



STUDY

G U I D E



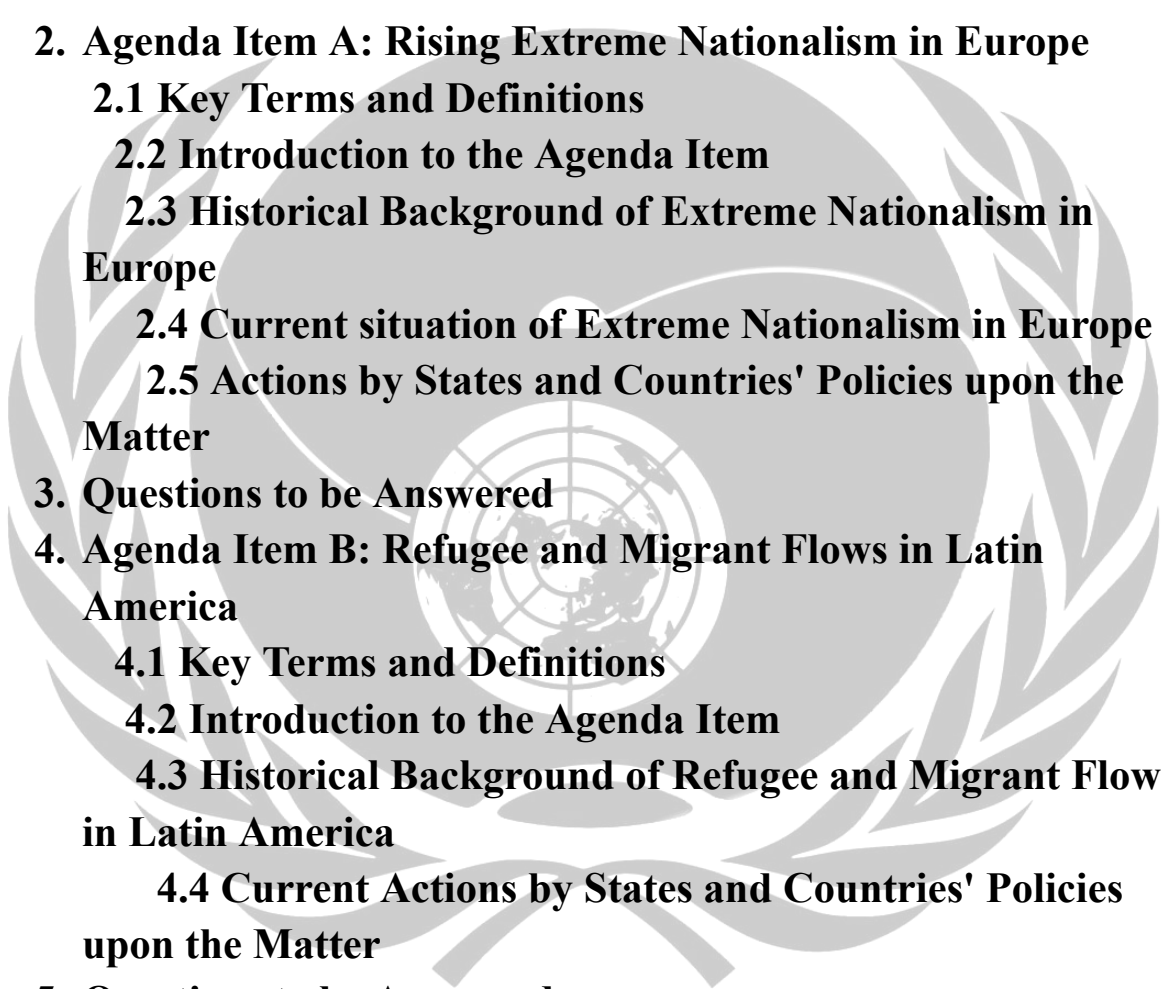
ŞEHREMINİMUN **25**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from Secretary General

Letter from the Under Secretary General

- 
- 1. Introduction to the Committee**
 - 2. Agenda Item A: Rising Extreme Nationalism in Europe**
 - 2.1 Key Terms and Definitions**
 - 2.2 Introduction to the Agenda Item**
 - 2.3 Historical Background of Extreme Nationalism in Europe**
 - 2.4 Current situation of Extreme Nationalism in Europe**
 - 2.5 Actions by States and Countries' Policies upon the Matter**
 - 3. Questions to be Answered**
 - 4. Agenda Item B: Refugee and Migrant Flows in Latin America**
 - 4.1 Key Terms and Definitions**
 - 4.2 Introduction to the Agenda Item**
 - 4.3 Historical Background of Refugee and Migrant Flows in Latin America**
 - 4.4 Current Actions by States and Countries' Policies upon the Matter**
 - 5. Questions to be Answered**
 - 6. Requirements for the Committee**
 - 7. Further Reading**
 - 8. Bibliography**

Letter from Secretary General

The most esteemed participants,

It is an utmost pleasure and privilege to serve as the secretary general of ŞehreminiMUN'25 and it is most certainly an honor to extend you the welcome to our conference.

Our academic and organization teams have been working for countless months and hours, perfecting every detail and pouring their hearts out into shaping this enriching experience that is yet to come for you, proving that impossible is, in fact, nothing.

Throughout the conference days, you will step into the roles of diplomats and policymakers, tackling real-world problems and seeking real solutions. We wish to create an environment that encourages you to think critically, engage respectfully with diverse viewpoints, and expand your comprehension of our interconnected world.

Embrace this vision, for it is through such an approach that we create positive change. Acting is one of the greater strengths of people, born from duty and instinct, and we cannot be prouder to address ourselves as the organizing team of a conference which aims to bring that strength forth.

We hope this conference will be a fruitful and enjoyable experience, providing you with a fresh outlook on global issues and empowering you to become bringers of change. Once again, welcome to the second edition of ŞehreminiMUN.

Best Regards,
Secretary General of ŞehreminiMUN'25
Zeyal Türkoğlu

Letter from Under-Secretary General

Dear Delegates and Readers

I welcome you all to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as your Under-Secretary General. My name is Emre Tahmaz and I'm a first year student at Kültür University as a molecular biology and genetics major. It's an honor for me to be the Under Secretary General of my one my favorite committee UNHCR. I hope you like the allocated agendas for our committee's which are chosen by me and I do also hope that we would be able to conclude our committee with successful 2 resolution papers.

Well, thanks to our Deputy Secretary General Deniz Kartal for inviting me and let me choose my agenda items, thanks to my chairboard and my academic assistant for their upcoming efforts.

Besides that, it is my pleasure to present this study guide to you, which will inform you thoroughly about the topic that will concern you during our sessions. I insist you read and study upon this guide for better and more challenging debates.

I believe that we will have 4 amazing days in our committee while debating and finding solutions to our related agenda topic.

Furthermore, you can contact me whenever during the day or night.

Are you ready to unite for a better future?

Sincerely
Emre Tahmaz

Under Secretary General of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

My number: +90 534 898 70 36

1. Introduction to the Committee

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is a vital international organization committed to protecting the rights and well-being of refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, and internally displaced people (IDPs) around the globe. Established in 1950 in the wake of World War II, UNHCR was initially tasked with addressing the refugee crisis in Europe. Over the decades, its mandate has expanded significantly to respond to evolving global challenges. Today, UNHCR works tirelessly to ensure that every

individual forced to flee their home due to conflict, persecution, violence, or environmental crises has access to safety, dignity, and the opportunity to rebuild their lives.



The UNHCR operates on the core principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence. Guided by the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, the organization collaborates closely with member states, civil society, non-governmental organizations, and other UN agencies to provide life-saving assistance, advocate for durable solutions, and uphold the

international legal frameworks that protect displaced populations. UNHCR's work extends across emergency response, long-term recovery, and advocacy for inclusive policies that promote the integration and well-being of refugees and migrants.

The global displacement crisis has reached unprecedented levels, with over 100 million people forcibly displaced by the end of 2023. As conflicts persist, political and economic instability worsens, and the impacts of climate change intensify, the international community faces mounting challenges in addressing the needs of displaced populations. This reality underscores the critical importance of the UNHCR's work and the necessity for collective action to find sustainable solutions to these complex problems.

The UNHCR's role extends beyond addressing immediate humanitarian needs. It involves shaping global policies and frameworks that safeguard the rights and dignity of displaced persons while promoting peaceful coexistence within host communities. Recognizing that the challenges faced by refugees and migrants transcend borders, UNHCR works to foster international cooperation and develop innovative approaches to displacement and migration management.

UNHCR remains dedicated to finding solutions that uphold the principles of human rights and dignity. By addressing systemic barriers and advocating for comprehensive and inclusive policies, the organization strives to ensure a safer and more secure future for millions of displaced individuals worldwide.

**AGENDA ITEM 1:
RISING EXTREME NATIONALISM IN EUROPE**



2. Agenda Item A: Rising Extreme Nationalism in Europe

2.1 Key Terms and Definitions

Refugee: A person who has been forced to flee their country due to persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations. Refugees are protected under international law, primarily through the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol.

Asylum Seeker: An individual who has fled their home country and is seeking international protection but whose claim for refugee status has not yet been determined. Asylum seekers are entitled to certain rights and protection under international law while their claims are assessed.

Stateless Person: A person who is not recognized as a citizen by any country under its laws, leaving them without nationality or the associated rights. Statelessness often results in barriers to accessing education, healthcare, and employment.

Xenophobia: An irrational fear, hatred, or prejudice against individuals from other countries or cultures. Xenophobia can manifest in discriminatory policies, social exclusion, and violence against refugees and migrants.

1951 Refugee Convention: An international treaty that defines the term "refugee," outlines their rights, and establishes the legal obligations of states to protect them. The Convention remains the cornerstone of international refugee law.

Extreme Nationalism: A political ideology that emphasizes the superiority of one's nation and often advocates for strict immigration policies and exclusionary practices. Extreme nationalism can lead to xenophobia and hostility towards displaced populations.

Resettlement Quotas: A mechanism by which countries agree to accept a specific number of refugees for resettlement. These quotas are a critical component of global burden-sharing and international cooperation.

Hate Speech: Any form of communication that vilifies or discriminates against individuals or groups based on attributes such as race, religion, ethnicity, or nationality. Hate speech often incites hostility and violence against refugees and migrants.

Internally Displaced Person (IDP): A person who has been forced to flee their home due to conflict, violence, or natural disasters but remains within their country's borders. IDPs are not protected by international refugee law but may receive assistance under other humanitarian frameworks.

Non-Refoulement: A fundamental principle of international law that prohibits the return of individuals to a country where they would face persecution, torture, or other serious harm. This principle is enshrined in the 1951 Refugee Convention.

Host Country: A country that provides shelter and protection to refugees. Host countries often bear significant economic and social burdens in accommodating displaced populations.

Push and Pull Factors: The conditions that drive people to leave their home countries and attract them to other countries.

2.2 Introduction to the Agenda Item A

In recent years, Europe has witnessed a significant increase in extreme nationalist movements, marked by growing xenophobia, anti-immigrant sentiment, and restrictive asylum policies. These developments pose serious challenges to the rights and protection of refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants who seek safety within European borders. Political rhetoric and populist narratives in various countries have contributed to the stigmatization of



displaced populations, portraying them as cultural and economic threats rather than individuals fleeing conflict, persecution, or other humanitarian crises.

The rise of extreme nationalism has had profound implications on the implementation of international legal frameworks designed to protect refugees and migrants. The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, which form the cornerstone of international refugee law, are increasingly being undermined by unilateral measures that prioritize national sovereignty over collective humanitarian obligations. These measures include tightened border controls, reduced resettlement quotas, and the adoption of policies that discourage asylum applications through legal or administrative barriers.

Moreover, the impact of extreme nationalism extends beyond policy. Social environments in several European countries have become increasingly hostile toward refugees and migrants, with rising incidents of hate speech, discrimination, and violence. Such environments further marginalize displaced populations, hindering their access to essential services, integration opportunities, and the ability to rebuild their lives with dignity and security.

The legal and humanitarian challenges arising from these trends demand a robust response grounded in international law, human rights, and the principles of solidarity and shared responsibility. Addressing the influence of extreme nationalism requires the reaffirmation of international commitments to refugee protection and the strengthening of mechanisms that ensure compliance with these commitments. It also calls for the adoption of strategies to combat misinformation and xenophobia, promote social cohesion, and protect the fundamental rights of displaced individuals.

The implications of these developments are far-reaching, as they threaten not only the well-being of displaced populations but also the integrity of the global refugee protection regime. The erosion of solidarity and cooperative approaches undermines efforts to provide sustainable solutions to displacement and migration challenges. Upholding the rights and dignity of refugees and migrants in the face of rising extreme nationalism is essential to maintaining the humanitarian principles upon which international refugee law is built.

2.3 Historical Background of Rising Extreme Nationalism in Europe

1870s-1914: The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw the rise of nationalist ideologies in Europe, driven by unification movements in Germany and Italy, as well as the dissolution of multi-ethnic empires like the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires. This period also witnessed the emergence of exclusionary nationalist policies targeting minority groups.



1914-1945: The extreme nationalist ideologies propagated by fascist and authoritarian regimes in countries such as Germany, Italy, and Spain contributed to the outbreak of World War II and the Holocaust. Millions were displaced during and after the war, underscoring the catastrophic consequences of unchecked nationalism.

1945-1950s: In the aftermath of World War II, the establishment of the United Nations (1945) and the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) represented efforts to counter the destructive effects of extreme nationalism. However, nationalist sentiments persisted in various forms.

1970s-1990s: The late 20th century saw a resurgence of far-right movements across Europe. Factors such as economic stagnation, unemployment, and fears of cultural erosion fueled support for nationalist parties. The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 and the subsequent expansion of the European Union intensified debates over sovereignty and integration.

2008 Financial Crisis: The global economic downturn created fertile ground for nationalist rhetoric. High unemployment and austerity measures led to scapegoating of refugees and migrants, who were portrayed as threats to national welfare systems.

2015 Refugee Crisis: The arrival of millions of refugees fleeing conflicts in Syria, Afghanistan, and other regions became a turning point. Public fears about

cultural change and security threats led to the rise of anti-immigrant policies and nationalist political platforms in countries like Hungary, Poland, and France.

2020s: In recent years, the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated nationalist tendencies, with some governments using public health concerns to justify restrictive immigration measures. Anti-immigrant sentiment and hate crimes against refugees and migrants have continued to rise.

2.4 Current Situation of Extreme Nationalism in Europe

Extreme nationalism has gotten a bit of traction once again across Europe in recent years, significantly impacting political discourse, societal attitudes, and international cooperation. This trend has grown in response to economic challenges, increased migration, and global dynamics shifting.

Political parties with nationalist ideologies have gained considerable traction, shaping policies that challenge human rights frameworks. These parties have been concentrating on highlighting traditional values, and working against multiculturalism, and at the same time limiting immigration.

Public opinion polls show growing anti-immigration sentiment in several European countries fuelled by the refugee wave triggered by the Syrian civil war and subsequent displacement crises. In other instances, this kind of sentiment has also resulted in hate crimes, discrimination and policies that target the rights of asylum seekers and refugees.

Governments promoting extreme nationalism have enacted restrictive actions, such as strengthening their borders, decreasing asylum quotas and extending the duration of refugee application procedures as much as possible. These actions present great challenges to the UNHCR mission and to the general framework of international law as embodied in the 1951 Refugee Convention et al.

The European Union has reacted with initiatives like the New Pact on Migration and Asylum, that seeks to find a fair responsibility sharing between member states and to facilitate a more unified system of managing migrants. However, nationalist movements in countries like Hungary and Poland have created internal tensions within the EU, complicating efforts to achieve consensus on

migration policies. Extreme nationalism not only endangers not just the safety and integration of refugees, it also harms the principles of inclusion and solidarity. The solution to this problem calls for a partnership model that must weigh national interests with the obligation to act in common for the protection of particularly exposed groups.

2.5 Actions by States and Countries' Policies upon the Matter

Hungary:

1. Hungary has been at the forefront of anti-immigration measures, most notably constructing barbed-wire border fences in 2015 to block entry along its southern borders.
2. The government enacted the “Stop Soros” laws in 2018, which criminalize assistance to asylum seekers and NGOs supporting refugees.
3. Hungarian leaders have repeatedly challenged EU refugee resettlement quotas and framed migration as a threat to national culture and Christian heritage.

Poland:

1. Poland has consistently refused to accept refugees under EU burden-sharing schemes, arguing that forced quotas violate national sovereignty.
2. National leaders have emphasized the link between migration and security risks, leading to restrictive asylum policies and public campaigns portraying refugees as economic burdens.
3. Recent years have seen Poland strengthening border controls with Belarus to prevent unauthorized crossings.

France:

1. France has implemented tougher asylum procedures, including expedited processes for asylum applications and deportations.



2. Despite restrictive measures, the government has invested in integration programs for recognized refugees, emphasizing language training and job placement.
3. Anti-immigration sentiment remains a key theme in French politics, with nationalist parties advocating for even stricter controls.

Germany:

1. Germany took a historic step in 2015 by opening its borders to over 1 million refugees, becoming a symbol of humanitarian leadership.



2. Since then, the government has tightened asylum rules, including increased deportations for rejected asylum seekers and expanded agreements with origin countries to manage migration flows.

3. Germany has also advocated for an EU-wide approach to migration, calling for fair burden-sharing mechanisms.

Italy:

1. As one of the main entry points for refugees crossing the Mediterranean, Italy has faced immense pressure.
2. Agreements with Libya have aimed to reduce migrant arrivals but have been criticized for exposing individuals to dire conditions in Libyan detention centers.
3. Domestic policies have oscillated between stricter border enforcement and periodic amnesty measures to regularize undocumented migrants.

Sweden and Denmark:

1. Sweden, once a champion of open-door policies, has imposed stricter controls on asylum applications since 2015, citing strains on public services.
2. Denmark has pursued a controversial approach by transferring asylum seekers to third countries, such as Rwanda, for processing.

3. Both countries have seen nationalist movements influence their political landscapes, leading to tighter immigration rules.

European Union (EU):

1. The EU's efforts to coordinate migration policies have been hindered by divisions among member states. The 2020 New Pact on Migration and Asylum sought to balance responsibility-sharing with efficient border management but has faced criticism for insufficient focus on refugee protection.
2. The EU has also increased funding for Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, to enhance border surveillance and deter unauthorized migration.
3. Collaborative projects with third countries, including Turkey under the 2016 EU-Turkey Statement, aim to reduce migration flows into Europe by providing financial support in exchange for hosting refugees.



United Kingdom (UK):

1. While no longer an EU member, the UK has adopted a strict approach to immigration. Recent measures include the “Illegal Migration Bill,” which limits asylum claims for those arriving through unauthorized routes.
2. The government has proposed offshore asylum processing centers and implemented agreements with Rwanda for deporting asylum seekers.
3. Critics have highlighted the potential violations of international law and the humanitarian consequences of such policies.

3. Questions to be Answered

1. How can states ensure compliance with the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol amidst rising nationalist policies?
2. What measures can be taken to combat xenophobia and hate speech targeting refugees and migrants in Europe?
3. How can national governments balance border security with their humanitarian obligations under international law?
4. What steps can be taken to promote social cohesion and integration of refugees in host communities, despite opposition from nationalist movements?
5. How can regional bodies like the European Union (EU) effectively address disparities in refugee distribution among member states?
6. What role should international organizations, including UNHCR, play in monitoring and mitigating the effects of extreme nationalism on refugee rights?
7. How can misinformation and extremist narratives about refugees and migrants be countered, particularly on digital platforms?



**AGENDA ITEM 2:
REFUGEE AND MIGRANT FLOWS IN LATIN
AMERICA**



4. Agenda Item B: Refugee and Migrant Flows in Latin America

4.1 Key Terms and Definitions

Refugee: A person who has been forced to flee their country due to persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations. Refugees are protected under international law, primarily through the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol.

Migrant: An individual who moves to another country or region, often for economic opportunities, education, or family reunification. Unlike refugees, migrants are not necessarily fleeing persecution and are subject to the immigration laws of their destination country.

Asylum Seeker: An individual seeking international protection whose claim for refugee status has not yet been determined. Asylum seekers are entitled to certain rights and protections under international law while their claims are assessed.

Stateless Person: A person who is not recognized as a citizen by any country under its laws, leaving them without nationality or the associated rights. Statelessness often results in barriers to accessing education, healthcare, and employment.

Cartagena Declaration (1984): A regional instrument in Latin America that expands the definition of a refugee to include individuals fleeing generalized violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, and massive human rights violations.

Displacement: The forced movement of individuals or communities from their homes due to conflict, violence, natural disasters, or other crises. Displacement can be internal (within a country) or international (crossing borders).

Burden-Sharing: The principle of distributing responsibilities equitably among countries to address refugee and migration challenges, emphasizing international solidarity and cooperation.

Non-Refoulement: A core principle of international law prohibiting the return of individuals to a country where they face persecution, torture, or other serious harm. This principle is enshrined in the 1951 Refugee Convention.

Northern Triangle: Refers to the Central American countries of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, which face significant challenges such as gang violence, poverty, and political instability, driving large-scale migration.

Mixed Migration Flows: Movements of people with diverse motivations and needs, including refugees, asylum seekers, and economic migrants, often traveling along the same routes and using the same means of transport.

4.2 Introduction to the Agenda Item

Latin America has become a focal point for one of the most pressing humanitarian challenges of the 21st century: the large-scale displacement of people driven by political instability, economic crises, violence, and environmental degradation. Refugees and migrants in the region face a complex web of hardships, often compounded by limited state capacity, insufficient international support, and volatile sociopolitical contexts. As the region struggles to balance the needs of displaced populations with domestic pressures, the situation remains a critical issue for international attention and cooperation.

One of the most significant drivers of displacement in Latin America is political and economic instability, particularly in Venezuela. Since 2015, over 7 million Venezuelans have fled their homeland, making it one of the largest displacement crises in the world. Countries like Colombia, Peru, and Ecuador have absorbed the majority of these refugees and migrants, despite facing their own socio economic challenges. While regional solidarity has been evident, the lack of adequate funding and long-term planning continues to strain host countries' resources and capacities.

Central America is another epicenter of displacement, with the Northern Triangle countries—El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras—grappling with gang violence, organized crime, and poverty. These factors have prompted hundreds of thousands to flee northward, seeking safety and better opportunities, often through perilous journeys. Many of these individuals

attempt to reach the United States, creating political and humanitarian challenges at the U.S.-Mexico border. Migration flows in this region have also been exacerbated by climate change, with recurrent hurricanes, droughts, and other environmental disasters displacing communities.

In the Southern Cone, countries like Argentina, Brazil, and Chile have also experienced increasing migration flows, driven by economic opportunity and regional instability. However, growing xenophobia and the rise of nationalist movements in these nations have sparked anti-immigrant rhetoric and policies, complicating efforts to address the needs of displaced populations effectively.

Regional frameworks such as the Cartagena Declaration of 1984 and the Brazil Declaration and Plan of Action of 2014 provide a foundation for addressing displacement in Latin America. However, their implementation has been inconsistent, often hampered by a lack of resources and political will. International organizations, including UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), have played a vital role in coordinating responses, but the scale of the crisis demands greater global cooperation and burden-sharing.

The challenges faced by refugees and migrants in Latin America are deeply interconnected with broader issues of governance, economic inequality, and environmental sustainability. Effective solutions require a holistic approach, combining humanitarian aid with policies that address root causes of displacement and promote sustainable development. As migration flows continue to rise, the need for coordinated action at national, regional, and international levels is more urgent than ever.

4.3 Historical Background of Refugee and Migrant Flows in Latin America

1970s-1980s: Civil Wars and Political Repression: The civil wars in Central America during the 1970s and 1980s, particularly in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, forced millions to flee their homes. Repressive regimes and widespread human rights abuses drove refugees to neighboring countries and the United States. The region's challenges were compounded by Cold War dynamics, as external powers supported various factions in these conflicts.

Key event: The Salvadoran Civil War (1980–1992) led to the displacement of nearly 1 million people, many seeking asylum in Mexico and the U.S.

1990s: Economic Instability and Displacement: Following the end of armed conflicts, economic instability emerged as a primary driver of migration. Structural adjustment programs imposed by international financial institutions led to widespread unemployment and reduced social services, pushing people to seek better opportunities abroad.

Key event: The adoption of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in 1994 contributed to economic shifts, particularly in Mexico, where agricultural livelihoods were disrupted, prompting increased migration to the U.S.

2000s: Natural Disasters and Escalating Violence: Natural disasters such as Hurricane Mitch (1998) and subsequent hurricanes like Stan (2005) and Matthew (2016) devastated countries in Central America and the Caribbean, displacing millions. Simultaneously, the rise of organized crime and gang violence in the Northern Triangle—El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras—became a central factor in forced migration.

Key event: The proliferation of gangs such as MS-13 and Barrio 18 in the 2000s created widespread fear and insecurity, with many families fleeing extortion, recruitment, and violence.

2010s: Venezuelan Crisis and Regional Displacement: The political and economic crisis in Venezuela represents one of the largest displacement events in the region's history. Since 2015, millions of Venezuelans have fled hyperinflation, food shortages, and political persecution, seeking refuge in neighboring countries like Colombia, Brazil, and Peru.

Key event: By 2018, the Venezuelan migration crisis surpassed 3 million people, prompting regional frameworks like the Quito Process to coordinate responses among host nations.

2020s: Pandemic and Worsening Migration Challenges: The COVID-19

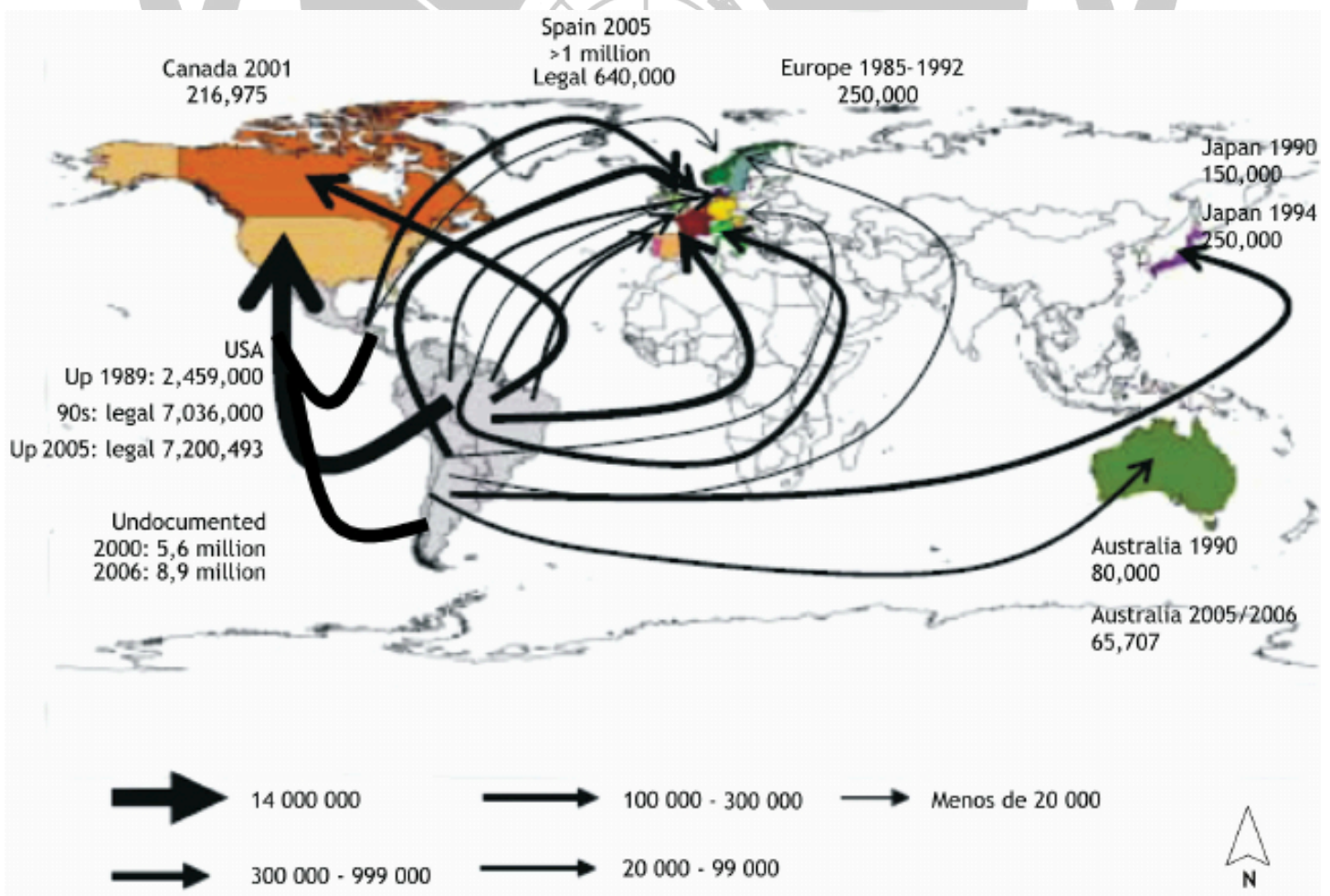
pandemic exacerbated pre-existing vulnerabilities. Border closures left thousands stranded, while economic fallout heightened poverty and inequality, fueling migration flows. At the same time, the effects of climate change, such as prolonged droughts and hurricanes, further displaced communities.

Key event: Hurricanes Eta and Iota (2020) affected millions in Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, causing massive internal and cross-border displacement.

Contemporary Issues: U.S.-Mexico Border and Regional Agreements:

Migrant caravans, starting around 2018, highlighted the collective desperation of those fleeing violence, poverty, and climate-related disasters. These caravans underscored the need for coordinated international responses. Efforts such as the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) aim to address the root causes of displacement while ensuring protection for refugees.

Key event: The 2021 Summit of the Americas emphasized cooperation among nations to manage migration flows and enhance protections for refugees.



4.4 Current Actions by States and Countries' Policies upon the Matter

Hungary:

1. In 2015, Hungary erected razor-wire fences along its borders with Serbia and Croatia to halt the influx of refugees during the height of the migration crisis.
2. The government passed laws, such as the controversial “Stop Soros” law in 2018, which criminalizes activities that assist asylum seekers, including legal aid and advocacy.
3. Hungary continues to reject EU quotas for refugee resettlement, emphasizing its national sovereignty and cultural identity.

Poland:

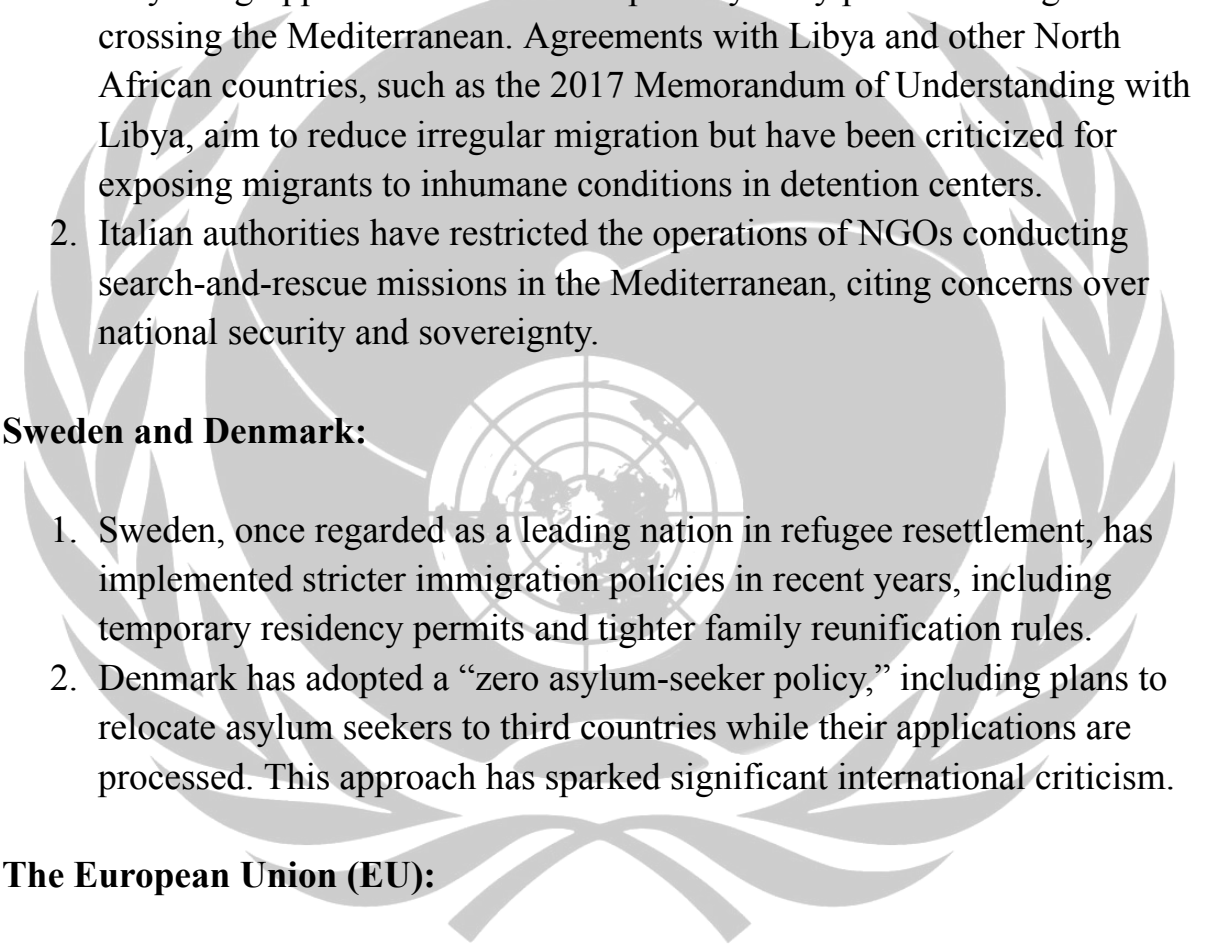
1. Poland has consistently opposed EU-wide refugee resettlement quotas, citing concerns over national security and cultural integrity.
2. In 2021, Poland fortified its border with Belarus to prevent the entry of migrants allegedly used as political leverage by the Belarusian regime.
3. The government has increasingly linked migration to broader security threats, fostering public support for restrictive immigration policies.

France:

1. France has tightened its asylum laws, reducing processing times and increasing deportations for rejected asylum claims.
2. Border security has been reinforced, particularly along the Italian and Spanish borders.
3. At the same time, France has launched integration programs, such as the creation of “integration contracts” to facilitate language learning and employment opportunities for refugees.

Germany:

1. Germany remains a significant host country, especially after the 2015 decision to admit over one million asylum seekers, a move lauded internationally but criticized by domestic far-right groups.

- 
2. Recent years have seen stricter asylum policies, including faster deportations and expanded "safe country" lists, partly in response to political pressure from nationalist parties like the Alternative for Germany (AfD).
 3. Germany also advocates for a common European asylum system to distribute responsibility more equitably among EU member states.

Italy:

1. Italy has grappled with its role as a primary entry point for refugees crossing the Mediterranean. Agreements with Libya and other North African countries, such as the 2017 Memorandum of Understanding with Libya, aim to reduce irregular migration but have been criticized for exposing migrants to inhumane conditions in detention centers.
2. Italian authorities have restricted the operations of NGOs conducting search-and-rescue missions in the Mediterranean, citing concerns over national security and sovereignty.

Sweden and Denmark:

1. Sweden, once regarded as a leading nation in refugee resettlement, has implemented stricter immigration policies in recent years, including temporary residency permits and tighter family reunification rules.
2. Denmark has adopted a "zero asylum-seeker policy," including plans to relocate asylum seekers to third countries while their applications are processed. This approach has sparked significant international criticism.

The European Union (EU):

1. The EU introduced the New Pact on Migration and Asylum in 2020 to address migration challenges through shared responsibility among member states. However, the pact has faced delays due to disagreements over the distribution of asylum seekers and burden-sharing.
2. The EU has strengthened its external borders through the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), increasing surveillance and border management capabilities.

3. Financial support has been provided to countries like Turkey through the EU-Turkey Statement (2016) to curb migration flows into Europe, but this agreement has been criticized for overlooking the human rights of migrants.

International Partnerships:

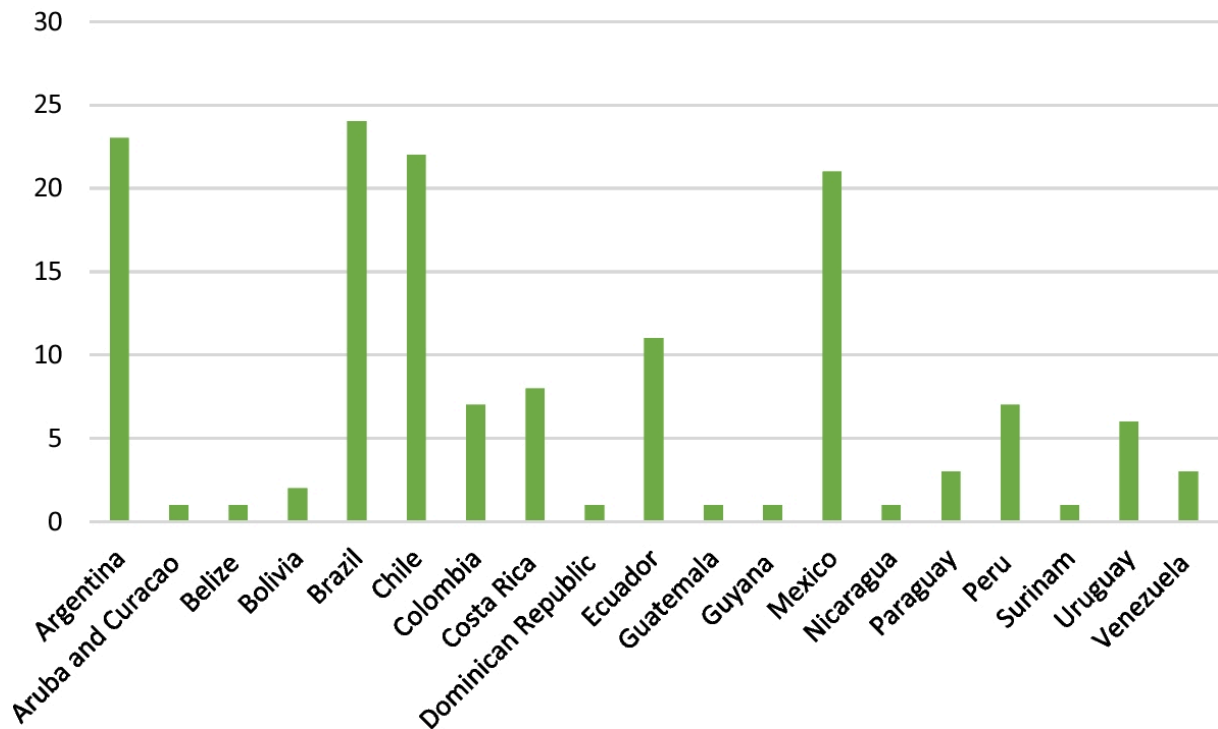
1. Many European states work in collaboration with UNHCR and other international organizations to improve refugee protection. For example, Germany and Sweden continue to support UNHCR resettlement programs, hosting significant numbers of refugees through legal pathways.
2. Some states have invested in development aid programs in refugees' countries of origin to address root causes of migration, such as poverty and conflict.

Public Initiatives and Civil Society:

1. While governments have tightened migration policies, civil society organizations and grassroots movements have stepped up to advocate for refugees and provide humanitarian aid.
2. Cities like Barcelona and Athens have declared themselves “refugee-friendly” and implemented local initiatives to support integration, despite national governments' restrictive policies.

Judicial Responses:

1. The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) has played a critical role in upholding the rights of refugees and migrants. Recent rulings, such as those against Hungary and Italy for pushback practices, underscore the importance of legal accountability.
2. National courts in countries like Germany and France have also intervened to challenge policies perceived as violating international obligations.



Current Migration percentages in Latin America

5. Questions to be Answered

1. What strategies can be implemented to address the root causes of displacement, such as political instability, violence, and economic hardship, in Latin America?
2. How can states improve regional cooperation to manage cross-border refugee and migrant flows more effectively?
3. What role should international organizations, including UNHCR, play in supporting countries hosting large numbers of refugees and migrants?
4. How can states ensure that displaced populations have access to essential services like healthcare, education, and legal protection?
5. What mechanisms can be developed to improve the safety of migration routes and prevent exploitation by traffickers and smugglers?
6. How can countries address the challenges faced by host communities in integrating refugees and migrants while preventing social tensions?
7. What steps can be taken to strengthen legal pathways for migration and enhance the protection of asylum seekers in Latin America?

6. Requirements for the Committee

This committee of ŞehreminiMUN'25 requires a position paper for each agenda item, which will be written by the allocated delegates and will be sent to the academics of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Committee until the first session begins.

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Academic Assistant: efe_yldzdgn@hotmail.com

7. Further Reading

1. UNHCR's Overview of Displacement in Latin America

<https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/where-we-work/americas>

2. Cartagena Declaration on Refugees (1984)

<https://www.refworld.org/legal/resolution/rri/1984/en/64184>

3. UNHCR Data Portal – Venezuela Situation

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/100078>

4. Amnesty International

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/search/Refugee/?qcategory=1149&qlocation=1699>

5. OECD: Building Inclusive Societies in Latin America

<https://www.oecd.org/latin-america/>

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