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ISSUED BY THE INDEPENDENTS ORGANIZATION INTERNATIONAL (WEEKLY NEWSLETTER ON IRREGULAR MIGRATION ISSUES)

#### **CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD: BASMA FOUAD**

# THE NEWSCAST

#### MEXICAN PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES INVESTIGATION INTO THE KILLING OF 6 MIGRANTS, INCLUDING EGYPTIANS

Claudia Sheinbaum, the first female President of Mexico, has announced the launch of an investigation into the killing of six migrants, including Egyptians, after soldiers opened fire on a bus carrying them in \*\*Chiapas\*\*. Sheinbaum confirmed that the victims were from Egypt, El Salvador, and Peru, and vowed to hold those responsible accountable. The incident occurred after the bus tried to flee a military checkpoint, also resulting in 10 migrants being injured. This is part of a recurring pattern, with 129 Egyptians being rescued in a similar incident in August 2023.



## JD VANCE LINKS ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION TO RISING HOUSING PRICES AHEAD OF ELECTIONS

In his campaign, Senator JD Vance has criticized illegal immigration, claiming it is one of the main factors behind soaring housing prices. He argued that the influx of undocumented immigrants increases demand for housing, making it less affordable for Americans. While research confirms that immigration can increase housing demand, experts highlight larger factors behind the housing crisis, such as a drop in construction after the 2008 financial crisis. Jason Furman, economic advisor to President former Obama, noted that while immigration does impact housing prices, its effect is relatively small compared to other factors.

ILLEGAL BORDER CROSSINGS AT THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER HIT A RECORD LOW UNDER BIDEN'S ADMINISTRATION



In September, the number of migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border illegally dropped to its lowest level under President Joe Biden, following strict new asylum rules implemented three months earlier. Border Patrol agents recorded approximately 54,000 apprehensions, a 78% decrease from the peak in December, when 250,000 crossings were reported. Biden's asylum restrictions, which were intended to be temporary, have contributed significantly to the decline. Vice President Kamala Harris has pledged to continue these policies if elected president. The reduction also coincides with efforts by the Mexican government to curb migration flows.



#### Trump claims illegal immigrant murderers have "bad genes"



On Monday, former President Donald Trump described illegal immigrants involved in murder as having "bad genes," warning that there are "a lot of bad genes" in the U.S. His comments came as illegal immigration and crime remain central issues ahead of the November elections. Trump cited data showing that over 13,000 illegal immigrants in the U.S. have homicide convictions, many of whom entered during previous administrations. Additionally, there are 425,431 convicted criminals on Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) non-detained docket.



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## **U.K. POPULATION RISES BY 1% DUE TO INCREASED**

## IMMIGRATION

Official data released on Tuesday showed that the U.K.'s population increased by 1% to reach 68.3 million by mid-2023, largely due to high immigration rates. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported that net international migration was the main contributor to population growth in England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. However, the natural population change (difference between births and deaths) fell by 16,300, earlier than previous projections, which predicted this would not happen until the mid-2030s.

#### CONTINUED MIGRANT BOAT LANDINGS ON ITALY'S LAMPEDUSA ISLAND

Italian security sources reported the continued arrival of migrant boats on the shores of Lampedusa Island. On Monday, 90 migrants arrived on two boats, with Frontex and the financial police intervening to rescue them. The first boat carried 29 Egyptians, while the second held 61 migrants from Syria, Morocco, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. All migrants were transferred to Lampedusa's hotspot, currently hosting 533 people. 300 migrants are set to be relocated to other provinces.





French authorities announced the deaths of four migrants, including a child, during two attempts to cross the English Channel. The two-year-old child was found unconscious on a crowded rubber boat carrying 90 people after the engine failed off the coast of Boulogne-sur-Mer. Gérick Leprat, regional prosecutor, confirmed the child was "trampled" to death during the chaos. Another boat experienced engine failure near Calais, causing panic as migrants jumped into the sea. \*\*Three bodies\*\* - two men and a woman in their thirties – were found in the boat, likely victims of trampling, suffocation, or drowning.







## Morocco blames European countries for difficulties in repatriating illegal migrants

During a press conference with Fernando Clavijo, President of the Canary Islands government, Moroccan Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita blamed European countries for the difficulties in repatriating illegal Moroccan migrants. He emphasized Morocco's willingness to receive its citizens while criticizing the political use of the migration issue. Bourita called for addressing legal and procedural gaps on the European side. The comments come amid heated discussions in France over deporting illegal migrants, especially following the September arrest of a Moroccan man suspected of murder.









### PORTUGAL HALTS WORK PERMITS FOR ILLEGAL MIGRANTS, POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

Portugal announced that migrant workers can now only enter the country with pre-approved work permits. Illegal migrants can no longer remain in the country to apply for work permits as was previously allowed, a decision that could negatively impact the Portuguese economy. Foreign Minister Rui Armindo Freitas stated that the move aligns with European regulations. However, NGOs have criticized the decision, arguing that it caters to right-wing populist parties.

#### NEWSOM REJECTS ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT BILLS: A DELIBERATE POLITICAL MOVE BEFORE THE ELECTION

This question arose after Governor Gavin Newsom vetoed three bills passed by the liberal California legislature. It seems the state has reached a temporary pause on providing further benefits to undocumented immigrants, at least due to the upcoming elections. Newsom's decisions were based on "sound political reasons" and may also ease political pressure on Kamala Harris, who faces scrutiny for her association with California's liberal policies as she runs for president. The veto may relieve some political burden on Harris. Meanwhile, Donald Trump 's campaign criticized Harris, accusing her of "rolling out the red carpet for illegals.





TREN DE ARAGUA GANG MEMBER AND ILLEGAL MIGRANT ARRESTED IN HOUSTON



Jorgenys Robertson Cova, a 32-year-old illegal migrant from Venezuela and confirmed member of the Tren de Aragua gang, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) in collaboration with Houston police and ICE. Tren de Aragua is a transnational gang based in Venezuela involved in drug and human trafficking. Cova was scheduled for an asylum hearing in Houston on October 7.

## Congressman introduces bill to ban illegal migrants from purchasing firearms

Rep. Andrew Clyde (R-Ga.) has raised concerns about illegal migrants purchasing firearms using the same process as U.S. citizens. Clyde introduced the No Guns for Illegal Aliens Act , which explicitly bans illegal immigrants from buying firearms using government-issued IDs. Clyde also voiced support for Donald Trump's mass deportation plan while criticizing Kamala Harris and Minnesota Governor Tim Walz.



