

SUMMARY

"Between two fires: scenarios of violence in the face of irregular migration in Latin America", organized by the Institute for Legal Research, UNAM

Theme: The Institutional Research Axis on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children and People in Vulnerable Situations of the Legal Research Institute of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, in coordination with the Research Institute of the Ortega y Gasset University of Mexico, the Ortega Marañón Foundation of Spain and the Justice and Democracy in the Americas Platform of the University of Ottawa, Canada, organized the international seminar "Between Fires: Scenarios of Violence in the Face of Irregular Migration in Latin America". The aim is to establish an open dialogue on the contexts of violence faced by people in situations of irregular international mobility and on certain institutional or civil society responses that seek to prevent, mitigate or address these forms of violence.

Background: People who are forced to leave their countries, when they decide to do so without resorting to the usual asylum or refugee procedures, face different risks of violence, which worsen as soon as they leave their homes. The reality of insecurity in their communities, the risks inherent in transit, and the context of host countries, including institutional responses such as return practices, put them at risk of multiple violence. This includes, on the one hand, the presence of transnational organized crime and local criminal groups, which take advantage of the situation to subjugate certain transit or destination territories and diversify their activities, with migrants being their main victims. On the other hand, the countries of the Americas have put in place a set of institutional responses that go as far as exclusion and rejection and that can violate the international commitments made by the countries themselves.

It is between these two "fires" that millions of people in Latin America currently find themselves.

The Seminar: In this space, a group of experts from different countries presented their experiences on the state of research in Latin America. They also presented concrete examples of the challenges shared between countries, in the search for good practices that facilitate the identification of responses to increasingly critical situations. Humanitarian emergencies involving migration processes are multiplying with increased intensity due to different causes, such as the political contexts of our countries and democratic setbacks; the situation of violence and insecurity that has dominated a significant part of the Latin American sub-region for more than a decade, with an increasingly clear domination of organized crime; post-pandemic economic crises; or the effects of climate change and the devastation of vast territories.

The International Seminar was held in a hybrid format. Its structure has been divided into two presentation tables:

1. Contexts of violence and their impacts on groups in particular situations of vulnerability.
2. The challenges of institutional responses.

Each table had a moderator and three speakers. A rapporteur presented the conclusions, with the aim of preparing the preparation of a working document.

Structure:

Schedule	Activity
9:00-9:30	Registration. Héctor Fix Zamudio Auditorium. Zoom Virtual Room: 02
9:30-9:50	Presentation of the International Seminar "Between Two Fires: Scenarios of Violence in the Face of Irregular Migration in Latin America" Pierre Gilles Bélanger , Faculty of Law, Justice Americas, University of Ottawa Canada (VIRTUAL). Francisco Parra , Instituto Universitario de Investigación Ortega y Gasset de México/ Fundación Ortega Marañón de España, VIRTUAL. Mauricio Padrón Innamorato , Institute of Legal Research of UNAM. Verónica Martínez Solares , Justice Américas, Foundation for the Study of Security and Governance. Montserrat Pérez Contreras , Institute of Legal Research, UNAM. Elisa Ortega Velázquez , Institute of Legal Research, UNAM.
9:50 – 10:00	Preparing the board and introducing the facilitator
10:00-11:15	First table: 1. Contexts of violence and their impact on groups in vulnerable situations. Moderator: Montserrat Pérez Contreras Speakers: a) Cintia Freitas , Faculty of Law, University of São Paulo, Brazil; Justice Americas at the University of Ottawa, Canada. Seniors. VIRTUAL. b) Sofía Brito , International Development Research Centre Canada and Dialogo Diverso Ecuador. LGBTIQ+ people. VIRTUAL. c) Carlos Mantilla Copete , International Development Research Centre Canada and Colombia Diversa. LGBTIQ+ people. VIRTUAL. d) Daniel Macguire , UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).
11:15-11:30	Questions and answers
11:30-11:45	Coffee break – coffee services. Auditorium
11:50 – 12:00	Preparing the board and introducing the facilitator

12:00-13:30	<p>Second table:</p> <p>2. The challenges of institutional responses.</p> <p>Moderator: Carmen Macías Vázquez</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Gabriela Morales Vega, Autonomous University of the State of Mexico. Women face to face. b) Shellah Franceschi, Protection Focal Point at IOM's Country Office in Panama. Darien. VIRTUAL. c) Elisa Ortega Velázquez, Institute of Legal Research, UNAM/Federal School of Judicial Training of the Judicial Branch of the Federation. Children and vulnerable groups. FACE TO FACE. d) Mónica González Contró, Director of the IJJ-UNAM. Childhood. FACE.
13:30-13:45	Questions and answers
13:50-14:00	Preparation of the Bureau and presentation of conclusions
14:00-14:30	<p>Rapporteur's position.</p> <p>Presented by: Montserrat Pérez Contreras.</p> <p>Rapporteur: Verónica Martínez Solares.</p>
14:35	<p>Closure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mónica González Contró, Director of the Institute of Legal Research of UNAM. b) Verónica Martínez Solares, Justice Americas, University of Ottawa, Canada. c) Montserrat Pérez Contreras, UNAM Institute for Legal Research. d) Elisa Ortega Velázquez, Institute of Legal Research of UNAM.