

Risky elections

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By Guillermo Alvarado

The most important electoral processes scheduled for this year in the United States will be strongly marked by the issue of migrants, especially on the side of the candidates and voters of the Republican party where the influence of Donald Trump is almost determinant.

An example of this occurs in the state of Texas, with an extensive border with Mexico, where the current governor and candidate for reelection, Gregory Abbott, seeks to intensify pressures against those who try to cross the demarcation line, with the purpose of gaining sympathy.

With a view to the primaries of that group, to be held on March 1, Abbott has a wide advantage over his contenders, who are stirring up hatred towards migrants as a formula to overcome him in the polls.

A difficult task, since the Texan governor mobilized the state national guard to guard the border, built his own wall and ordered the imprisonment of undocumented immigrants, accusing them of violating private

property.

But that is just a small sample of what will happen later, when on November 8 the mid-term congressional elections will take place, which will be decisive for the rest of President Joseph Biden's term in office.

On that day, votes will be cast for the 435 seats in the House of Representatives and one third of the 100 members of the Senate, and what will really be at stake is the control of both parts of the U.S. Congress, which is now narrowly held by the Democrats.

As is known, in the House there is a slight advantage of 12 seats in favor of Biden's party, but in the Senate the composition is 50 seats for each party, with the vote of Vice President Kamala Harris to break the tie.

It is no idle reminder that if the White House loses both, or just one of these seats, the legislative program of this administration will practically disappear.

And here again, the immigration issue will be decisive. Most Republican voters are in favor of tougher restrictions against the flow of people coming from the south and the candidates know this very well and will try to take advantage of it.

Democrats are between two waters because Biden has not substantially changed Trump's policies, which disenchanted his supporters among ethnic minorities, who will hardly go to the polls with the same enthusiasm as they did in 2020.

The game is open and the winner will be the one who manages to arouse the most hatred against the impoverished masses seeking to reach the capitalist paradise.

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