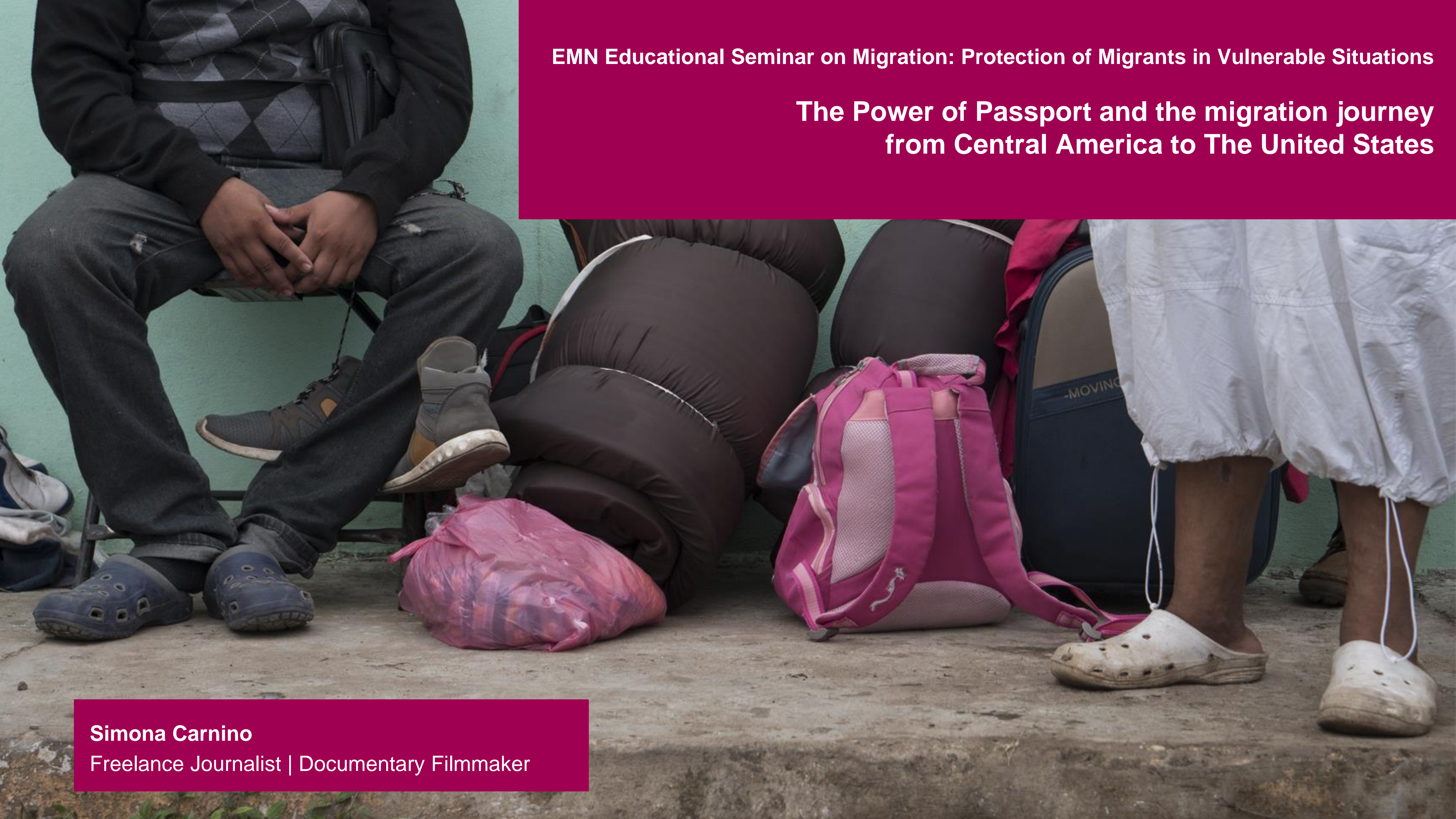


EMN Educational Seminar on Migration: Protection of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations

**The Power of Passport and the migration journey
from Central America to The United States**



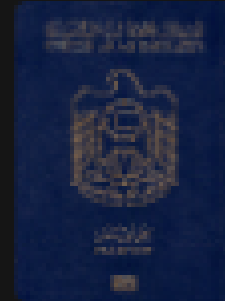
Simona Carnino

Freelance Journalist | Documentary Filmmaker

Top 10 most powerful passport in the world

Source: Passport Index 2023 | Update: 30 of june

1 PASSPORT POWER RANK



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

180

125

55

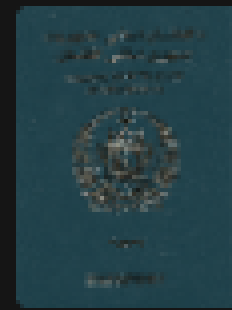
18

| Passport Power Rank | Country | Total mobility score |
|---------------------|---|----------------------|
| 2 | Sweden – Germany – Finland – Spain –France – Italy – Netherlands – Luxembourg – Austria – Switzerland – South Korea | 175 |
| 3 | Denmark – Belgium – Portugal –Norway – Poland –Ireland – United Kingdom – New Zeland | 174 |
| 4 | Greece – Czech Republic – Hungary – Japan – Canada –United States of America - Australia | 173 |
| 5 | Singapore – Malta –Lithuania - Slovakia | 172 |
| 6 | Estonia – Latvia – Slovenia - Liechtenstein | 171 |
| 7 | Iceland | 170 |
| 8 | Cyprus – Coratia _Romania -Bulgaria | 169 |
| 9 | Malaysia | 168 |
| 10 | Monaco | 167 |

Top 10 least powerful passports in the world

Source: Passport Index 2023 | Update: 30 of june

97 PASSPORT POWER RANK



AFGHANISTAN

40

5

35

158

| Passport Power Rank | Country | Total mobility score |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2 | Syria | 41 |
| 3 | Iraq | 43 |
| 4 | Somalia | 45 |
| 5 | Pakistan | 46 |
| 6 | Yemen | 47 |
| 7 | Bangladesh | 49 |
| 8 | North Korea | 51 |
| 9 | Palestinian Territories - Libya | 52 |
| 10 | Eritrea | 53 |



Migration Routes from Central America to The United States

Source: UNICEF



Shifts in Migration Dynamics in Central America Post-Pandemic

Increased migration after the 2020 pandemic:

- **2.378.944 encounters at the southwest border - FY 2022**

[Title 8 Apprehensions and Title 42 Expulsions]

More than 500.000 people from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras arrested in a year.

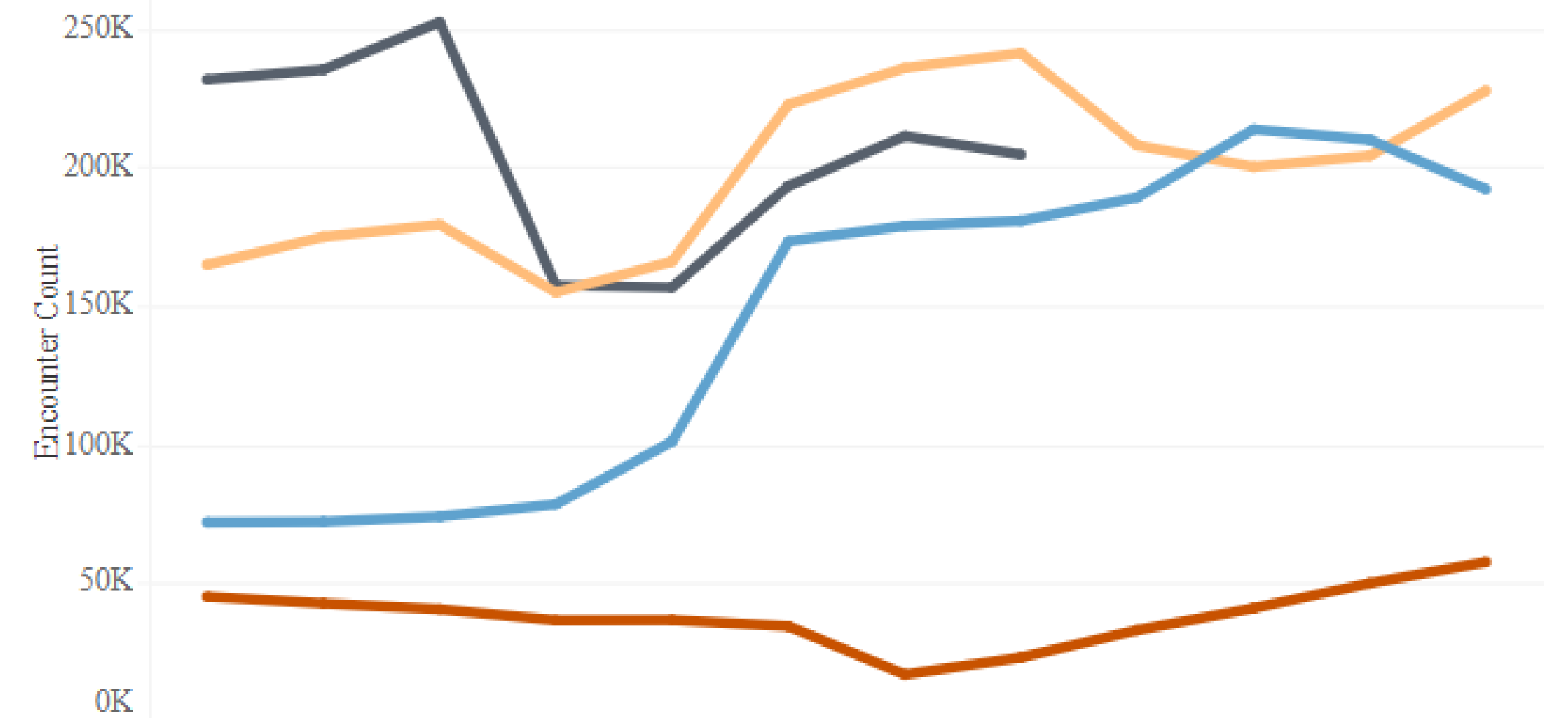
- **1.641.943 encounters at the southwest border - FY 2023**

[Title 8 Apprehensions and Title 42 Expulsions] Oct-May

- Increasing number of people from countries such as **Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua**, and particularly **Venezuela** [7.1 millions of refugees and migrants]

FY 2020 2021 2022 2023 (FYTD)

FY Southwest Land Border Encounters by Month



| | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | Total |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| 2023 (FYTD) | 231,531 | 235,185 | 252,280 | 157,359 | 156,634 | 193,234 | 211,159 | 204,561 | | | | | 1,641,943 |
| 2022 | 164,837 | 174,845 | 179,253 | 154,874 | 166,010 | 222,574 | 235,785 | 241,136 | 207,834 | 200,162 | 204,087 | 227,547 | 2,378,944 |
| 2021 | 71,929 | 72,113 | 73,994 | 78,414 | 101,099 | 173,277 | 178,795 | 180,597 | 189,034 | 213,593 | 209,840 | 192,001 | 1,734,686 |
| 2020 | 45,139 | 42,643 | 40,565 | 36,585 | 36,687 | 34,460 | 17,106 | 23,237 | 33,049 | 40,929 | 50,014 | 57,674 | 458,088 |

Source: U.S Customs and Border Protection

Root causes of migration from Central America



- 1. Poverty and Inequality:** 74% of Central American migrants leave their countries due to economic reasons and a lack of employment opportunities [IDB]
- 2. Political instability, violence and corruption:** authoritarian government, gangs violence and drug trafficking
- 3. Impact of climate change:** Eta and Iota hurricanes destroyed thousands of homes in 2020
- 4. Gender based violence:** El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras are among the five countries with the highest rate of femicides in Latin America [UNCHR]
- 5. Informal family reunification:** 2 out of 5 migrants undertake the undocumented journey to the US for family reunification and employment opportunities provided by their relatives [IDB]

How Central American migrant caravans change migration dynamics

- 1. Migrant caravan as a new method of migration:** more than 30 caravans until now
- 2. Cheaper, safer and visible, but not always efficient:** visibility can present both advantages and risks.
- 3. Increase in Family, Children, and Women**
- 4. Digital communication and collective organization:** are caravans a new democratic approach to migration?

