

ParlAmericas statement on the forced displacement crisis in the hemisphere

ParlAmericas recognizes that political, democratic, and governance disruptions, which have intensified economic decline, raised levels of insecurity, and have undermined human rights and societal well-being, have resulted in a forced displacement crisis in the hemisphere, with unprecedented flows of migrants and asylum-seekers, particularly from Venezuela and Haiti.

Migrants from Venezuela and Haiti, and other countries, are fleeing extreme poverty, political persecution, and violence. Many feel forced to take perilous journeys, including dangerous routes like the Darién Gap, exposing them to extreme risk. During their transit and upon arrival to their destination, migrants encounter multiple threats, including sexual violence and extortion.

This crisis of regional displacements has placed an immense strain on receiving countries, which are facing difficulties in providing resources and protection to those who need urgent assistance. Social services, healthcare and education systems, and labour markets are under significant strain. Despite commendable efforts by some jurisdictions, these challenges threaten regional peace, stability and economies. Furthermore, this crisis has facilitated the expansion of criminal organizations' networks that prey on the vulnerabilities of migrant populations and perpetrate human rights violations.

It is paramount that migration be a voluntary and informed choice and not an acute necessity. To achieve this, it is a priority to address the structural causes of the current political, democratic, and governance disruptions, as well as the resulting economic, security and humanitarian consequences, given that these crises could spread to other regions of the hemisphere.

ParlAmericas has previously [condemned](#) the deprivation of liberties in Venezuela following the recent [presidential elections](#) and called for respect of the Venezuelan people's will, peacefully expressed at the ballot box. ParlAmericas has also expressed its grave [concern](#) with the ongoing deterioration of the security situation in Haiti, condemning the violence perpetrated by criminal groups, as well as the [risk of famine](#) exacerbated by their control of supply chains.

ParlAmericas reiterates its call on political leaders and the international community to strengthen tangible support measures, and foster cooperative dialogue and coordinated responses, including international financial assistance to receiving countries. Confronting this

displacement crisis requires solidarity, compassion, and a steadfast commitment to peaceful, sustainable solutions that uphold democracy and the human rights of all individuals.

*This statement is issued following the hemispheric interparliamentary meeting “**Migration in the Context of Socio-Environmental Challenges**,” coorganized by ParlAmericas, where representatives from 18 countries and two territories adopted a [declaration](#) outlining commitments for strengthened governance models grounded in human rights and the promotion of safe, orderly and regular migration.*

For further information, visit www.parlAmericas.org and follow us on 

About ParlAmericas

ParlAmericas is the institution that promotes parliamentary diplomacy in the inter-American system. Composed of the 35 national legislatures in North, Central and South America, and the Caribbean, ParlAmericas promotes cooperative political dialogue, facilitates the exchange of good legislative practices, and produces tailored resources to support parliamentarians in their work. The International Secretariat of ParlAmericas is headquartered in Ottawa, Canada.