

Trump reportedly plans to deport 240,000 Ukrainians from U.S.



Ukrainians who fled to Mexico walk with their belongings to cross the San Ysidro Land Port of Entry of the US-Mexico border, in Tijuana, Mexico April 2, 2022. (Photo by Reuters)

Washington, March 7 (RHC)-- The Trump administration has made plans to deport some 240,000 Ukrainians who fled to the United States under the Biden administration, a report says. They could be

deported as soon as April in a stunning reversal which comes in the wake of a disastrous Oval Office meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky last week.

It is part of a broader Trump administration plan to strip legal status from more than 1.8 million migrants allowed to enter the US under temporary humanitarian parole programs launched under the Biden administration.

A Trump executive order issued on January 20 called for the Department of Homeland Security to "terminate all categorical parole programs."

U.S. officials say the administration plans to revoke parole for about 530,000 Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans and Venezuelans plus more than 70,000 Afghans escaping the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan as soon as this month, facing fast-track deportation proceedings.

Immigrants who enter the U.S. illegally can be put into the fast-track deportation process for two years. But for those who entered through legal ports of entry without being officially "admitted" to the U.S. as with those on parole, there is no time limit on their rapid removal,

On Wednesday, CIA Director John Ratcliffe said the U.S. had paused intelligence-sharing with Ukraine after a halt this week to American military aid to Kiev.

Washington has provided critical intelligence to Ukraine for its fight against Russian forces, but in less than two months in office, Trump has upended US policy.

Experts said the U.S. intelligence-sharing suspension would hurt Ukraine's ability to strike Russian forces, which occupy about 20% of the country's territory.

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