



Preparatory Stocktaking meeting of the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular migration

Group 1. Human Dimensions

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FB: *Deportados Unidos en la Lucha*

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I am Ana Laura López - a deported migrant, my punishment was 20 years unable to return home because of the single violation of having migrated in search of better life conditions.

I represent civil society that has been working nationally, regionally and locally, I also represent the Latin American Block and we are all connected and we are one collective voice, but today I am also the voice of many people who were obligated to leave their birthplaces looking for better opportunities. I am the voice of many people who have confronted labor abuses and don't have any protections simply because of lack of migratory status.

I am the voice of millions of people who have been in detention and jails for the sole crime of going to work. I am the voice of millions of people who found themselves obligated to lose everything because they face deportations. I am the voice of millions of people who have been separated from their families and don't know when they will ever be reunited. I am the voice of those who can no longer say anything because they lost their lives searching for the opportunity to have a better life. I am Ana Laura, I am a migrant, I am deported, but I am also a mother, a mother who has not kissed or hugged her children in one year and five days. I am a mother who should not have to be here today fighting to have her children close. That is why as a human being, as a migrant and a mother, I hope to have a global compact for migration that is based in respect for human rights, that does not condition my right to migrate on my economic status, gender or level of studies. That does not criminalize the need to migrate and thereby avoids migrant detention.

A compact where labor rights exist regardless of migration status. A compact that in case of deportation or removal, there be programs for reintegration that guarantee access to identity, health, work and home. And finally, a compact that understands that I am a human being, that I have emotions and that I have a right to be with those whom I love most - my children.