Andrés Manuel López Obrador Migratory Policy

What impacts have President López Obrador’s migratory policies created?

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Who is López Obrador?

- **2000-2005:** Mayor of Mexico City
- **2011:** Formed leftist MORENA party
- **2017:** Campaigned for presidency on a platform of human rights, safe migration, and countering the United States’ influence

Current Development Initiatives

The following are two expanding programs:

**Sowing Life**
- US$250 monthly payments
- Technical training
- In-kind assistance to farmers

**Youth Building a Future**
- US$180 monthly payments
- Job training for youth

Humanitarian Principles

**December 2018 to May 2019**

- Respect for migrants’ rights
- Safe, orderly, and regular migration
- Regional development funding
- Increased use of humanitarian visas
- More shelters, less detention

The chart below represents the humanitarian visas issued as part of the administration’s commitment to humanitarian issues.

Humanitarian Visas Issued

- INM begins granting TVRH cards
- INM reintroduces targeted TVRH program
- INM halts TVRH program
- INM stops targeted TVRH program
The graph above represents the shift from humanitarian to enforcement policies overlayed on INM apprehension data.

### Policy Effects on Migrants

- Increased crimes against migrants
- Changes in transit routes
- Increased reliance on guides

### Policy Recommendations

- Renew INM’s commitment to human rights through trainings, accountability mechanisms, and improved infrastructure
- Improve development projects through funding, partnerships, and evaluation
- Strengthen and expand refugee agency
- Reform National Guard mandate by decreasing immigration enforcement activities and increasing protection for migrants in camps and along transit routes

### COMAR Overwhelmed

- Funding for refugee agency has not increased at the same rate as refugee applications
- Limited staff and operations
- Absence of integration assistance
- Increased reliance on UNHCR funds