ACLU says Remain in Mexico program sows death and torture

San Diego, January 31 (RHC)-- Social activists gathered in San Diego, California, to protest against the U.S. Migration Protection Protocols (MPP) program due to human rights abuses occurring in the places to which migrants are sent.

Since it began to be implemented a year ago, the "Remain-In-Mexico" policy requires asylum seekers arriving by land at the U.S./Mexico border to return to Mexico to await their asylum hearing in U.S. immigration court.

The "Human Rights First" organization holds that there are 816 documented cases of kidnapping, extortion, rape, homicide, torture and assaults that asylum seekers have suffered.

"In Mexican border cities, violence against migrants, who are not Mexican and have no families, are at levels that we have not seen in the past," the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) lawyer Monika Langarica said and added that "this can no longer have any justification, nor continue another day."???????

As a result of President Donald Trump's policy, which the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) began implementing on January 29, 2019, some 25,700 people have been returned to Tijuana and Mexicali so far.

"Trump and his administration tried to get rid of a political problem without even addressing the humanitarian crisis. In the process, they have turned their backs on the international community," Democratic lawmaker Joaquin Castro commented.

"When this policy was first implemented, we warned that it would cause chaos and further wear down the core values ??of our nation. And that's what it has done," Southern Poverty Law Center activist Melissa Crow said.

The Hope Border Institute also said that the "U.S. government is returning migrants to one of the states with the highest homicide rates in Mexico, including a large number of families, children and babies."???????

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