

ACNUR

Topic A: Migration of Central America

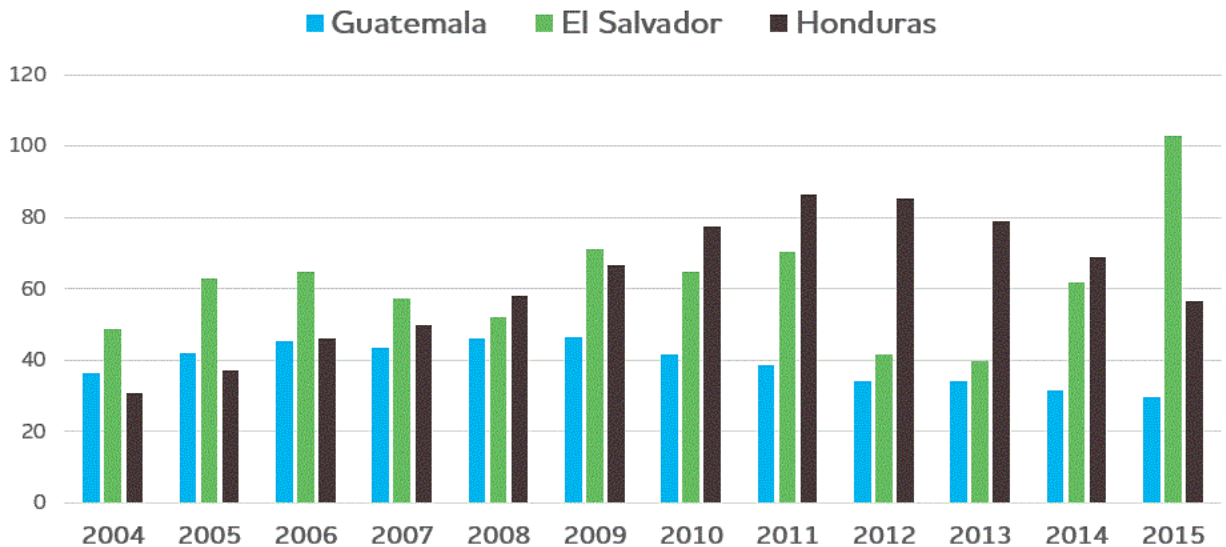
Background:

In Central America, the continuous migration from their countries from another has been a problem for quite some time and when the governments create policies and laws, trying to solve this problem, the numbers continue to go up, growing pressure to the North American countries. Usually the people that move from their country to another are usually Mexicans, Guatemalans, Cubans, Salvadorans, Costa Ricans and Panamanians (although there are great concentrations of people who move from South America to North America but we are focusing on Central American countries) but we ask ourselves, what causes to this problem? Well, the answers are these:

- Lack of jobs in their country
- Political problems in their country
- War
- Insecurity
- Corruption

Here is a chart showing how homicide levels have increased in some Central American countries:

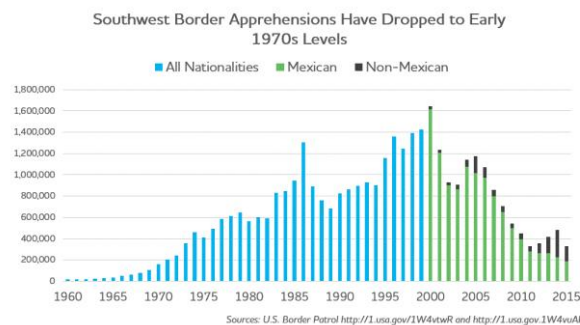
Homicide Rates in the Northern Triangle (per 100,000)



Sources: Instituto Universitario de Opinión Pública and Prensa Gráfica (El Salvador), Central America Business Intelligence, CABI and Policía Nacional Civil (Guatemala), Instituto Universitario en Democracia, Paz y Seguridad and El Heraldito (Honduras)

Now, if we look at the numbers, insecurity has been going up for the past decade, this is the main factor for why people leave their countries. Usually these people tend to seek security and prosperity in the United States but due to the fact that deportations have been extremely strict and demanding, these people have nowhere to go. Countries from the north provide no security for these people.

Now, in the U.S. - Mexico border, the number of illegal people that have crossed are in an all-time low, it hasn't been like this since 1970. The number of illegal people trespassing this border in 2015 was of 331,313, now focusing on Mexican people, the number was 186,017:



At the same time, however, Border Patrol apprehensions of certain vulnerable populations, namely family units and unaccompanied children, have increased. Recently released statistics reveal that Border Patrol apprehended 8,412 family-unit members and 5,783 unaccompanied children from the Northern Triangle in December 2015, the highest numbers for any December. The persistently increasing levels of youth and family migration—during a month in which migration is typically low—strongly suggest that these groups are fleeing dangerous conditions within their countries, and will continue to do so while these root causes remain unaddressed. (This piece was extracted from <https://www.wola.org/analysis/five-facts-about-migration-from-central-americas-northern-triangle/>)

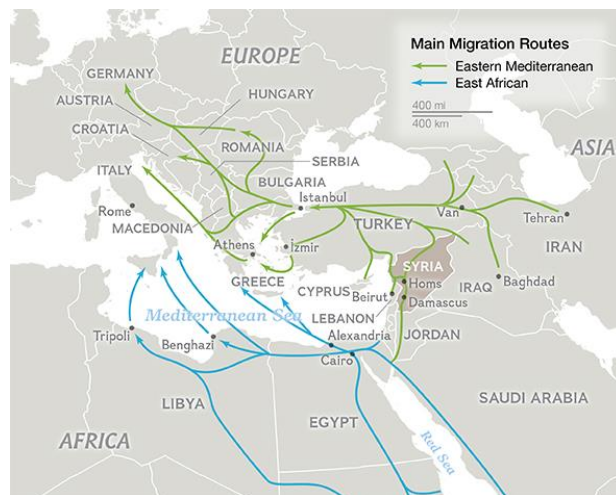
Lines of Discussion:

- What are the main causes that make people move from their country?
- Where do these people usually go?
- Which countries have the more people that leave their home?
- What are your propositions to decrease these numbers?
- Describe 3 consequences that this conflict has originated

Topic B: Refugees from the Middle East.

Background:

This problem has existed ever since the Palestine-Israel crisis but the country that refugees come from have been changing, all due to war and political situations. In the Middle East, conflicts have been present for the past 7 and a half decades, war has struck, terrorism starts to grow, coup d'états, religious conflicts, unfortunately this has continue to grow. It all started with the Palestine-Israel crisis, Palestinians have been trying to find a home but don't find any, Palestinians were forced to flee their countries, seeking refuge on European countries, but not just Palestinians have sought out refugee, but Iraqis, Iranians, Syrians and other countries have sought out refugee due to terrorism, religious conflict, governmental conflicts, etc. But in recent years, the numbers have been going up because of the war in Syria. Usually refugees tend to go to countries such as France, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, Greece, Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, where the term "insecurity" doesn't exist compared to what they have lived. They also go to countries like Australia, New Zealand, Canada and U.S.A. where they accept Middle East refugees. Here is a map where it shows where usually refugees go to.



Current Situation:

Due to the fact that the war in Syria continues, refugees seeking asylum in other countries from the middle east has become a crisis, in just one year, the total number of refugees registered that were relocated in March 2016 were from 6,130,000 to 6,320,000, leaving Turkey the country with the highest number of accepted refugees, making it 2,724,937 (as of registered in August 2016) and there are still millions of people looking refuge, still living in the middle east that need to be supported and relocated in other countries.

Lines of Discussion:

- Which are the countries that usually receive refugees?
- What are the conditions that these refugees usually live in?
- Which are the 3 countries that the refugees come from?

- Why is the refugee crisis so severe?
- Since when have other countries accepted refugees?