

New Yorker reports on “safe-third-countries” debate, ignores elephant in the room

July 24, by Grahame Russell

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/the-new-yorker-looks-critically-at-the-safe-third-countries-debate-in-the-forced-migrancy-refugee-crisis-at-the-us-border>

Yet another moving article about the plight of 100s of 1000s of forced migrants and refugees from Central America, mainly Guatemala and Honduras. Yet another article that fails to explain how the U.S. government, military and businesses - going back decades - have maintained full and beneficial economic and military relations with the corrupt, repressive, exploitative regimes in power in Honduras and Guatemala, directly helping cause the crisis situation of forced migrancy and refugee flight.

Full article: Trump Is Poised to Sign a Radical Agreement to Send Future Asylum Seekers to Guatemala, By [Jonathan Blitzer](#), July 12, 2019
<https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/trump-poised-to-sign-a-radical-agreement-to-send-future-asylum-seekers-to-guatemala>

Jonathan Blitzer correctly identifies some obvious problems with U.S. pressures to have Guatemala and Mexico legally declared “safe-third-countries”, so as to allegedly block the arrival of asylum seekers to the southern border of the U.S.

Yet, the fundamental underlying issue is that there will be no resolution to the Central American forced migrancy/ refugee crisis – that has been going on, varyingly, for decades, spiking again in recent years – until there are serious reforms of the exploitative and violent, racist and corrupt economic and land-holding systems kept in place in Honduras and Guatemala by repressive, anti-democratic governments in direct partnership with the U.S., Canada and key EU countries, with the World Bank, IMF and Inter-American Development Bank, and with multi-national companies in the sectors of mining, oil and gas, production of for-export food products, tourism, garment “sweatshop” industry, etc.

No matter how many ‘immigration’ forces are armed, no matter how many walls built, no matter how many forced migrant jails filled to over-flowing, humans will always flee violence and destitution, repression and corruption.

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Rights Action

Since 1995, Rights Action funds human rights, environment and territory defense struggles and projects in Guatemala and Honduras; funds victims of repression, human

rights violations, health harms and natural disasters; and works to hold accountable the U.S. and Canadian governments, multi-national companies, investors and banks (World Bank, etc.) that help cause and profit from repression and human rights violations, environmental harms and forced evictions, corruption and impunity in Honduras and Guatemala.

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