

Presentation

Studies on Mexico-U.S. international migration as well as its interpretations have changed over time. At present, they focus on deportations in the context of the recent political transition in the United States. Some authors express their concern due to the dramatic disintegration of the migratory system in the United States,¹ owing to the increasing deportation of illegal immigrants (those who are considered the unwanted), as of early 2000 this opened the road for increasingly restrictive migratory laws.²

The disintegration or separation between deported migrants and their families have a long history, which has varied over time, in Mexico, in the early XX century, the concern was the 1929 economic crisis. Such period was known as the era of hitching,³ conversely between 1929 and 1941, owing to its numbers, it was called the era of deportations.

Later on, the most resorted topic in migratory studies was the analysis of the Bracero Program, whose period comprehends from 1942 to 1964 and deportations were scantily studied. For the following years, from 1965 to 1985, studies focused on the undocumented migration that covered the

¹ The definition is the inverse of integration and the operative definition on deported migrants includes individuals returned by the American border patrol, which become approaching and/or distancing (separation or fragmentation of families) but in this case distancing is forced. This is to say, deportation is an excluding process that disintegrates the concentration of migrants in the American society and creates ethnic, racial and class tensions which turn them into uninvited guests. See Luciano Gallino, *Diccionario de Sociología*, available at <https://books.google.com.mx>. Also Mónica Vereá, 2003, *Migración temporal en América del Norte: propuestas y respuestas*, available at <https://books.google.com.mx>. Other authors state that foreigners have become subjects in a complex terrain of exclusions and inclusions, contention and accommodation, privations and affiliations. In this case, deportation is an indicator of the “disintegration” that seriously contradicts the discursive emphasis on diversity and labor rights the American courts state agencies make. While concerns on security lead to measures that constrain the migrants’ scope of activity, labeling them as *de facto* Muslims, thereby dangerous. See Levent Soysal, undated, *Un recuento de la migración turca en y hacia Europa: pasado, presente y futuros*, available at <http://rimd.reduaz.mx>.

² See Rodolfo Tuirán and José Luís Ávila, 2010, “La migración México Estados Unidos 1940-2010”, in Francisco Alba, Manuel Ángel Castillo, Gustavo Verduzco, *Los grandes problemas de México. Migraciones internacionales. T-III*, available at <https://books.google.com.mx>.

³ “The hitching system consisted in giving the worker an advanced payment of their salary in cash and then make them pay with work. After the initial payment, debt increased with transportation, accommodation and food, until they arrived to the destination, but the promises of good payments and acceptable labor conditions soon vanished”. See Durand, Jorge, and Patricia Arias, 2000, *La experiencia migrante: iconografía de la migración México-Estados Unidos*, Altext, Mexico.

demand for poorly trained workers in various sectors of the American economy. In 1986, research to understand the regularization process by means of *Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA)*⁴ began, but by the end of the 1980's migration was analyzed in the context of the economic crises and in the 1990's the change of the migration profile was underscored in the context of globalization and trade openness, which some recognized as the new era of migration of the phase of contradiction. In this context, the American unilateral policy was analyzed, while in Mexico the policy of not making policy prevailed.

Early in the XXI century, the generalization of migration and its diversification by origin and destination. At the same time, there was work on the restrictive policies started in 2001 under the concept of homeland security. Then, research revolved around the new migratory patterns and the 2008 economic crisis, as well as voluntary return migration and with little attention to deportations from the United States;⁵ however, it is in this period when the largest deportations in the history of our relation with the United States took place. For instance, Bush's administration deported 2.2 million immigrants and in Barack Obama's it reached 2.8 million people.⁶

Nowadays, the media in both countries, American and Mexican governments, the academia and a myriad of social actors describe and have an opinion about the mass generalization of deportations since Donald Trump won the presidential election. The argument of this presidency is to deport and stigmatize migrants at once, as undesirable people, criminals and numberless adjectives that marginalize, exclude and segregate them under xenophobic and racist comments.

The economic argumentation in the United States is that migrants displace American workers from their workplace and so order has to be established. Even though there is a large amount of researches that demonstrate the contrary and the reason for the loss of employment is due to the increase in the use of robot technology in various production areas in the American companies and that is accompanied by the political argument of homeland security to justify the construction of the wall.

⁴ See Douglas s. Massey, Jorge Durand and Nolan J. Malone, 2009, "Detrás de la trama. Políticas migratorias entre México y Estados Unidos, México", Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas/ Miguel Ángel Porrúa.

⁵ See Douglas S. Massey, Karen A. Pren and Jorge Durand, 2009, "Nuevos escenarios de la migración México-Estados Unidos. Las consecuencias de la guerra antiinmigrante" in *Papeles de población* vol. 15 núm. 61 Toluca, available at http://www.scielo.org.mx/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1405-74252009000300006

⁶ See *Official Website of the Department of Homeland Security*, <https://www.ice.gov/>

On the Mexican side, as usual, the migratory policy is that of not making policy. This is to say, pretending it supports the migrants by saying the following "... the Mexican government will act on behalf of all Mexicans by all juridical means possible to defend the human rights of migrants abroad, particularly in the United States".⁷

This dimension of the Mexican migratory system puts the governmental institutions to the test in the way of creating a policy for voluntary returnees and deportees. Policies and programs that focus on reinsertion if the migrant was born in Mexico, and insertion and/or economic, social, political and cultural integration for those newly arrived in the states and communities in our country. But at the same time it is a challenge for scientific research to think of Mexico's new international migratory system.

As it is tradition, this number *Papeles de POBLACIÓN* offers a section on migration that deals with integration and relations; the migratory return between Spain and Ecuador; health care expenses and monetary remittances, remigration of American children living in Mexico, as well as internal mobility in the central region of the country.

Furthermore, there are sections that deal with metropolitan management, indigenous households and intergenerational distance. As usual, we expect these texts accomplish their goals: their scientific contributions to demography and that their hypotheses are test object in other contexts of the world or the country.

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⁷ See in "EU asegura que no habrá deportaciones masivas; SRE dice que solo recibirá a mexicanos", available at <http://www.animalpolitico.com/2017/02/trump-mexico-deportaciones/>