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TECMUN Jr.

United Nations Human
Rights Council

“To the youngsters of today, I say believe in the future. Why, would you believe it, when I was a kid I thought it was already too late for me to be good at anything.”

Walt Disney
Delegates,

Dear

I stand before all of you four years after my first ever participation in a Model United Nations—which just so happened to be TECMUN Jr. These last years have meant an incredible amount of personal growth and a lot of learning experiences for me, none of which would have been possible had I not dared to step into that high school classroom on that gloomy October morning and face an entirely new experience that I had never even dreamed of before. Saying that TECMUN entirely changed my life would be an understatement. The event itself and all of the doors that it soon opened for me allowed me to meet new people, face fears I didn't even know I had, and develop an endless amount of skills that have allowed me to develop myself in a better way in social situations, which truly comes in handy in all aspects of life. And now, dear delegates, it is time for your own learning story to begin.

Whether you are completely new to this kind of experience like I was back then, or a multiple award-winning delegate who is already perfectly capable of debating in the real United Nations, there is always something to be taken away from an event such as this. Maybe it's awareness about an international issue you didn't know of before. Or maybe it's a new friend. Or maybe it's something as simple as learning an English word you didn't know the meaning of. Whatever it is, Models like TECMUN will always have an impact on you. Even if you cannot see it as it happens, this experience will change you for the better. Have you been forced by your school to come here? Are you struggling to find a reason to be here given that your dream job has nothing to do with international relations? Are you scared of this new experience? Live through it anyways. Sooner or later, you will realize that there are very few instances in life in which you can openly express your ideas in an environment full of people similar to you, and that even if you don't wish to be a diplomat when you grow up, you have learned something that has turned you into a more complete person. The two main things I ask of you is to the enjoy the experience while it lasts, and be as creative as you can to craft resolutions. There's a reason why Model UNs are so popular. It's because young people like us are not afraid to think out of the box and see the world in a way in which adults cannot see it anymore. Delegates, embrace your youth; and off you go to create a great, big and beautiful tomorrow.

Dante Uriel Pineda Cortés

President of the United Nations Human Rights Council

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Outline of the United Nations

Human Rights Council

The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) was conceived on March 15th, 2006 by the General Assembly via the resolution A/RES/60/251. It is an intergovernmental body within the United Nations made up of forty-seven United Nations Member States elected by the General Assembly. When the Council was introduced, it replaced the former United Nations Commission on Human Rights, which ceased operations on March 27th, 2006. The Human Rights Council serves as a forum for peaceful international dialogue on thematic issues on all human rights, and is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the world without distinction of any kind, in a fair and equal manner. This Council is also responsible for addressing situations of human rights violations and making recommendations on them. All of this is, while being guided by the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, highlighting values of international dialogue and cooperation.

Topic A

The current state of offsprings of illegal immigrants known as “Dreamers” in the United States of America

By: Dante Uriel Pineda Cortés

Introduction

It is estimated that the United States of America has a population of over 12.5 million undocumented immigrants living within its borders. Out of those, approximately 800,000 range between the ages of 15 and 36, were taken into the country as young children, and lack a formal or legal immigration status. These immigrants received the name “Dreamers” when the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors act (hereby referred to as DREAM) was first proposed to the American Congress in 2001. Said act would have granted certain Dreamers full legal citizenship, yet was never officially implemented. For the last few years, their human rights have been protected by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy (hereby referred to as DACA) instead, a program which came into force in the year 2012 under the administration of President Barack Obama. The DACA program assured its beneficiaries an access to a complete education, a college degree, a job, and full protection from deportation, so long as these were willing to undergo a life free of crime and showed to be fully committed to American values.

However, under the administration of current American president Donald J. Trump, the DACA program has faced a very strong backlash and has been close to repealing several times. During said administration, the program has constantly been under jeopardy and is continued to be discussed; yet as of June 2018, it has not been fully phased out. While many attempts have been made by various factions of the democratic party to either save the program or replace it with a revised version of the previously established DREAM act, the situation of Dreamers is unclear and continues to affect their human rights. If the DACA program was fully terminated, hundreds of thousands of immigrants would be left with no legal backing that protects them against violations of some of their basic human rights, leaving them all in a legal vacuum once again.

The DACA program

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy was officially established on June 15th, 2012, and it came into action on that same day. Announced by Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano and confirmed by President Barack Obama later that day, DACA was initially rejected by the American Congress, which had been openly against a program of its sort in multiple occasions before, such as when it came to the DREAM act.

Regardless of the Congress’ stand, the program was accepted, much to the contentment of thousands of immigrants who would soon be benefited from it. The DACA program came

at a time of rapid increase of the population of undocumented immigrants in the United States, a time which also saw a rise of the amount of immigrants graduating from American high schools—young immigrants who would soon need to apply for a college or university, for which they would, in most of the cases, require a legal migratory status. Spoke president Obama on the day the program was declared, “It makes no sense to expel talented young people who, for all intents and purposes are Americans; they’ve been raised as Americans, understand themselves to be part of this country.” (*Obama, 2012*).

Applications for the program began being accepted on August 15th, 2012, a month after its establishment, and the requirements for a person’s admittance into it were set to be:

- Having arrived to the United States previous to their sixteenth birthday;
- Being under age 31;
- Having continuously resided in the United States since at least June 15th, 2007;
- Being currently attending a school within the United States, having obtained a General Educational Development Certificate, or being a veteran of the American Coast Guard or Armed Forces.

Additionally, applicants would be deemed ineligible had they committed a felony or a significant misdemeanor.

The DACA program immediately granted its participants active deferred action against deportation and eligibility for a work permit for two years, after which it would have to be renewed. Said was the main difference that the newly-established program had with the DREAM act, which had been rejected for years—whilst the latter would have granted applicants a permanent lawful citizenship, DACA required a renewal within a two-year time frame, requiring its beneficiaries to maintain a consistent profile as American citizens, remaining loyal to the American values that the program sought.

The Human Rights of Dreamers

Dreamers, most of whom originate from Latin American and Caribbean countries, and mainly Mexico, were taken into the United States illegally as very young children, and in most occasions, even unbeknownst to them. The DACA program grants them a nationality to which they would not be legally accredited otherwise, a situation which would be a direct violation of Article 15 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human rights, which establishes that all people on Earth have the right to a nationality. A condition of statelessness normally forbids undocumented immigrants from the ability to actively participate in the decisions taken

within the country that they are established in, as well as certain public services that require an official citizenship to be acquired.

By providing deferred action against deportation, DACA also ensures the protection of Article 9, which declares that no person shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile. Immigrants who are deported often go through situations of violence and abusive treatment, behavior that the Human Rights Declaration is also firmly against. As it stood before the conception of DACA, American immigration law was fully capable of completely changing countless children's lives for the worse in a matter of hours solely based on an irresponsible action carried out by their parents. As commented on by president Obama on the day the program was announced, expelling young people simply because of actions committed by their parents or because of the inaction of politicians is simply unacceptable (*Obama, 2012*). Said actions contradicted Article 2 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that children should be protected against all forms of punishment based off the status or activities of their parents or guardians.

Previous to the implementation of the DACA program, very few undocumented immigrants were guaranteed an access to education past the point of a high school graduation, given that many colleges and universities in the United States require its applicants to count with a resolved legal status. As such, many students were not able to fully exercise their human right to education as dictated by Article 26 of the Declaration of Human Rights. DACA thus protects hundreds of thousands of people, and mainly children, from situations that could otherwise jeopardize their human rights.

Proposed expansion and backlash

By 2014, DACA stood as one of the most successful programs ever conceived by the American government, and as a consequence, President Obama sought to expand upon it. Thus, in November of said year, his administration drafted a plan to make the program more inclusive and be able to reach more undocumented immigrants, other than those who had been considered for application previously. As such, on November 20th, under the 2014 Executive Action on Immigration declaration, an expansion for DACA was announced by the Department of Homeland Security, along with another possible program which did not fall through, either, under the name Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA). Said proposed expansion would allow people older than the previously established age of thirty-one to apply for the program, and include undocumented immigrants who entered

the program until up to the year 2010, as opposed to 2007. It is estimated that over three hundred thousand additional people would become eligible if DACA did undergo this transformation. According to the American Immigration Office, the expansion would begin on February 18th, 2015.

Various states agreed to the implementation of an expanded program and showed immediate support towards it. Applications for the expanded version of DACA were open for a very short timeframe, and few if any people were accepted into it. However, many politicians and various courts already considered the program unconstitutional enough as it was, and found expanding it to be a very negative move on the Obama administration's part. The proposed expansion suffered major backlash as soon as it was announced, and president Obama was urged to take it back. As such, the draft was scrapped and the program remained as it was.

The backlash received by the suggested expansion of the DACA program served as a window into the troubled political landscape and the polarized views on undocumented immigration that the United States was undergoing at the time. To many politicians, the expansion represented the last straw when it came to President Obama's immigration policy. Such a controversial political climate and the dawn of a heated discussion regarding illegal immigration would continue to beset country for the following years, influencing many Americans and their personal views on undocumented immigrants.

DACA under the Trump administration

On June 16th, 2018, American businessman Donald J. Trump announced his candidacy for the position of President of the United States with a rally and a speech in the Trump Tower, the headquarters of the Trump Organization, in New York City. Since the very early stages of his campaign, and under the slogan "Make America Great Again", Donald Trump drew a lot of public attention towards issues related to illegal immigration into the United States, and constantly questioned the already controversial DACA program, making it one of his main campaign promises to completely phase out the program if he did become the president. Despite a controversial campaign, Donald Trump was elected president of the United States on November 8th, 2016, and was officially sworn in on January 20th, 2017, immediately getting to work on fulfilling a vast amount of the promises he had made to his voters.

On September 5th, 2017, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that the Trump administration would soon be rescinding the DACA program. However, the American

Congress was given a six month timeframe to elaborate a suitable alternative to it. Having March 5th, 2018 being set as an expiration date for the program, American lawmakers soon found themselves in a rush to pass a new bill to protect the rights of Dreamers. A few hours after the repealing was announced, applications for DACA stopped being accepted entirely; and in the months that followed, many work permits allowed thanks to the program started to expire, leaving the lifestyle of hundreds of Dreamers in jeopardy. Many courts around the country decided to slow down the process of repealing by still allowing various citizens to apply for renewals, and in several cases, even filing lawsuits against the repeal, continuing to support the program the way they had been doing since it was first announced. However, without support from the Supreme Court, DACA was destined to face the same fate as other bills previously outlawed by the Trump administration, becoming weaker as the months went by until completely phased out and rejected.

By March 5th, 2018, the date which had initially been announced as the day DACA would officially come to an end, however, the Supreme Court of the United States had extended the deadline upon which a new bill had to be passed to replace the program. On February 26th, the decision was announced to continue protecting Dreamers from deportation while a more permanent and well-established solution to the problem is crafted and DACA is ruled out entirely—a process which is, as of June 2018, still ongoing and expected to be completed by fall. There is currently no definitive word on whether the program will remain, will be phased out, or will be replaced partially, nor is there a set date for the definitive end of negotiations on the creation of a suitable replacement.

The current state of the DACA program

As of June 2018, the program, which was set to end on March 5th, has not been repealed entirely, but is loosely hanging by a thread. Despite having a variety of possible responses to the repeal, such as, mainly, the reworking of the DREAM Act, the American Congress has not yet given a definitive solution to the current situation of Dreamers, all of whom have found themselves in a complicated condition in which their own government seems to dismiss some of their basic human rights as unimportant. With the end of DACA still being discussed, yet always dangerously close, Dreamers remain in a state of uncertainty which is, for the most part, staying unnoticed by the American government. If the DACA program was to be completely phased out by the Congress with no suitable replacement established beforehand, the customs

and, in some given cases, even the lives of thousands of young Dreamers could be at risk. The program faces a lot of legal challenges, yet also counts with a wide range of support from a variety of different people and organizations. Even if DACA was repealed by the American Congress, young undocumented immigrants would still count with a great amount of reassurance and encouragement to continue to demand their human rights, the way they have done for decades; yet with no political support, little action can be actually be taken to protect undocumented immigrants from deportation and the violation of some of their basic human rights.

In general, undocumented immigrants in the United States currently face a complicated situation and have found themselves, now more than ever, in the brink of a humanitarian crisis. Whether in the form of undocumented families being separated at the border between Mexico and the United States or teenage Dreamers facing an uncertain situation regarding the future of their education, it is a tough time for immigrants all around the country; and as such, taking into account the slow pace that the government of the United States of America has had when it comes to finding an appropriate and effective way to solve the issue and the poor approach that it has taken at attempting to satisfy the recipients of the DACA program, the international community is now being exhorted to find suggestions for the United States to take into consideration and hopefully create a brighter future for Dreamers of all backgrounds, all over the country.

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Glossary

B

Backlash: A strong adverse reaction to a recent political or social development.

Beneficiary: A person thing that receives help or an advantage from something.

C

Citizenship: The status of being a citizen.

D

Deferred Action: Immigration status granted by the government of the United States of America which allows for an indefinite delay of deportation of illegal immigrants.

Deportation: The removal from a country of an alien whose presence is unlawful or prejudicial.

Displacement: The act or processes of displacing—removing a person from an office, a status, or a job.

Draft: A preliminary sketch, outline, or version of something.

F

Forbidden: Not permitted or allowed.

G

Granting: To permit a right, privilege, or favor to a person.

H

Human Right: Universal legal guarantee protecting individuals and groups against actions which interfere with fundamental freedoms and human dignity.

I

Immigrant: A person who comes into a country to take up residence, whether temporary or permanent.

Impartiality: Not partial or biased; treating or affecting all equally.

Issue: A vital or unsettled matter.

J

Jeopardy: Exposure or imminence of death, loss or injury.

L

Legal Vacuum: The absence of any law which addresses a determined issue.

M

Migrant: Any person who lives temporarily or permanently in a country where he or she was not born, and has acquired some significant social ties to this country.

Misdemeanor: A crime less serious than a felony.

N

Nationality: A national status; specifically; a legal relationship involving allegiance on the part of an individual and usually protection on the part of the state.

Naturalization: To confer the rights of a national on; especially, to admit to citizenship.

O

Objectivity: Lack of favoritism towards one side or another.

P

Phasing Out: A gradual stopping of operations or production.

R

Relief: The removal or lightening of something oppressive, painful, or distressing.

Repealing: To rescind or annul by authoritative act; especially, to revoke or abrogate by legislative enactment

S

Safeguard: A precautionary measure, stipulation, or device

T

Time frame: A period of time, especially with respect to some action or project.

U

Unbeknownst: Happening or existing without the knowledge of someone specified.

Unconstitutional: Not according to or consistent with the constitution of a political body, such as a nation.

Topic B

Measures to address the condition of statelessness of migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean

By: Dante Uriel Pineda Cortés

Introduction

According to article 15 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all people have a right to a nationality and cannot be deprived from said right by any state, nor for any reason. However, there are many cases all around the world in which people traveling from a country to another are denied citizenships and excluded from various public practices such as access to education, basic health services, and an active political life, among others. The condition that these people undergo is known as statelessness. People fleeing countries for various different reasons are often left stateless and in a complicated situation in which they have no legal protection, no assured human rights, and no capability of registering any kids that might be born in this country. Basic rights such as the rights to social security, equality and recognition under law, public hearing, education, and free choice of employment, are often violated when a person is declared as stateless. It is estimated that there are between 12 and 15 million stateless people all over the globe.

One of the regions of the world in which this issue is very common is Latin America, and, specifically, Haitian migrants are the most widely affected. Millions of children of Haitian immigrants in countries such as The Bahamas and the Dominican Republic have been denied citizenships by the governments of these countries, leaving them in a situation of statelessness which goes against the human right to a nationality, a right that no human being should ever be without, no matter their condition. To many Latin American migrants, statelessness represents deprivation from human rights while stranded in countries different to their own. In the face of this serious condition that Latin American and Caribbean immigrants have found themselves in, the international community is currently calling upon the support of and collaboration among the international community in order to find a solution to this issue, all within the legal framework established by each individual country.

The stateless condition of American migrants

Latin American and Caribbean countries have a relatively small amount of stateless migrants residing within them when compared to countries from regions such as Africa or South Asia, given mainly the fact that many Latin American countries grant citizenships to all refugees that arrive in them. Brazil, for instance, stands as the most progressive country in this regard, having recognized this issue since its early stages and thus having revised its constitution to rectify said situation. Since the year 2011, over 200,000 foreign children were allowed to become

Brazilian citizens by signing up in various Brazilian consulate. It is estimated that as of 2017, there were only between a thousand and three thousand stateless people left in Brazil. However, despite the joined efforts made by several countries, statelessness is still a serious and relatively recently developed issue in the region, one that is faced by thousands of migrants and needs to be addressed.

In all of the Americas, people of Colombian and Haitian origins are those of most concern, those that count with the highest indexes of statelessness. It is estimated that over one million Haitian immigrants currently reside in the Dominican Republic, yet their children are most of the time denied citizenships and excluded from public services, both of which constitute a violation of their human rights. Along with the Dominican Republic, the Bahamas and other small countries in the Caribbean have the strictest and most restrictive laws in the region regarding the granting of citizenships to immigrants. However, the issue is not only faced in the Caribbean, but also has a strong impact on some major Latin American countries. For instance, undocumented Colombian immigrants are not allowed to have their children registered in Venezuela and Panama, and count with no legal protection whatsoever in Ecuador. When said countries do open their borders to immigrants and allow them to obtain a citizenship, they do so with rather extreme and thorough measures, asking for meticulous requirements and allowing very few, if any at all, immigrants to become permanent citizens. Countries such as Costa Rica and Mexico are among those that receive and welcome a higher number of foreigners as legal citizens, yet still have strict laws regarding the issue.

Global Campaign to end statelessness

Since the year 2014, one of the main initiatives entirely dedicated to the eradication of statelessness around the world is the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)'s Global Action Plan to end statelessness. Signed on November 4th of said year, it established a list of ten actions to be taken by all nations of the world in order to reduce the global indexes of statelessness in a significant way along a span of ten years, with milestones set in the years 2017 and 2020. These ten major actions were listed with three main goals in mind: solving already existing conditions of statelessness, preventing emerging stateless crises, and improving the efforts being made to protect stateless people and ensure the safeguard of their human rights. The actions, as they appear in the plan, are;

- Resolving existing major situations of statelessness,

- Ensuring that no child is born stateless,
- Removing gender discrimination from nationality laws,
- Preventing denial, loss or deprivation of nationality on discriminatory grounds
- Preventing statelessness in cases of State succession,
- Granting protection status to stateless migrants and facilitate their naturalization,
- Ensuring birth registration for the prevention of statelessness,
- Issuing nationality documentation to those with entitlement to it,
- Acceding to the UN Statelessness Conventions, and,
- Improving both quantitative and qualitative data on stateless populations.

All countries that agreed upon the campaign are encouraged to undertake at least one of the established actions via mainly the creation or improvement of National Action Plans, to which the United Nations is compromised to collaborate.

The Brazil Declaration and Plan of Action

On December 3rd, 2014, the representatives of 28 countries and three territories from Latin America and the Caribbean got together in Brasilia to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees of 1984. By the end of the convention, a brand new plan to tackle the situation of statelessness, along with various other migration-related issues, all over Latin America and the Caribbean had been adopted by all participating states: the Declaration and Plan of Action of Brasilia, a 19 page-long compromise which was established as “A framework for cooperation and regional solidarity to strengthen the international protection of refugees, displaced and stateless persons in Latin America and the Caribbean” (UNHCR, 2014), in which all signing countries agreed to work together with the goal of achieving higher levels of protection for migrants in the region and implementing effective solutions for problems regarding the condition of refugees and displaced people all over the region. Among its many goals, the plan calls upon all participating states to put a definitive end to statelessness by the year 2024.

Previous to the convention, at least one bill had already been drafted by the Brazilian government to improve upon the condition of stateless immigrants, namely by proposing the granting of visas after an immigrant had been living in the country after four years. Many of the proposals which were written as a part of the drafted bill were eventually re-worked and expanded upon in order to become a part of the 2014 Declaration and Plan of Action.

In the declaration, the participating countries and territories, along with an array of non-governmental, civil society organizations, made a commitment to recognize and reinforce measures previously established by several individual countries in the region and highlighted the importance of eradicating statelessness in order to ensure a better humanitarian situation for migrants in all countries. The document establishes that cooperation among nations must be enforced in order to solve the humanitarian crisis that is currently being undergone by a wide number of migrants, particularly in the Caribbean, and proposes various different measures to involve the governments of all signing countries to approach immigration and statelessness in a more tolerating and empathetic way. The plan of action also designates the creation of 11 strategic programs in the region, which are to be monitored by the governments of the countries that they are to be established in.

Progress thus far

Upon the establishment of the Brazilian Declaration and Plan of Action in the year 2014, many of the participating countries reinforced their own previously-established programs as a part of the compromise to eradicate statelessness. By December of 2015, one year after the declaration was signed, most countries of the Latin American and Caribbean regions had also established brand new international protection measures and standards—which were soon incorporated into each country’s legislation, as well as various governmental bodies specifically meant to offer help to refugees. Some of the main examples include the international Quality Assurance Initiative (QAI), in which Brazil, Costa Rica and Panama took part, and the Mexican Commission for Refugee Help (COMAR).

Throughout the year 2015, a lot of progress was made in the Caribbean region, as well. Various laws on refugee protection were passed for the first time in the Turks and Caicos Islands and Trinidad and Tobago. A plan for a new refugee policy was also drafted in the island of Curaçao. Caribbean countries with already-established laws achieved feats, as well. For instance, on August of 2015, an Eligibility Commission accepted a group of Syrian refugees into the country of Antigua and Barbuda, being the first time in which this country ever accepted refugees from a continent other than America. All Syrians were soon granted a citizenship.

In Central America, countries with significant influxes of immigrants collaborated with similar Eligibility Committees, as well as with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to implement refugee policies and create refugee units to supervise the actions being carried out and ensure the protection of the human rights of all immigrants throughout the

entirety of the application and eligibility process. Another of the main breakthroughs in this region was the construction of new and the improvement of already existing shelters for deported migrants.

In countries such as Honduras and El Salvador, immigrant protection personnel underwent thorough training and steady workshops meant to improve their capacities for dealing with complex immigration issues; and along the border of Guatemala, a special United Nations task force was established to safeguard the security of migrants and refugees entering the country. Soon, many families that had been rendered stateless by the government that they were in became citizens of said countries and were granted full access to the wide array of the human rights that they were deprived from previously.

Programs in the works

Despite the fact that the Brazil Declaration has already seen a lot of progress made in the Latin American and Caribbean regions since the year 2014, some long-term solutions set by a number of the participating countries are yet to be completed. Countries such as Costa Rica and Ecuador created multi-year initiatives to ensure the healthy integration of previously-stateless immigrants into the country's culture and society, programs which have already benefited over six hundred families in both countries. In Costa Rica, for instance, the initiative received the name National Development Plan, and is still ongoing as of summer of 2018. It is set to finish and have its results reviewed by the end of 2018, and has already helped many families by providing them with the necessary skills to ensure a steady income in the new environment that they have found themselves in, further guaranteeing the foundation of a better and self-sustainable life quality for the families that have participated in the program, an element which is not always entirely assured when immigrant families get settled in new countries, especially in those in which statelessness is a major problem.

More lasting solutions are also constantly being drafted by several National Committees on Refugees (CONARES), international bodies which constantly interact with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Countries that count with their own National Committees on Refugees include Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia, Uruguay and Venezuela. Said countries actively participate in annual meetings, during which all member countries agree upon goals to be reached when it comes to eradication of statelessness and protection of immigrants in short, medium, and long terms.

Challenges to overcome

With the establishment of the aforementioned programs, acts and campaigns, as well as the positive and constant collaboration between the countries of the region throughout the last years, the condition of statelessness of immigrants in Latin America and the Caribbean seems to be rapidly improving. However, there is still a long road ahead when it comes to fully eradicating statelessness in the region. There are still millions of stateless individuals left all around the world, and tens of thousands in the American themselves.

As previously mentioned, the condition of statelessness undergone by many immigrants as of today is alarming. Whether being denied their right to a nationality, their right to carry out their freedom of vote or their right to participate in public procedures, stateless people have found themselves in a situation that no human should ever face, a situation that completely violates some of their most basic and vital human rights. With this humanitarian crisis in mind, the United Nations Human Rights Council calls upon all of its member states to elaborate solutions that can be implemented in order to further fight against statelessness in Latin America and the Caribbean, or else to find measures to make sure that the reaches of already-existing proposals are able to be widened.

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Glossary

C

Consulate: The residence or official premises of a consul—an official appointed by a government to reside in a foreign country to represent the commercial interests of citizens of the appointing country.

D

Denial: Refusal to satisfy a request or desire.

Deprivation: the state of being kept from possessing, enjoying, or using something.

E

Emerging: Newly formed or prominent.

Entitlement: A right to benefits specified especially by law or contract.

Equality: The quality of being equal—of the same measure, quantity, amount or number as another.

Eradication: To do away with something, as if by pulling up by the roots.

F

Framework: A basic conceptual structure of ideas.

I

Index: a bibliographical analysis of groups of publications that is usually published periodically.

M

Meticulous: Marked by extreme or excessive care in the consideration or treatment of details.

Milestone: A significant point in development.

P

Public Hearing: A formal meeting for receiving testimony from the public at large on a local issue, or proposed government action.

R

Refugee: Someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence.

Rectification: To set right; to correct by removing errors.

S

Statelessness: A person who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law.

T

Thorough: Carried through to completion.

U

Undertaking: Engaging in a project or business.