Fact Sheet on U.S. Wars, Militarism, Intervention, and Migration

- In 2017, the U.S. military was deployed in 149 countries around the world.
- The U.S. has close to 800 bases in 50 or more countries.
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimated that in 2016, 65.6 million people across the globe were forced to flee as a result of conflict including war and persecution; of those, about 22.5 million, of whom half are children, are refugees, meaning they have crossed borders into another country seeking safety and refuge.
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees also estimated that there were more than 40 million internally displaced people in 2016 and 2.8 million asylum seekers.
- 1.3 million Afghans, Iraqis, and Pakistanis have been killed in U.S. wars post 9/11
- In just the first nine months of 2017, the U.S. dropped more than 2,400 bombs on Afghanistan, almost twice as many as in all of 2016.
- The War in Afghanistan which started in 2001, is now the United States’ longest running war in the country’s history
- The U.S. dropped 32,801 bombs in Iraq and Syria in just the first nine months of 2017, up from 30,743 in all of 2016
- There are currently ten countries that have Temporary Protected Status in the United States that allows for temporary resettlement in the U.S and the ability to obtain legal work permits
- The list of TPS countries includes El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen
- Of these ten countries on the TPS list, the DHS has decided to end four of these countries’ designation as such between July 2018 and September of 2019. This includes Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador. The remaining countries are pending decisions by the DHS.
- Though the U.S. frames TPS as humanitarian, it has intervened militarily or otherwise in most TPS designated countries
- Despite the fact that Trump’s rhetoric on immigration from Mexico suggests a crisis in numbers, according to the New York Times with data from U.S. Border Patrol, the number of undocumented immigrants caught at the border is the lowest it’s been since 1971
- After NAFTA came into force, nearly 500,000 Mexicans were migrating to the United States every year because NAFTA’s detrimental impact on the Mexican economy.