



US SENATE

Dear Senators,

My name is Emily Sablon, and I am very excited to be your director for the US Senate. I am 16 years old and a junior at the International American School of Cancun. I am interested in becoming a federal lawyer for the Department of Justice. I would love to study at the University of Florida. I enjoy listening to music, relaxing, and spending as much time with my loved ones.

This would be my fourth MUN conference, and I am delighted to be able to do it as a director. The first time I participated in a MUN was during CancunMUN 2023, followed by CancunMUN2024, in which I won an award for Best Delegate in the WHO committee. The US Senate is a committee where we will discuss topics regarding the United States of America.

This year my expectation for all the senators in this committee is that you take it seriously and try your best. Another expectation I have for all senators is to try to research as much as possible to have a smooth debate. I would like to remind you all that the background guides should not be the only source of information. Having additional research on your senator and others participating will help you throughout the debate! Despite this being a conference that must be done with the utmost respect and seriousness, I hope that you all enjoy yourselves. Any questions you may have please contact me at emily.sablon@ciac.edu.mx. I wish you the best of luck and hope to see you all soon!

Emily Sablon, Director
United States Senate

Welcome Senators,

My name is Valentina Torres, and I am eager to serve as your moderator for the United States Senate in the upcoming CancunMUN 2025. I'm a 17-year-old senior at the International American School of Cancun. In my free time, I enjoy going on walks, playing volleyball, and spending time with my friends and family. After graduating, I intend to study International Business Law, keeping an open mind about where to pursue my studies—whether in the United States, Spain, or Mexico.

This will be my fourth MUN conference, a journey that began in middle school. In the past, I have been a delegate to the World Health Organization at CancunMUN 2023, a senator in the Mexican Senate at CancunMUN 2024, and a delegate to the Trusteeship Committee at LaSalleMUN 2025. Each experience has been both thrilling and demanding.

This year, I am committed to making this conference an unforgettable experience and ensuring that all my senators are actively engaged in their roles. I want everyone to feel comfortable and confident in their arguments. To achieve this, thorough preparation is essential. While the background guide is a useful resource, I encourage everyone to explore additional sources of information. Let's maintain professionalism while also making sure we have fun!

I am looking forward to meeting all of you and if you have any questions, please contact me at torres.v@ciac.edu.mx.

Valentina Torres, Moderator
United States Senate



COMMITTEE MISSION

To function as the nation's legislative body, the US Senate was founded in 1788. The Senate protects state rights and minority opinions under a system of government designed to give the federal government more power. The Senate may advise or consent to a nominee. Each state has two senators, either Democrats, Republicans, or Independents. Senators may also be independent. The Senate has 100 representatives in total. These senators are in charge of enacting laws and mediating disagreements between the parties.

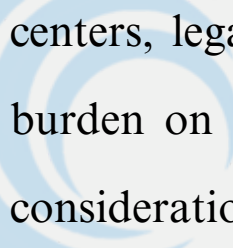


Topic A: Impact of Undocumented Immigrants and Implementation of Mass Deportations

Introduction

The impact that undocumented immigrants and the implementation of mass deportations have in the nation is extensive. This issue not only brings social, economic, and humanitarian consequences but also affects the immigrant community. Not only this but the country as a whole. The large removal of undocumented immigrants disrupts family life, makes the workforce weak, and it also places an immense strain on the country's economy. Multiple immigrants have spent years, possibly even decades, in the United States, improving the agricultural and construction business. This unwarned removal disrupts their lives but it also has an impact on the businesses and communities that rely primarily on their labor.

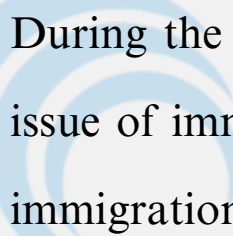
The effects of mass deportation on the country's economy are very profound. Many industries are very dependent on this community in particular, companies might face labor shortages, that later lead to an increase in the cost of said product. Along with this, it also reduces the productivity of the company. Citizens of the U.S. of deported parents normally experience emotional and financial distress. Children typically enter the foster care system. With more and more mass deportation policies on the rise, it has also begun to raise concerns ethically, especially since some individuals are removed without consideration of their long-standing ties to the United States. Along with this, the cost of detention



centers, legal proceedings, and deportation create a very large financial burden on the federal government. Taking all of this information into consideration, it is very important to analyze the immense impact that mass deportation policies have in the United States. Not only economically, but also socially.

History

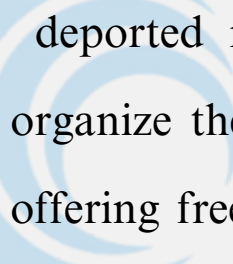
The United States has been implementing the practice of mass deportation for hundreds of years. One of the first cases was the Irish Expulsion. In the 1800's the United States faced a large immigration crisis. Due to the potato famine in Ireland, Irish citizens were facing widespread poverty. So, most Irish citizens decided to immigrate to states such as New York and Massachusetts. Since the state of Massachusetts had an anti-poverty law, the state authorities were legally allowed to deport the immigrants who solely relied on Massachusetts state-funded aid. The only issue was that there was no federal organization that was forcing the Irish to leave specific states. What state authorities would do was check public records for people who were not American, if you were of a different nationality they would take you to another state, like New York. There were even some cases in which authorities would make the Irish immigrants go to Canada, since that is where they would originally land, or even sometimes they would be sent back to Ireland. Although it is not known for sure how many people were removed from Massachusetts since there is no record, Hirota estimates that around 50,000 people were taken out of Massachusetts.



During the late 1800 the government began to get more involved in the issue of immigration. For example, in 1882, the United States closed all immigration from China. This is known as the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Another instance of a large-scale operation was during the Palmer raids and the “Soviet Ark”. In 1919, an Italian immigrant named Carlo Valdinoci set off a bomb in front of Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer’s home in Washington D.C. After this mass arrests and deportations began to take place. Palmer argued that 90% of anarchist threats were made by undocumented immigrants, thus beginning the Palmer raids. A famous case that came from one of these raids was a Jewish couple that immigrated from Russia to the United States and later became naturalized citizens. After being rounded up, both of them were stripped of their citizenship and deported back to Russia on the “Soviet Ark”. By 1920, the raids were very unsuccessful.

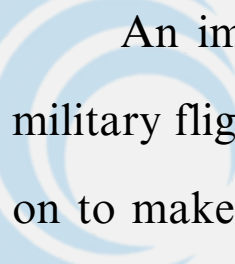
In the 1930s, deportation against Mexicans started to begin. Which are continuing today. The first operation on the deportation of immigrants from Mexico is called the Mexican Repatriation. The Mexican Repatriation began because American citizens accused them of stealing their jobs. Informal sweeps occurred in California, Michigan, and Illinois. It was estimated that over a million people were deported to Mexico, but only 80,000 people were formally deported back according to the Immigration and Naturalization Services. One raid occurred in La Placita Park in Los Angeles; 400 people were



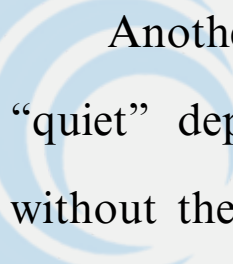
deported regardless of their legal status. Local governments helped organize these raids and even gave people the option to self-deport by offering free train tickets to Mexico. The largest wide-scale deportation was called Operation Wetback. Operation Wetback was a campaign in 1954. President Eisenhower wanted to deport undocumented Mexican immigrants. It was after the Bracero program that was made to temporarily take Mexican immigrants into the United States to work on agricultural farms. This operation used military raids and deported people back deep into Mexico so they wouldn't try to reenter the United States. This was driven by racial profiling and was seen more as a publicity stunt that was made to terrify the Mexican communities.

Current Situation

As of January 2025, the issue that is currently taking place at the United States and Mexican border has been a big increase in the amount of mass deportations. A remarkable change in the United States government's approach has made the border quieter in comparison to past years. The main focus currently of the government has been to intensify the number of deportations, and they have made. They are currently in the process of a large-scale operation in multiple different regions of the United States. In 2024 alone, over 320,000 deportations were documented by ICE, a 40% increase from the previous year, and border apprehensions have declined by nearly 30% as a result of these strict enforcement measures.



An important factor in these large-scale deportations is all of the military flights and airplanes that the United States is currently spending on to make this process go faster. Due to the amount of flights leaving, approximately six to eight flights, the United States with immigrants has made deportations more frequent and faster. The U.S. government has invested over \$500 million to fund these deportation flights that bring individuals primarily to Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Venezuela. Additionally, since mid-2024, there have been over 1.2 million migrants expelled under Title 8 regulations, one of the largest enforcement actions in recent history. This method has received both criticism and praise. Praise, because of how efficient it is, and criticism because people argue it is unethical and violates human rights. How the Biden administration approached the topic of immigration continues to create tension. There has been a focus on providing refugees and migrants who are facing extreme danger in their country to be allowed entry into the United States. For example, the Humanitarian Parole Program has been expanded, where up to 30,000 migrants per month from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela may apply for lawful entry. Although the administration has faced backlash and pressure on the strengthening of its enforcement practices, this has led to more resources and even stricter control of the United States and Mexican border. Funding for border security increased by 15% in 2024, leading to additional agents, surveillance gear, and reinforcements on the border wall.



Another topic that concerns multiple Americans is the change into “quiet” deportations, which is when individuals are being deported without the public knowing which is something that had distinguished previous operations. This new strategy that the United States is implementing is making it even harder for groups that typically advocate for immigrants making it more difficult for the ability to track the real scale of the number of deportations. Reports indicate that thousands of deportations are unreported by the press, and it is challenging for advocacy organizations to provide legal services or track due process violations. This is threatening the issues of transparency and accountability in the United States.

Although the focus on mass deportations may relieve the immediate management of the border and its concerns, it still raises future questions on the ethical treatment of migrants and the future immigration policies that the United States may implement. Immigration reforms continue to be a controversial issue, and due to these new developments, citizens are beginning to suggest that the United States government is starting to be caught between multiple different interests. Like, the enforcement of immigration laws whilst still managing the ethical aspect of these deportations and of migration. With a record 2.2 million migrant encounters at the border in 2024, the immigration policy debate is likely to heat up in the run-up to the 2026 midterm elections.



Points to Consider:

- What evidence exists that mass deportation strengthens national security and fights against illegal immigration?
- How would you counter-accuse accusations making claims that current deportations abuse human rights and disrespect people seeking asylum?
- What other alternative than mass deportation would you believe continues to implement immigration policies while continuing to meet humanitarian demands?
- How do you justify the use of military air transport for deportation in the face of criticism regarding how this impacts immigrant communities?
- What in your view will be the long-term impacts of "silent" deportation on the public's faith in government and law enforcement agencies?

Useful Links:

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/frequently-requested-statistics-immigrants-and-immigration-united-states-2024>

<https://www.jec.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/democrats/2024/12/mass-deportations-would-deliver-a-catastrophic-blow-to-the-u-s-economy>

<https://democracyforward.org/the-peoples-guide-to-project-2025/target-immigrants/>

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/biden-deportation-record>

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SENATOR BOX

Lisa Murkowski (R)
Tammy Baldwin (D)
Rick Scott (R)
John Barrasso (R)
Michael Bennet (D)
Marsha Blackburn (R)
Cory Booker (D)
Tim Scott (R)
Jeff Merkley (D)
Maria Cantwell (D)
Shelley Moore (R)
Elizabeth Warren (D)
Tom Cotton (R)
Catherine Cortez (D)
Ted Cruz (R)
Richard Durbin (D)
Joni Ernst (R)

Kirsten Gillibrand (D)
Lindsey Graham (R)
John Thune (R)
Charles Schumer (D)
Ron Johnson (R)
Tim Kaine (D)
Amy Klobuchar (D)
Bernie Moreno (R)

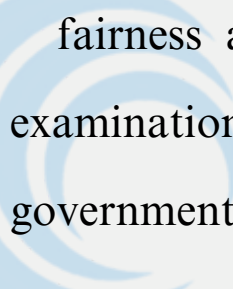


Topic B - Role of Private Entities in US Government

Introduction:

The relationship between private entities and the US government is complex and evolving. The influence of private entities within the US government has become increasingly prominent, causing concerns about transparency, accountability, and the potential erosion of public interest. This influence is shown in various forms, like lobbying, campaign finance, and the contracting out of essential government services. The significance of this issue goes beyond the United States since the US government's policies and actions have global consequences. The close relationship between private corporations and government agencies can lead to regulatory capture, where regulations are made to benefit specific industries rather than the public in general. This can result in policies that give priority to corporate profits over environmental protection, consumer safety, or public health. Additionally, this connection between the government and the private sector can create conflicts of interest, as former government officials leverage their connections for private gain.

The scale of private sector involvement in government functions has expanded significantly in recent decades. This is particularly evident in areas such as defense, healthcare, and infrastructure. For example, private contractors play a substantial role in military operations, and private companies manage vast portions of the US healthcare system. The increasing reliance on private entities raises questions about the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and accountability of these arrangements.



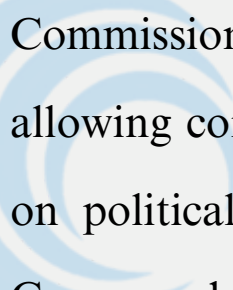
fairness and integrity of the US governance system. Therefore, an examination of the expanding role of private entities in the US government is essential to understand the implications for democratic governance and public policy.

History

The relationship between private entities and the US government has evolved significantly throughout history. In the early Republic, the connection between private merchants and the government was crucial for economic development, although concerns about monopolies and corruption already existed. The 19th century witnessed the rise of industrial capitalism, leading to increased lobbying and political influence by large corporations, particularly railroads and oil companies.

The Progressive Era in the early 20th century saw reforms aimed at curbing corporate power and corruption, including antitrust laws and campaign finance regulations. The mid-20th century's Cold War period led to the emergence of the military-industrial complex, characterized by close ties between defense contractors and the government. In the late 20th and 21st centuries, deregulation, privatization, and increased campaign finance contributions have further expanded the role of private entities in government. The 1970s and 1980s saw a rise in neo-liberalism, which promoted the idea that the private sector could provide services more efficiently than the public sector. This resulted in the privatization of various government functions, such as prisons and infrastructure.

The Supreme Court case *Citizens United v. Federal Election*



Commission in 2010 significantly changed campaign finance laws, allowing corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money on political advocacy. Non-governmental organizations like Common Cause and the Center for Responsive Politics have played a role in advocating for campaign finance reform and increased transparency. States have enacted varying regulations on lobbying and campaign finance, leading to a patchwork of laws across the country.

Global actors, such as international organizations and foreign governments, have expressed concerns about the influence of private entities on US foreign policy. While the UN does not directly regulate the relationship between private entities and the US government, it has addressed issues related to corporate influence on global governance, such as through the UN Global Compact, and issues related to the impact of multinational corporations on human rights and sustainable development.

Successes of past measures include some campaign finance reforms that have increased transparency, and antitrust laws that have curbed certain monopolistic practices. However, failures include loopholes in campaign finance laws, the revolving door, and regulatory capture that continue to undermine efforts to limit private influence. The failure to properly regulate lobbying has allowed private entities to exert undue influence on policy decisions. The increased privatization of government functions has led to concerns about accountability and efficiency.



Current Situation:

The present landscape of private entity involvement in the US government is characterized by a continued and intensified level of influence. Lobbying expenditures remain substantial, with billions of dollars expended annually by corporations, industry associations, and other special interest groups to shape legislation and regulatory decisions. This persistent investment underscores the significant role that private entities play in the policymaking process.

Concurrently, campaign finance contributions maintain their influential role in electoral politics. Corporations and wealthy individuals continue to donate substantial sums to political campaigns and super PACs, such as Elon Musk depositing approximately \$11.2 million dollars into America PAC on the final day of the year, which was meant to aid Trump's campaign in the 2024 election, impacting the composition of elected officials and the policy agendas they pursue. The reliance on private contractors for government services persists, particularly in the defense and technology sectors, where private firms provide crucial support for military operations, cybersecurity, and data management. This trend has raised concerns about the potential for conflicts of interest and the erosion of public sector capacity. Moreover, the relationship between big tech companies and the government has come under increased public scrutiny, with debates surrounding data privacy, antitrust enforcement, and the regulation of online platforms.

The influence of "dark money" in elections, which refers to political

spending by undisclosed sources, is a growing concern, as it undermines transparency and accountability in the electoral process. In the case of the 2024 election, Elon Musk has spent over \$290 million dollars, denominated petition incentives, aimed at encouraging voter registration. In response, a range of measures are currently active and Elon's "donations" were allowed to continue, despite facing legal challenges. Existing campaign finance laws, though often criticized for their limitations, continue to regulate contributions and spending, and lobbying disclosure requirements seek to promote transparency by requiring lobbyists to register and report their activities.

Furthermore, some states have enacted stricter campaign finance laws than those at the federal level, demonstrating a decentralized approach to regulating political spending. Increased oversight of government contracting has also been implemented, with efforts to ensure that private contractors are held accountable for their performance and that contracts are awarded through a fair and competitive process.





Points To Consider:

- How does the increasing reliance on private contractors for essential government services affect accountability and transparency?
- What are the most effective strategies for mitigating the influence of lobbying and campaign finance on policy decisions?
- How can the "revolving door" between government and the private sector be addressed to prevent conflicts of interest?
- What measures can be taken to ensure that private entities operating in the public sphere prioritize the public interest over private gain?

Useful links:

<https://www.nber.org/>

<https://www.brookings.edu/>

<https://www.aei.org/>

<https://peri.umass.edu/>

<https://www.fec.gov/>



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The main objective of
the **US Senate** is to
represent individual
state interests.

