

Research Report for Model United Nations of Hamburg 2015

Forum:	4 th Committee of the General Assembly
Issue:	Finding measures to reduce the deaths amongst illegal immigrants caused by facilitators of illegal entry
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Definition of the issue

The smuggling of migrants is a truly global concern, with a large number of countries affected by it as origin, transit or destination points. Profit-seeking criminals smuggle migrants across borders and between continents. Smugglers take advantage of the large number of migrants willing to take risks in search of a better life when they cannot access legal channels of migration.

Smuggled migrants are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Their safety and even their lives are often put at risk: they may suffocate in containers, perish in deserts or drown at sea while being smuggled by profit-seeking criminals who treat them as

goods. It is estimated that two of the principal smuggling routes - leading from East, North and West Africa to Europe and from South America to North America - generate about \$6.75 billion a year for criminals. The global figure is likely to be much higher.



Background information

The term “facilitated illegal immigration” covers a number of different serious crimes all aimed at assisting, for financial gain, the entry into or residence in a country in violation of the laws of that country. Facilitated illegal immigration thus covers the production and procurement of falsified travel documents or permits obtained under false pretences, the provision of clandestine transportation or other assistance in order to obtain illegal entry or stay, often connected to a number of other criminal activities.

Migration itself is not illegal; it is in fact necessary for the development of both source and destination countries. Migration, however, becomes illegal when individuals themselves, or with the assistance of others, attempt to enter a country clandestinely or by deceptive means.

Like most other criminal problems, quantifying illegal immigration is very difficult due to its covert nature, as is defining exactly who the perpetrators and victims are.

The reasons why migrants leave their home countries are commonly referred to as ‘push factors’ and can include conflicts, dissolution and/or disintegration of multicultural states, natural disasters or other environmental problems, discrimination, political instability or poor economic situations. Although poverty, conflict and disasters are all powerful push factors, they tend to cause local or regional migration, not international facilitated illegal immigration. Poor and war-torn states are only interesting for the facilitators of illegal immigration if people in these states can afford to pay the huge fees that facilitators demand.

Paired with the “push factors” are the so called “pull factors”, those criteria that make a destination country attractive to a prospective migrant. These factors may include the need for a labor force, a positive economic situation, democratic governance with political and social stability, and various historical or cultural links between the source and destination country, but especially the presence of large communities from the source countries in the destination countries. The existence of organized crime (OC) groups, involved in the facilitation of illegal immigration and present in a destination country, tends to act as a pull factor in itself. These OC groups actively promote illegal immigration and tend to create and develop their own illicit market by encouraging people who would otherwise have had no intention of emigrating.

Definitions of key terms

Immigration: The process of entering one country from another to take up permanent or semi-permanent residence.

Timeline of events

There is no specific time line of events because the issue of illegal immigrants is always relevant and because of the fact that it is illegal there is no specific data.

Countries and organizations involved

USA: The border between the United States and Mexico is the area where most immigrants die because of illegally crossing the border with facilitators.

Mexico: See USA

European Union: In Europe there is a huge flow of refugees at the moment and lots of facilitators of illegal entry use it as their source of income. Many refugees/immigrants died on their way to another country.

Amnesty International: Amnesty International tries to help and protect immigrants; it does not matter whether they are legal or illegal immigrants.

Actions taken

- More controls by the military, FRONTEX, etc.
- Better cooperation between states
- Stricter laws

Relevant resolutions/treaties

A/49/75

A/49/350

In order to prepare for the position of your country you should consider the following:

Is your country affected by illegal immigration?

What is your country doing against facilitators of illegal entry?

The history of your country in relation to the issue.

Useful links

<http://www.fairus.org/facts/glossary>

<http://securetherepublic.com/blog/2014/07/29/crisis-illegal-immigration-policy-ordered-u-n/>

http://search.un.org/?ie=utf8&oe=utf8&output=xml_no_dtd&filter=0&getfields=DocumentSymbol.Title.Size.PublicationDate&ProxyReload=1&metaTitle=&_utma=114554307.1986540344.1403617262.1435489249.1441711387.7&_utmz=114554307.1416746705.3.2.utmcsr%3Dgoogle|utmccn%3D%28organic%29|utmcmd%3Dorganic|utmctr%3D%28not+provided%29&_ga=GA1.2.1986540344.1403617262&_utmb=114554307.4.10.1441711387&_utmc=114554307&_utmt=1&gat=1&NSC_j_xg-bqbdif_iuuq_mc_wt=ffffffff09f2002345525d5f4f58455e445a4a423660&query=illegal+immigrants&tpl=ods&rows=10&lang=en&adv_exactPhrase=&adv_allWords=&adv_atLeastOne=&adv_without=&filter_bodies=A&page=1

Sources

Text:

<http://immigration.procon.org/view.timeline.php?timelineID=000023>

<http://www.fairus.org/facts/glossary>

http://search.un.org/?ie=utf8&oe=utf8&output=xml_no_dtd&filter=0&getfields=DocumentSymbol.Title.Size.PublicationDate&ProxyReload=1&metaTitle=&_utma=114554307.1986540344.1403617262.1435489249.1441711387.7&_utmz=114554307.1416746705.3.2.utmcsr%3Dgoogle|utmccn%3D%28organic%29|utmcmd%3Dorganic|utmctr%3D%28not+provided%29&_ga=GA1.2.1986540344.1403617262&_utmb=114554307.4.10.1441711387&_utmc=114554307&_utmt=1&gat=1&NSC_j_xg-bqbdif_iuuq_mc_wt=ffffffff09f2002345525d5f4f58455e445a4a423660&query=illegal+immigrants&tpl=ods&rows=10&lang=en&adv_exactPhrase=&adv_allWords=&adv_atLeastOne=&adv_without=&filter_bodies=A&page=1

Pictures:

<http://willblogforfood.typepad.com/.a/6a00d8341cca9453ef0133f2a19383970b-350wi>