org/children-families-fleeing-violence-central-america>.
84. Wilson Center. (2019). *USMCA and Economic Development in Mexico*. Policy Brief. Retrieved from <https://www.wilsoncenter.org>
85. World Bank. (2020). *Addressing Wage Disparities and Job Opportunities in Mexico*. Retrieved from <https://www.worldbank.org>