

Stuck in Uncertainty and Exposed to Violence: The Impact of US and Mexican Migration Policies on Women Seeking Protection in 2021

Introduction

In 2021, policies on both sides of the US-Mexico border negatively affected women seeking protection. As we head into 2022, marking the first year of [the Biden administration](#), Trump-era restrictive policies remain in place at the US-Mexico border, exacerbating the situation for women forced to wait at Mexico's northern border for the opportunity to seek asylum in the US. In addition, under pressure from the Biden administration, the Mexican government continues to intensify enforcement to deter migrants and individuals seeking protection at Mexico's southern border, worsening the situation for women stuck there.

In the fall of 2021, the Instituto para las Mujeres en la Migración (IMUMI) and the Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) monitored events and carried out interviews with women seeking protection to understand the challenges and the dangers they face in Mexico.¹ This report outlines those challenges and provides recommendations for the US and Mexican governments.

US Policies in 2021

Early on, the Biden administration committed to [building a fair, orderly, and humane immigration system](#) and [reversing illegal Trump-era policies that endangered the lives of people seeking protection](#) at the US-Mexico border. In its first few months in office, it made positive strides on several promises, including creating initiatives to provide reparative justice for those harmed by Trump-era policies. In February 2021, President Biden created [the Interagency Task Force on the Reunification of Families](#) to reunify the nearly 4,000 children who were separated from their parents under Trump's "zero tolerance" policy, which aimed to criminally prosecute all migrants crossing into the US between ports of entry. That month, the administration also [announced the creation of a process](#)—in collaboration with international organizations, regional task forces, and local NGOs—that would allow individuals returned to Mexico under the Trump-era "Remain in Mexico" (RMX) policy to return to the US and continue their immigration cases in the US rather than continuing to wait in Mexico. It also [reversed](#) the Trump-era legal decisions that made it nearly impossible for survivors of domestic and gang violence to qualify for asylum.

In addition, the administration's strategies included a focus on protection and a gender lens. In summer 2021, the administration launched a [whole-of-government blueprint](#) of strategies to reform the US immigration system. One of the strategies that aimed to address the root causes of migration in Central

¹ This report draws on interviews from IMUMI and WRC, cases from IMUMI's legal clinic, as well as media reports and research publications. IMUMI interviewed women in shelters in Mexico City between September and December 2021. On November 2, 2021, WRC staff visited two shelters in Mexico City and interviewed individuals from Haiti, Venezuela, El Salvador, Guatemala, and other countries. On December 3, 2021, WRC staff visited two migrant shelters in Tijuana and interviewed individuals from Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Cameroon, and other countries. IMUMI and WRC obtained informed consent from all individuals interviewed.

America included a [pillar “to combat sexual, gender-based, and domestic violence.”](#)² Another strategy laid out a [comprehensive approach to regional migration management](#). Yet, in practice, the Biden administration has largely focused on enforcement and deterrence in its engagement with countries in the region. Notably, it [reportedly has requested that the Mexican government sign a “safe third country” agreement](#), requiring most non-Mexican individuals to first seek protection in Mexico before requesting asylum in the US.

The Biden administration’s positive actions and strategies have been profoundly overshadowed by its failure to restore access to asylum at the border, [including at ports of entry](#), for most arriving migrants and people seeking asylum. In December 2021, the Biden administration announced the [reinstatement \(pursuant to a court order\) and expansion of RMX](#)³ and [extended the Trump-era Title 42 CDC public health order that summarily blocks and expels people](#) from the US-Mexico border, often repeatedly, to danger in Mexico and countries of origin. Since President Biden took office, people have been expelled more than [1.1 million times, including more than 187,000 expulsions of parents and children](#),⁴ who were denied the opportunity to seek protection. In August 2021, the administration began expulsion flights to southern Mexico, where Mexican authorities forcibly [returned people across the border to Guatemala](#) or sent them on buses to Honduras, in an [act of chain refoulement](#).⁵ In clear violation of *non-refoulement*, the Biden administration also sent individuals on Title 42 expulsion flights directly to back to Haiti, Guatemala, Honduras, and other countries of origin, without screening them for risk of harm upon return or otherwise providing them an opportunity to seek protection.

Mexican Policies in 2021

Over the course of 2021, [under pressure from the White House](#), the Mexican government took a number of measures to step up its immigration enforcement to deter migrants and asylum seekers from accessing protection at the US-Mexico border. In 2021, authorities from Mexico’s National Migration Institute (INM) [worked with the Mexican National Guard and security forces](#) to carry out a record number of migrant apprehensions; approximately 30 percent of those apprehended were women, and 27 percent were children. These figures include families and unaccompanied children who were initially apprehended by INM or the National Guard and then referred to state or civil-society shelters, a requirement of [Mexico’s new children protection reform](#) implemented in 2021. The reform requires that after referral, the protection offices determine the child’s best interests, whether that means deportation, remaining in Mexico with humanitarian legal status, or being reunited with family in another country. While this reform is a big step

2 In addition to its immigration blueprint, in November 2021, the administration launched the [first National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality](#). Through this whole-of-government approach, the administration committed to work to build “a fair and humane immigration system that welcomes immigrants [and] keeps families together” and create improved protection pathways for those fleeing persecution, including victims of gender-based violence.

3 The restart of Remain in Mexico was pursuant to a court order; however, prior to the ruling in early August 2021, the Biden administration [reportedly](#) was already considering implementing a supposedly more “humane” version of RMX. In August 2021, a Texas judge ordered the administration to restore RMX “in good faith.” The administration appealed that order and [issued a new memo terminating RMX](#) in October 2021. The Biden administration has committed to ending RMX eventually, but said that it planned to comply with the court’s order to restart RMX. In the new iteration, the administration expanded the program to all non-Mexicans from the Western Hemisphere.

4 This includes Customs and Border Protection Title 42 expulsion statistics from February to December 2021.

5 The principle of non-refoulement in international law prohibits countries that are receiving asylum seekers from removing them or returning them to a country where there is reason to believe that they would be at risk of irreparable harm or human rights violations. Chain refoulement occurs when individuals are sent back to a country that will not protect people from the onward transfer in violation of non-refoulement. In this case, the US expelled asylum seekers back to southern Mexico by plane and the Mexican government bussed them to Guatemala. This occurred with Guatemalan, Salvadoran, and Honduran nationals in 2021.

forward for the rights of families and children, implementation across [Mexico has been uneven⁶ and many challenges remain](#), including the need for better funding and training to ensure the best interests of children are consistently upheld.

The Andrés Manuel Lopez Obrador administration also took greater measures to restrict travel by migrants and individuals seeking protection, pushing many people to hire smugglers and risk dangerous travel routes. It also created new [travel regulations](#) requiring proof of immigration status to purchase a bus ticket, leading to discrimination and racial profiling of both migrants in transit and Mexicans, especially Indigenous and Afro-descendent Mexicans. In addition, [the US requested](#) that the Mexican government put into place new travel requirements to make it more difficult for the citizens of countries who have been arriving at the US southern border in high numbers to transit through Mexico. Since August 2021, the Mexican government announced new requirements that [Ecuadorians, Brazilians, and Venezuelans](#), some of whom are fleeing danger, acquire a visa to travel to Mexico as tourists. Mexican immigration authorities also stepped up [restrictive tactics at Mexican airports](#), where they denied entry to a record 72,895 foreigners in 2021, more than double the number of denials in 2019 (31,008). Officials at airports turned around individuals aiming to seek protection in Mexico, who were unlawfully denied the opportunity to present their claim to COMAR (Mexico's agency responsible for asylum processing and adjudications) and instead [detained in isolation for weeks](#). Furthermore, Mexico continued to coordinate with the US on the Biden administration's expulsions under Title 42, [agreeing to receive expelled individuals from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador](#), and [worked with the Biden administration to re-implement and expand RMX](#).

Meanwhile, as Mexican authorities increased enforcement and US restrictive policies persisted, last year [Mexico became one of the top destinations worldwide](#) for individuals seeking protection. In 2021, COMAR received a historic high of [131,448 applications](#), with women representing 41 percent of applicants⁷ and children representing 24 percent. This record number of applicants is an 87 percent increase from the prior high of 70,351 applications in 2019. Underfunded despite the critical need, COMAR has been unable to keep up with the increase in claims, leaving many people in southern Mexico—where the vast majority submit their applications⁸—to wait for decisions on their protection claims in precarious conditions for months or even up to two years in some cases. Mexican refugee law requires that applicants remain in the jurisdiction where they applied throughout the adjudication process, which prevents individuals applying for protection from reuniting with family and community networks in safer regions of the country with better employment opportunities.

****Note that the following section of the report contains graphic descriptions of sexual violence.****

The Impact of US and Mexican Policies on Women

Taken together, the US and Mexican governments' policies and practices forced women seeking protection to wait for extended periods, often in precarious and dangerous circumstances, at Mexico's northern and southern borders. Throughout 2021, IMUMI and WRC carried out interviews with women and monitored events to understand the challenges and dangers they were facing.

6 There has been less progress in some Mexican states on the reform implementation than others due to a lack of training, funding, and political will of local authorities. As a result, despite the reform, some children may continue to be detained by immigration authorities or deported without a proper best interest determination. In fall 2021, [a panel featuring IMUMI](#) and other civil society organizations discussed some of the challenges with implementation.

7 Since 2016, women have represented approximately 40 percent of applicants to COMAR.

8 Approximately 68 percent of applications were filed in the state of Chiapas and 5 percent in Tabasco.

- 1. Women seeking protection experience violence in Mexico that exacerbates prior traumas that forced them to flee their countries of origin in the first place.** A 2015 UN report found that [approximately 60 percent of surveyed women seeking asylum](#) from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador were fleeing gender-based violence, which includes any form of sexual, physical, mental, and economic harm directed at an individual due to their gender. A recent 2021 report by Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) found that violence against women in Central America [drastically increased during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) due to lockdowns that confined women with their perpetrators and to gangs gaining greater control over local communities.

The violence that [women seeking protection experience in transit in Mexico](#) and while waiting at Mexico's northern border cities—including kidnapping, rape, trafficking, and other forms of harassment—compounds their previous traumatic experiences. For example, a Guatemalan woman, Liliana,⁹ shared with IMUMI that after fleeing from a violent relationship with her husband who served in the military, she was kidnapped by a group of men in Tijuana. While she was being held by her kidnappers, she heard the men making arrangements on the phone to sexually exploit her. This experience was so traumatizing that after Liliana was released, she decided to travel to Mexico City to seek asylum while staying in a safe shelter instead of waiting to request asylum at the US-Mexico border.

- 2. Women seeking protection do not feel safe in Mexico's southern and northern border cities and worry that they can be tracked down by their persecutors.** [IMUMI documented various cases](#) of Central American women who have been tracked down by their perpetrators in Mexico. A Guatemalan woman, Cristina, traveling with her husband and three children, described to WRC staff the "terror of being forced to wait in Tijuana where our persecutors can find us." In southern Mexico, a Honduran woman, Sara, described to IMUMI that she and her family were kidnapped by members of the Mara Salvatrucha gang. After Sara fled Honduras, one of the perpetrators found her in Tapachula, Chiapas, forcing her and her family to flee to another city and give up their asylum claim in Mexico.
- 3. Women seeking protection are subjected to violent gender-based crimes in Mexico, including rape and sexual assault, and face heightened barriers to report these crimes and receive support services.** Women who are returned to Mexico alone or with their families experience many types of violent attacks. A 2017 Doctors Without Borders survey found that [31.4 percent of women seeking protection](#) had been abused during their transit through Mexico. Some women are kidnapped and raped by their captors, often in front of their children. Many assaults involve Mexican authorities. A Honduran woman, Jessica, in the Mexico City detention center described to IMUMI how she and a friend were detained by the National Guard in Ciudad Juarez after being expelled from the US. The agents sexually abused both women, who remained in detention in Ciudad Juarez for two months before being transferred to the Mexico City detention center. The women were deported from Mexico before they had the chance to file a complaint against the agents.

In another case documented by IMUMI, a Honduran woman was offered a job in Chiapas, Mexico, that turned out to be a ploy to traffic her. After six months of being routinely sexually abused, she escaped, but despite her reporting the crime, authorities did not protect her or investigate the crime, forcing her to leave the state and look for protection on her own.

Many sexual violence crimes are not reported or investigated in Mexico. According to the National Survey for Urban Public Security, between July and December 2020, [98.6 percent of sexual crimes](#) were

⁹ All names have been changed to protect the privacy of the women interviewed.

not reported or not investigated. Women who lack migration status and those detained face [additional risks of being the victim of a sexual crime and heightened barriers](#) to accessing justice and support services, including psychological support and medical care.

- 4. Women seeking protection are separated from their children as a result of restrictive policies.** In some cases, parents are victims of crimes, such as kidnapping, and [their children are left alone to cross to safety into the US](#). Several months after being returned to Mexico, Sandra, a Black woman from Honduras, went to look for a job in downtown Piedras Negras, where she was kidnapped and held for three days. Her four children crossed the border on their own because they did not know what had happened to their mother and were frightened. In other cases, due to the danger in Mexican border cities, coupled with US policies preventing many families and adults from seeking asylum, parents are forced to make the heartbreaking decision to send their children alone to safety in the US.
- 5. Women continue to wait in squalid conditions in Mexican northern and southern border cities.** Limited shelter capacity in Mexico's northern border cities has left many women sleeping on the streets and in precarious conditions, including at the informal tent encampments in [Tijuana](#) and [Reynosa](#). WRC staff spoke with a Honduran woman, Eleana, in Tijuana who tried to secure accommodations in Tijuana shelters after being expelled from the US, but was turned away due to limited capacity. She was forced to stay in squalid conditions in a house far away from the city center. A mere 15 days after Eleana and her family attempted to seek protection after crossing into the US and were expelled by Border Patrol to the streets of Tijuana, a rabid dog attacked and killed her 20-month-old toddler. In Tapachula, Chiapas, women asylum seekers and their families waited months for their Mexican asylum cases to be resolved while living in shelters, rented rooms on the outskirts of the city, or camped in the city's central plaza, with limited access to bathrooms or showers.
- 6. Women seeking protection struggle to find child care and enroll their children in school in Mexico.** According to Mexican law, all children—regardless of their immigration status—[should be able to enroll in public school](#). However, many barriers to enrollment in schools remain, such as discrimination and misinformation from local school administrators. One woman, Karina, recounted to WRC how she had not been able to enroll her two young children in local public schools because administrators (falsely) told her she would have to pay a sizable enrollment fee for each child. Women asylum seekers in Tapachula, Chiapas, told IMUMI that some schools require certified translations of birth certificates and vaccination records, making it impossible to enroll their children as they either do not have the documents, or cannot afford to have them translated.

Child care responsibilities and barriers enrolling children in school made it difficult for women to find part- or full-time work, while they wait to access asylum in the US or in Mexico. A number of women expressed to WRC fear of leaving their children alone due to the dangers in border cities, and worries over being unable to support themselves and their families since they could not work.
- 7. Women seeking protection struggle to access vital health services, including reproductive health services.** Mexico's 2011 Migration Law guarantees access to health services to people regardless of their immigration status in Mexico. Despite this, pregnant people expelled to Mexico by US authorities under Title 42 have been turned away by local hospitals and [denied medical care](#). A Salvadoran woman, Brenda, told WRC she was denied prenatal care in Tijuana, where local hospital workers told her, "We can't help you because you aren't Mexican." A Honduran woman, Marina, represented by IMUMI, was turned away from a public hospital because she did not have the required documents to prove financial

need. A lawyer resolved the situation, but shared with IMUMI that almost all of her clients require legal assistance to access basic reproductive health services in Mexico.

- 8. LGBTQI+, Black, Indigenous, and non-Spanish speaking women seeking protection face additional dangers in Mexico.** In particular, Black asylum seekers face [anti-Black racism, discrimination](#), and targeting from Mexican authorities. Several Haitian asylum seekers in Mexico City told WRC that they did not even try to look for employment opportunities because of the discrimination they were certain they would face by employers. Restrictive US border policies force individuals to wait in Mexico where they often are vulnerable to the same risks, discrimination, and dangers that they fled in their countries of origin. For example, Laura, a trans woman who fled Honduras due to death threats and her house being burned down, told WRC she was threatened at gunpoint by Mexican authorities during her journey to Tijuana. She did not feel safe in Mexico and struggled to secure housing due to discrimination. A Guatemalan asylum seeker in Mexico City, Karen, described to IMUMI staff that a teacher discriminated against her daughter for being “darker” and wearing Indigenous clothing.
- 9. Due to Mexico’s increased enforcement and travel restrictions, women seeking protection are forced to look for ways to evade immigration and military checkpoints by [traveling in caravans for safety or relying on smugglers](#).** In 2021, the [situation was particularly harrowing in Tapachula, Chiapas](#), where 89,668 asylum seekers (approximately 68 percent of all applicants) awaited adjudication of their protection claims. Many families attempted to move from Tapachula to other cities with better job opportunities and safer conditions. However, INM and National Guard checkpoints and increased enforcement in southern Mexico made transit difficult.

One Honduran woman, Veronica, told IMUMI that she and her family decided to join a migrant caravan in August 2021. INM officials stopped them, told them that the letter proving their pending asylum application was not valid, and tore up the documents. When she tried to film the incident with her telephone, agents took it away from her. During a press conference in September 2021, a Haitian woman in Tapachula [described how Haitians are racially profiled](#) by Mexican authorities and removed from buses. “We can barely get around Tapachula even though we are asylum seekers with a letter from COMAR. It is practically impossible to get on a bus to go to another city without paying smugglers a fee to get through the checkpoints.”

In the bus terminals in Tapachula and throughout Mexico, private bus companies began checking immigration status as a prerequisite for buying a bus ticket. Two women in the Mexico City detention center told IMUMI in September 2021 that they had been detained in a Mexico City bus station even though they had letters proving their immigration status.¹⁰

- 10. Women seeking protection are subjected to use of force and violence by Mexican and US authorities.** In August 2021, [Mexican immigration authorities and the Mexican National Guard were filmed](#) kicking migrants, violently pushing women and children into vehicles, and threatening family separation as tactics to break up large groups. In one video, a woman who had been detained could be seen screaming that she had been separated from her two-year-old son during the raid. While she screamed and tried to get out of the INM van, an agent could be seen pushing her on the breasts back into the van. In October 2021, a [Haitian woman was found dead along a highway](#) in Chiapas. Her clothes had

¹⁰ Since bus ticket agents have neither the authority nor the training to verify immigration status, they have begun sending anyone they deem suspicious to talk to INM officials stationed in the bus stations, who would then detain the individual.

been removed and she had been raped and strangled. Four municipal police officers were detained in relation to the crime. In September 2021, armed US Border Patrol agents in Del Rio, Texas were photographed [abusing Black migrant families and driving them back across the border](#) to Mexico.

Many women seeking protection who transit through Mexico are subjected to more than one of the above risks during their stay, which often lasts months or even years due to restrictive policies. A Honduran woman, Mariana, recounted to IMUMI her misfortunes over the past two years waiting in Mexico, and how the Biden administration's policies—following on the Trump administration's attacks on the asylum system—have resulted in her ongoing inability to seek asylum in the US:

"I fled Honduras with my two children in 2019 because my husband beat us and he was involved in a criminal gang that protected him. After several months in Mexico, we arrived at the US-Mexico border to request protection and we were sent back under [Remain in Mexico] through Nuevo Laredo. Since I had my two small children, we made our way to Monterrey, Mexico [a city several hours to the south], where we were living on the street. I was raped and became pregnant.

"A kind Mexican woman took us in and allowed us to live with her until the baby was born in October 2020. My kids didn't go to school in all of 2020. I still had a dream to live with my sister in the US and be safe, but things were really difficult. Then in April 2021, I learned that I could sign up for the [RMX wind-down process] even though I had never had my hearing, so I signed up for Conecta.¹¹ I got help to register my baby so he would have a birth certificate. Then I got an email stating that Conecta had closed and that I would have to wait again.

"I don't understand what I am supposed to do, where I am supposed to go. I have been trying for two years to follow the rules, but my kids are two years older now, I have a baby, and I don't know what to do. I can't go back to Honduras, I am afraid to be in Mexico, and I'm not allowed to request protection at the border. I feel lost."

Conclusion and Recommendations

Both [President Biden](#) and [President Andrés Manuel López Obrador](#) recognize that many women are fleeing gender-based violence and persecution in their countries of origin and need access to protection in both countries. IMUMI and WRC are deeply concerned about practices by both governments that normalize human rights violations, including the violation of the right to request asylum. Instead of restrictive policies and enforcement actions that put women and children seeking protection in harm's way, the US and Mexican governments should strengthen asylum systems in both countries and broaden complementary pathways for protection. We urge the Biden and López Obrador administrations to implement the following recommendations to ensure that the rights of women—including the right to access protection—are upheld.

¹¹ [Conecta](#) was a web platform run by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) where individuals who were subjected to the first iteration of RMX could enroll to access the RMX wind-down process and continue their immigration cases within the US. This platform was operational between February and August 2021. It was suspended due to the court order regarding the reinstatement of RMX.

Recommendations for the Biden administration

- » End the use of Title 42 to expel adults and families to Mexico and their countries of origin via land expulsions and expulsion flights.
- » Restore access to asylum at ports of entry, so that individuals can approach a port of entry and request protection and other relief from inside the United States.
- » Refrain from pressuring Mexico to increase enforcement by immigration and security forces or implementing new visa restrictions for nationalities arriving in large numbers. Focus the [Collaborative Migration Management Strategy](#) (CMMS) on expanding access to protection in the region and complementary pathways to protection, without sacrificing access to asylum at the US southern border.
- » Reverse the expansion and stop further implementation of RMX.
- » Release monthly Customs and Border Protection (CBP) data that is disaggregated by gender on encounters, expulsions, returns under RMX, and other statistics relating to US asylum processing.

Recommendations for the Mexican government

- » Allocate adequate funding to COMAR to decrease wait times, open more offices, and hire additional protection officers.
- » Reform the Mexican Refugee Law to allow people to continue their asylum procedures from different parts of the country where they have family and community networks, better employment opportunities, and safer conditions.
- » Ensure that women who have suffered or who remain in danger of violence in Mexico have access to relocation programs and services where they can safely wait for their asylum process.
- » Expedite humanitarian visitor cards for asylum seekers, victims and witnesses of crimes, migrant children, and other vulnerable populations.
- » Refuse to collaborate with the US government on the implementation of policies such as Title 42 and RMX that violate US, Mexican, and international law.¹²
- » Eliminate the use of the National Guard and all armed forces in migration enforcement in compliance with the Mexican Constitution and international law.
- » Eliminate unconstitutional internal enforcement revisions and checkpoints that result in illegal racial profiling.
- » Rescind the provision that requires foreigners to show proof of migration status to purchase a bus ticket in Mexico.
- » Ensure access to public education for all migrant and refugee children.
- » Ensure access to health services for migrant and refugee women and girls, especially reproductive health services.

¹² Mexican organizations have pending litigation and complaints with the National Human Rights Commission against the bus travel restrictions, Mexico's participation in Remain in Mexico 1.0 and Remain in Mexico 2.0, Mexico's implementation of internal Title 42 expulsion flights, discriminatory enforcement practices at internal checkpoints, and the participation of the National Guard in migration enforcement. For additional information about the lawsuits: 1. [RMX 1.0 \(Instituto para las Mujeres en la Migración \(IMUMI\), A.C. vs. SEGOB, SRE, INM, INMUJERES\) - Mexican Supreme Court - 302/2020](#). 2. [RMX2 - Mexico City District Court - exp. 1887/2021](#) 3. [Tit. 42 Expulsions - Mexico City Circuit Court - 153/2021](#). 4. [Bus Travel Migration Status Restriction - Mexico City District Court - 1647/21](#) 5. [Discriminatory Migration Enforcement Practices - Mexican Supreme Court \(E, A y J VM vs. INM, Cámara de Diputados y otros\) -- 275/2019](#) 6. [National Guard Participation in Migration Enforcement -- \(Gretchen Louise Kuhner Vs. Congreso de la Unión y Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos\), Mexican Supreme Court, 73/2020](#).

- » Increase access to housing for asylum seekers through ongoing support to civil society shelters, including safe spaces for vulnerable groups such as women, families, and LGBTQI+ individuals.

Additional resources

- » [Analysis of Gender Violence: Women Seeking International Protection in Mexico](#), IMUMI, 2021.
- » [Asylum Denied: Remain in Mexico 2.0](#), Women's Refugee Commission, 2021.
- » [Dual Crises: Gender-Based Violence and Inequality Facing Children and Women During the COVID-19 Pandemic in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras](#), KIND, 2021.
- » [Pathways to Justice: Gender-Based Violence and the Rule of Law](#), Wilson Center, 2021.
- » [Center for Gender and Refugee Studies \(CGRS\) Publications](#).

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Women's Refugee Commission

The Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) improves the lives and protects the rights of women, children, and youth who have been displaced by conflict and crisis. We research their needs, identify solutions, and advocate for programs and policies to strengthen their resilience and drive change in humanitarian practice. Since our founding in 1989, we have been a leading expert on the needs of refugee women, children, and youth and the policies that can protect and empower them. womensrefugeecommission.org.

IMUMI

The Institute for Women in Migration, AC (IMUMI) is a civil society organization based in Mexico City that promotes the rights of women and their families in migration. IMUMI provides legal support to women and their families, collaborates with civil society organizations, academic institutions, and government bodies to ensure issues relevant to women are included in regional migration policy. imumi.org.