

# **Addressing the Impact of Mass Migration on Human Rights**

## **Foreign Press Center Briefing**

### **SENIOR STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL**

November 24, 2025

Washington, D.C.

(.....)

So last Thursday evening, the Department of State sent out a cable to our embassies in Europe as well as Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, requesting that those embassies begin collecting data and reporting on migrant-related crimes and human rights abuses facilitated by people of a migration background.

This is part of a broader refocusing of the human rights portfolio of the State Department under President Trump and Secretary Rubio that aims to develop human rights without selectivity, without cherry-picking on partisan lines. And by that I mean addressing human rights concerns that previously were not addressed for various reasons, whether that be because they were politically incorrect or they weren't convenient to prevailing narratives. The Trump Administration is very committed to addressing human rights concerns wherever and whenever they find them. And there's a particular concern, as the President and the Secretary have stated over and over again, with the mass migration crisis in Europe.

Part of that cable was also an instruction to all of our embassies in Europe as well as Canada, Australia, and New Zealand to engage the government, to let them know the United States' concerns surrounding mass migration, and to let them know that the United States stands ready, willing, and able to support them in handling what we see as an existential crisis. I'm sure you all saw the tweet thread that we put out simultaneously, and I would just like to reiterate what that tweet thread says, which is that mass

migration is an existential threat to Western civilization and the safety of both the West and the world.

We are particularly concerned about not only the violation of national sovereignty, which in itself is already an egregious violation of basic rights and the rights of sovereign citizens in these countries, but also human rights abuses and what we see as very egregious human rights concerns surrounding mass migration and the facilitation of mass migration.

Just to go through a couple of those concerns, the foremost of these is sexual assault. If you look at Europe, for example, and various countries in Europe, there are concerning increases that we're seeing in sexual assaults and violent sexual aggravated attacks, particularly on women and young girls, by people of a migration background, particularly people of extremist Islamic background as well, everything from violent rape gangs and organized rape gangs in the United Kingdom to targeting of young girls in other countries. We also see instances of human trafficking, antisemitic and anti-Christian attacks, largely by people of radical Islamic backgrounds.

And then another one that I'll just flag for you that we're also particularly concerned about is the phenomenon of displacement. So obviously, as large influxes of migrants come into these countries, often they are impacting the economic viability of housing. They're taking over housing. Often housing is bought up by governments to place the migrants, or just to provide them housing, and that obviously can end up displacing or degrading the property value for people who are citizens of those countries. Ireland is a particular case here, and we see that the housing crisis is particularly acute there, with citizens voicing their displeasure.

On top of that, the government response, we're also concerned about what we see as two-tiered justice, where migrants and the crimes that are committed by migrants often receive much more lenient punishments than equivalent behaviors by local populations. And I'll just highlight one particular case in the thread, though there are multiple other cases that we can talk about, in Germany, where a woman, a young woman, was brutally raped by migrants, and then a friend of hers, I believe, criticized one

of those rapists on a – online. And while both were prosecuted, the rapist ended getting a more lenient punishment than the girl, who just insulted the sick, vile rapist online.

This is a real problem. There are security implications to this. There are cultural implications to this. There are economic implications to this. And we think it's about time that for the sake of our allies, for the sake of their citizens, for the sake of our friends, someone said something about this. And at the same time, the negligence on this issue, the mass migration crisis, by the human rights community, by the international community, has been glaring.

This is an egregious human rights issues, and the President and the Secretary have been courageous enough to take action. We want to help our friends. We care about our friends in Europe. We care about our friends in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. But in order for us to have a strong alliance, we need a strong citizenry. We need a citizenry who sees their voices and concerns heard, that are treated equally and with respect, that have access to basic public goods, that can – that their children can have the ability to walk down the street and not be victims of assaults or trafficking or rape.

And so the United States is ready, willing, and able to help end that, end the scourge of mass migration and help our allies as best as we can. But in order to do that, you need to start treating this phenomenon as the problem that it is, and that's what we're doing.

I'll just make one more note. Some people might be conflating the mass migration cable with the human rights reporting cable that came out a little earlier in the day on Thursday. I just want to note those are two distinct cables – the human rights reporting cable which does now include, among other additions, reporting requirements on mass migration as part of our coverage of human rights concerns in countries around the world. That is distinct from the migration cable, which is more particular and goes into more detail.

That should indicate to everybody the seriousness with which the Trump Administration is taking this phenomenon. The fact that it is – how it is being run out of the DRL Bureau, our human rights and democracy bureau, should say something about how seriously we are taking this issue as a matter – a threat to democracy, a threat to sovereignty and

representation, as well as a threat to basic human rights. And so we can get into more of this if you guys would like, but I think I'll leave it there for now.