

Luis Videgaray
Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs
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Delegación Cuauhtémoc, 06010 CDMX
Mexico City, Mexico

Noordwijk, the Netherlands, September 2018

Dear Foreign Minister,

It has come to my attention that the US and Mexico are considering declaring Mexico a "safe third country". The US government has repeatedly tried to outsource its international responsibility in terms of protecting refugees and asylum seekers to the Mexican government, which has an already overwhelmed and flawed asylum system.

A "safe third country" agreement would block all asylum seekers passing through Mexico from seeking protection in the US. This would put thousands of people at risk as your government is routinely failing to meet its treaty obligations under international law to protect those in need of international protection. In particular, your government is repeatedly violating the non-refoulement principle by returning Central American irregular migrants to life-threatening situations in their countries of origin.

I therefore urge you to not to sign the agreement with the US.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I am kindly awaiting your reply.

Yours sincerely,