

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

### SUPPORTING REFUGEES IN A CHALLENGING NATIONAL CLIMATE – OCT 27

On Tuesday, October 27 at 2 PM EDT, Hello Neighbor Network will host a webinar to discuss the national climate and hear examples of some of the most innovative programs happening for refugees and immigrants in communities across the country. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

### SEPARATED: FAMILY AND COMMUNITY IN THE AFTERMATH OF AN IMMIGRATION RAID – OCT 29

On Thursday, October 29 at 4PM EDT, the Institute for Research on Women and Gender (IRWG) will host a webinar discussing immigration raids. The discussion will center around the chaos of immigration enforcement through the lens of community health and deportation's rippling negative effects on families, communities, and individuals. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

### IMMIGRATION AND EPIDEMICS: AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE – OCT 30

On Friday, October 30 at 12 PM EDT, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) will host a webinar presenting a historical perspective on the links between public health crises, especially epidemics, American immigration policy, and the American public's xenophobic fears. The speaker will be Alan M. Kraut, Distinguished Professor of History at American University in Washington, D.C. For more information and to register, click [here](#).



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## United States Issue Updates

### • SCOTUS to Take Cases on Border Wall and MPP

On Monday, October 19, the Supreme Court of the United States granted certiorari in the cases *Trump v. Sierra Club* and *Wolf v. Innovation Law Lab*, which concern the border wall and the so-called Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) program. *Trump v. Sierra Club* concerns the reallocation of money by the Administration to fund construction of the border wall, after Congress declined to provide money for that purpose in the appropriations process. The Ninth Circuit enjoined the Administration from using money to pay for the border wall, but the Supreme Court stayed that ruling in July. *Wolf v. Innovation Law Lab* concerns MPP, also known as “Remain in Mexico,” in which asylum seekers can be forced to wait outside the country while their cases are pending. The Ninth Circuit ruled against the Administration in *Wolf v. Innovation Law Lab* in February, but the Supreme Court stayed the Ninth Circuit’s ruling in March.

### • United States Still Has Not Reunited 545 Children Forcibly Separated from Parents in 2017

On Tuesday, October 20, filings in the Southern District of California revealed that the U.S. government failed to reunite 545 children who were separated from their parents as part of a trial of its family separation policy in 2017. The case is *Ms. L vs. United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement*. Thousands of families were broken up under the so-called “zero tolerance” policy before the policy was ended in 2018. This filing concerned only the approximately 1000 families separated prior to the roll out of the official policy. The 545 children include 283 children whose parents have not been found, 187 whose parents have been identified but for whom contact information is insufficient, and 75 whose parents have not yet been contacted but whom the court expects to reach soon. Read the filing [here](#).

## United States Issue Updates (cont'd)

### • CA Court Blocks Administration Attempt to Exclude Undocumented Immigrants from Census Count

On Thursday, October 22, a three-judge panel for the Northern District of California declared that President Trump may not order the Census to exclude undocumented immigrants from its count. President Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum in July. The court wrote that “The policy which the Presidential Memorandum attempts to enact has already been rejected by the Constitution, the applicable statutes, and 230 years of history.” The Supreme Court is already set to hear arguments on November 30 for a similar case from a New York District Court, which blocked the Memorandum on statutory grounds. Read the Northern District of California Court’s ruling [here](#).

### • Administration Publishes Rule on Criminal Bars to Asylum

On Wednesday, October 21, the Trump Administration published the final version of its proposed Rule “Procedures for Asylum and Bars to Asylum Eligibility.” The new rules drastically tighten asylum eligibility for individuals who have minor criminal convictions, including use of fake IDs or false identity documents. The rule also prohibits a grant of asylum to any immigrant whom an asylum officer “knows or has reason to believe” engaged in certain acts of harm to others, regardless of severity, and without need for a conviction. The rule takes effect 30 days from its official publication, and will come into force on November 20, 2020. Read the rule [here](#).

## Around the World in International Migration

### • Undocumented Migrants Found in Shipping Container in Paraguay

On October 24, officials in Paraguay found the bodies of seven undocumented migrants in a shipping container of fertilizer. The container originated from Serbia and had travelled through Croatia – believed to be the migrants’ planned destination – before going through Egypt, Spain, and Argentina en route to Paraguay. The migrants were mostly from North Africa and all male. In response to the incident, Marcelo Saldivar stated that, “We assume that they arrived there from their country of origin and had planned to travel to a nearer destination but they did not calculate the distance well and did not survive the trip.” Migrant smuggling routes into and throughout the Western Balkans are common, with [Frontex](#) recording 14,215 illegal border crossings in the subregion in 2020 alone.

# Around the World in International Migration (cont'd)

## • China Warns Canada not to Provide Asylum to Hong Kong Pro-Democracy Protesters

On October 15, the government of China issued an official warning to Canada, stating that it should not grant political asylum to Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters, labeling them violent criminals and saying the action would constitute interference in China's internal affairs. The Chinese Ambassador to Canada stated that, "if the Canadian side really cares about the stability and the prosperity in Hong Kong, and really cares about the good health and safety of those 300,000 Canadian passport-holders in Hong Kong, and the large number of Canadian companies operating in Hong Kong SAR (Special Administrative Region), you should support those efforts to fight violent crimes." Canada rejected the warning, and "made clear in no uncertain terms that Canada will always stand up for human rights and the rights of Canadians around the world."

## • Additional Refugees Relocated from Greece to Germany

On October 22, the German city of Hanover accepted 104 recognized refugees, including 27 unaccompanied minors and 17 sick children and their families, as the latest arrival in the European Union's (EU) COVID-19 related relocation plan. Thus far, the German government has accepted 1,553 additional migrants from Greece in the wake of the fire that destroyed the Moria migrant camp in early September.

## • European Union Border Force Accused of Involvement in Illegal Anti-Refugee Scheme

On October 23, a group of German news agencies released a report showing evidence that the EU's border force, Frontex, was aware, and even complicit in Greece's scheme to block refugees from landing in the country. In September, reports of Greece forcing migrant boats to return to Turkey surfaced, with Frontex stating they had no knowledge of the scheme. Yet, the report's findings appear to demonstrate a degree of complicity, ranging from direct participation by Frontex vessels to failure to rescue people from boats in distress and a systematic failure of the agency's internal system for reporting human rights violations.

# Whispers from Washington

## *Current Capitol Hill Considerations*

### Senators Seek to Repeal 222-Year Old Immigration Legislation

On October 21, Senator Hirono (D-HI) introduced the Neighbors Not Enemies Act ([S. 4837](#)), which fully repeals the Alien Enemies Act of 1798. The 1798 laws were signed into law by John Adams and known collectively as the "Alien and Sedition Acts." While three of the acts have since expired or been repealed, the Alien Enemies Act (AEA) remains in effect to this day. Under the AEA, the President of the United States is given the power to apprehend, restrain, secure, and remove foreign nationals without due process while America is at war.

During World War II, the government used the act to identify and imprison "enemy aliens" from Germany, Japan, and Italy. After the war, those imprisoned as enemy aliens were deported to their home countries. In 1948, the U.S. Supreme Court determined that presidential powers under the AEA continued after cessation of hostilities until the signing of a formal peace treaty with a former enemy nation.

Recently, the Muslim bans have redirected focus back to the legitimacy of the AEA and its scope. The legislation to repeal the Act has been referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary and it is unclear whether it will be voted on soon.

# Global Gigabyte

In response to COVID-19, in rural Sierra Leone, teenagers tuned into solar-powered radios for their lessons, while Kenyan students texted a code to receive free learning guides on their phones.

As COVID-19 shut Africa's schools, governments and charities rushed to make learning accessible to millions of pupils without internet or even electricity, sparking innovations that could keep children learning long after the pandemic has passed.

In areas of the continent that experience conflict and other difficulties, many children lack adequate education. Even as children now return to classrooms, many of the initiatives are set to continue for vulnerable children who struggle to attend school due to poverty or conflict.

In many countries, while distance learning cannot replace school, it will now be the go-to solution any time education is disrupted.

Read more [here](#).

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