

## An Investigation of the Strategy of Interiorization of the Venezuelans Refugees in Brazil

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### Abstract

*In his study, the Strategy of Interiorization of the Shelter Operation program applied by Federal Government of Brazil together with United Nation agencies to deal with the Venezuelans refugees is investigate. In seven years, the number of request for refuge in Brazil increased 951% as result of the war in Syria, Global Migration Crisis and Venezuela Situation. In 2017, the register of the National Committee for Refugees reached 92.000 Venezuelans crossing the Brazilian border. The over-population in the border cities created a humanitarian emergency and, as consequences, new laws and national emergencies programs. In the investigation, the content analysis was used to describe literature research. In the content analysis, similar data from defined themes were collected and interpreted. The study observed deep alterations in the behaviour of the migratory phenomenon and its consequences in Brazil. From 2018, with references migratory laws, the country is ready to receive more refugees and balance its foreigner percentage is respect to the world.*

**Keywords:** Brazil; Venezuelan refugees; Shelter Operation; Strategy of Interiorization; Venezuela Situation

## Venezuelalı Mültecilerin Brezilya'daki İselleřtirme Stratejisinin İncelenmesi

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### Öz

*Bu alıřmada Brezilya Federal Hükümeti ve Birleřmiş Milletlere baėlı ajanslar tarafından Venezüellalı mültecilere yönelik yürütölen Barındırma Operasyonunun İselleřtirme Stratejisi arařtırılmaktadır. Son yedi yılda Brezilya'daki mülteci sayısı, Suriye'deki savař, Küresel Gö Krizi ve Venezuela Durumu'ndan dolayı %951 artmıřtır. Ulusal Mülteciler Komitesi kayıtlarına göre 2017 yılında Brezilya sınırını geen Venezuelalı sayısı 92.000'e ulařmıřtır. Sınır řehirlerinde oluřan ařırı yığılmanın neden olduėu acil insani yardım operasyonu için yeni yasalar ve ulusal acil durum programları oluřturulmuřtur. Arařtırmada, ierik analizi literatür arařtırmasını tanımlamak için kullanılmıřtır. İerik analizinde, tanımlı temalardan benzer veriler toplanarak yorumlanmıřtır. Bu alıřmada, Brezilya'daki gö olgusunda meydana gelen derin deėiřimler gözlemlenmiřtir. Brezilya 2018 yılından itibaren ıkardığı ve aynı zamanda diėer ölkeler için referans teřkil eden gö yasaları ile, yapısındaki mevcut yabancı sayısını dünyaya göre dengeleyerek daha fazla mülteciyi kabul etmeye hazırdır.*

**Keywords:** *Brezilya; Venezuelalı mülteciler; Barındırma Operasyonu; İselleřtirme Stratejisi; Venezuela Durumu*

## Introduction

The current population of Brazil is estimated at 207 million, whose 0,23% is foreign. This low number demonstrate a non-attractive country for immigrants and refugees. Whereas the world average of the migrant is 3%, the number in Brazil seems to be below capacity compared to the continental proportions and the Global Migration Crisis. However, this situation tends to reverse from this year with the renovations of the migration laws.

Distinguished marks in the retrospective of the Brazilian migration laws were: the International Convention on the Status of Refugees (1951), the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees of 1967 and the participation of the Executive Committee member of United Union High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) of 1958. According to these treaties, Brazil declares refugees status to an individual whose well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it. (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee [UNHCR], 2010, p.14).

In 1980, the Military Regime (1964-1985) approved the Law 6.815/1980, also known as Immigrant Statute, which guided the national reference for the treatment of migration until 2017. Conceived in a non-democratic period, legal and regulatory rules lacked human basic rights. The Law adopted a national security posture and the criminalization of those who came from other countries in refuge circumstances. The immigrant was seen as a menace to 'stability and social cohesion' of the country (Oliveira, 2017, p.171)

In 1997, the Brazilian policy for reception of refugees has advanced with the enactment of the Refugee Statute through the Law 9.474. In addition to establishing the standards applicable to refugees and asylum seekers in Brazil, it was created the National Committee for Refu-

gees (CONARE) – the body responsible for examining in the first instance applications of refugee and declaring the recognizing of refugee status, as well, as guiding and coordinating the actions needed for effective protection, assistance and legal support.

Brazilian law became more comprehensive than the 1951 Convention, as it also provides for the granting of refuge in case of serious and widespread human rights violations. A significant portion of those seeking refuge in Brazil originates in countries victimized by conflicts or internal turmoil. Since 1999, the Brazilian Government, in partnership with UNHCR and civil organizations, leading refugee resettlement program. However, refugee applications began to increase considerably after the war in Syria, the Global Migration Crisis and the political and socio-economic crisis in Venezuela, which is referred to as “Venezuela Situation” by UNHCR.

In this context, about 92.000 Venezuelans crossed the Brazilian border in 2017, of this total 44.000 went to other countries in South America and Europe. In the same year, CONARE registered 33.865 general request for refugee, with 52,75% coming from Venezuelans. According to Asano (2018) although the data show an explosion, the number is considered low in absolute terms compared to other similar-size countries. Nevertheless, the displace of people caused chaos in the quiet border of Brazil.

Due to the refuge imbalance experienced caused by Venezuelans, the Presidency of the Republic sanctioned Law No. 13.445 of 2017, replaced the Immigrant Statute of 1980 and modifying the section of special protection for stateless and reduced statelessness. (Câmara dos Deputados, 2017, p. 1)

The new Law guarantees the migrant, in equality with nationals, the inviolability of the right to life, liberty, equality, security and property, in addition to instituting a Temporary Visa for humanitarian assistance. The most renewing of the Law is that the neighbour countries of Brazil do not need visas for entry into Brazil and can enjoy the status of temporary resident for two years and then apply for permanent residence. With the request for refuge or temporary residence, the Venezuelan citizen has rights such as: issuing documents in Brazil, access to assistance and social protection, health and education public policies.

Besides the Temporary Visa, the Humanitarian Visa began to be issued. It is granted to stateless or a citizen of another country who lives in serious and widespread violation of human rights, ensuring the recognition of refugee status by Law 9.474.

According to UNHCR (2018b), the new Brazilian Law treats the migration situation as one human rights. It combats xenophobia and discrimination against migrants and actually is recognized as one of the most advanced on the subject, having served as a model for countries in the region. This because Brazil is not linking the law of migration to national security but with the "humanitarian perspective". In this way, the refugees are "agents of social transformation, bringing new experiences, development to the technology and contribution to the productive sector". (Jarochinski, Bogus, & Silva, 2017, p.26).

### **The Venezuela Situation**

Currently, Venezuela lives the greatest economic collapse in the history, even though it owns the largest reserves of oil worldwide – in front of Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq. Without developing its oil industry and its economic diversification throughout the history, more than 90% of exports and approximately half of government revenues come from oil. The mismanagement focused on the tendency to expand the importation of foreign products and expropriate the oil industry in the name of nationalization. It caused the shortage of the country which worsened even more with the United States sanctions.

In the politic point of view, the crisis in Venezuela intensified in 2015 when the opposition won a majority in Parliament, creating conflicts between powers. Allied to Maduro, the Supreme Court of Justice restricted the legislative functions of the National Assembly and, in April 2016, a series of protests took to the streets of Caracas, demanding the departure of Maduro. As a result of this complex socio-economic and politic case, insecurity and violence, lack of food, medicines or access to essential services, as well as loss of income, has caused the exodus of Venezuelans.

For this reason, UNHCR (2018a) published the Guidance Note on the Outflow of Venezuelans, on 13<sup>th</sup> of March of 2018, and catalogued

the Venezuelans as refugee. The document advert the countries of the agreement 'do not deported or forced the Venezuelans to return, guaranteeing the minimum standards of legality, accessibility and access to basic rights'. Furthermore, the UNHCR (2018b) Supplementary Appeal published, also on 13<sup>th</sup> of March of 2018, the financial requirements "to what is referred to as the Venezuela Situation" totalling US\$46.1 million. Of this value US\$7.5 million were destined to Brazil.

As a consequence of the Venezuela Situation, 298.067 people required asylum around the world, being Brazil the third most sought after country. (UNHCR, 2018c).

The thousands of Venezuelans who crossed the border on the BR-174 highway left the host government tense and in state of emergency.

### **Shelter Operation**

The border between Brazil and Venezuela is modestly demarcate. According to the new Law No. 13.445, the neighbours have to show only an identify document in the customs, which does not necessary have to be passport. During decades, the migratory flow consisted of Brazilians citizens crossing the border for tourism, "now the situation reversed". (Fernandes, Accioly, & Duarte, 2018)

The distance of Caracas and Santa Elena de Uarén is 1.300 km and the bus journey takes a day. Santa Elena de Uarén is 15 km from Pacaraima, and usually the Venezuelans use collective taxis until the post of identification. As seen in Figure 1, while the flow of Venezuelans stay in Pacaraima, others continued the trip to Boa Vista, the capital of the State of Roraima, about 200 km away. The flow of people took the streets and squares of these cities until beginning of 2018, occasion that UNHCR and local Government released emergency funds.

Actually, some initiatives were taken by the local government at the end of 2016 and throughout 2017, providing technical and financial support to the State of Roraima and the border cities affected. However, this was not enough with the intensification of the flow of immigrants in the same year. Then, the Federal Government decided to act more directly into humanitarian services to Venezuelans and on 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2018, President Michel Temer visited the State of Roraima in

order to announce more effective measures. One of them was the publication of Decree No. 9.286, establishing a Federal Emergency Assistance Committee responsible for the care actions and reception of migrants in vulnerable situations. In this way, an extraordinary credit in favour of the Defence Ministry, amounting to R\$ 190 million for the 'emergency assistance and humanitarian care of people coming from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela', was adopted as Provisional Measure (Casa Civil, 2018).

In conjunct with 16 organs governmental – ministries, army, federal, state and municipal institutions – the actions purpose an analysing the consequences of the Venezuela Situation and the mission of assuming the control of the north of the country. In this way was implanted the Shelter Operation.

Subdivided in actions, the program works in different phases and team: Operation Border Management; shelters implantation; health assistance; shelters management, Strategy of Interiorization, among other.

The Operation Border Management restructured the Pacaraima's border. It was made the amplification and requalification of the physical structure of the follow receptions points: Identification and Reception Post, Screening Station and Heath Post. Still in Pacaraima, the Pintolândia and Janokoida Shelters with capacity for 1.143 sheltered were installed (Casa Civil, 2018).

Besides Pintolandia and Janokoida, seven shelters were set up in the second refugee stop, as shown in Figure 1. Currently, the Shelter Operation in Boa Vista administrates the follow instalations: Tancredo Neves (313 sheltered), Hélio Campos (278 sheltered), Jardim Floresta (546 sheltered), São Vicente (293 sheltered), Nova Canaan (358 sheltered), Latife Solomon (390 sheltered), Santa Teresa (483 sheltered) and Rondon I (600 sheltered).

Another issue that the local government has been working effectively is the health control. In order to assess diseases and immunize people, the Ministry of Health work on nutrition evaluation programs of children from 0 to 5 years, Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Hepatitis and Syphilis testing, triplíce viral and yellow fever vaccination.

*Figure 1. Displacement of the Venezuelans in Brazil (Tandoğdu, B., 2018)*



In this first phase, the military service of Navy, Army and Air Force placed 401 soldiers, 273 in Boa Vista and 128 in Pacaraima, to act in security, transportation and distribution of 4.500 of meal per day. Because of the over-population in the borders cities, the Shelter Operation developed a program which transports volunteer refugees to others States of Brazil.

The Strategy of Interiorization of the Government, which is aware of the continental dimensions of the country, is a plan prepared for the assimilation and integration of the refugees nationwide. The aim of this



action consists in to help the Venezuelans in vulnerability and find them better life conditions in other States, without overloading any region.

In this phase, the Emergency Assistance Committee of the Shelter Operation receives the United Nations agencies collaboration. The strategy works as below.

Firstly, the UNHCR establishes the population profile and identify those interested in participating in the strategy. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Voluntary Return and Reintegration Support Program (VRRSP) are responsible for the organization of meetings that explain and encouragement of the program.

Brazilian Government articulate the communication with the States. Those interested provide shelters and teams to receive the refugees. In parallel, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) works in conjuncture with the private sector, promoting seminars to inform and encourage the insertion of refugee workers in the local job market. Those refugees who voluntarily agree to travel have their documentation and health verified. They are registered and receive an Identify Cart that can be used at hospitals, schools and basic services. The registration also gives the right to work in their future destination. IOM and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) organize informative meetings dealing with transportation, new accommodations, destination cities, shelters, job opportunities, school enrolment and social assistance. In addition, social dialogue meetings with women are held by UNFPA. At last, the logistical plan is coordinated by Brazilian Air Force and a term of responsibility is signed by the refugees. (Força Aérea Brasileira, 2018)

## **Methodology**

The study originated from a need to investigate the Strategy of Interiorization applied by Federal Government of Brazil and United Nations agencies to help the Venezuelans refugees. The scope of this investigation is based on the over-population of Venezuelans in the border, the new laws adopted in Brazil to control the situation and in how the profile of the refugees was key factor to the Shelter Operation. For this

purpose, the content analysis was used to describe literature research. The content analysis was researched in two stages in the period of April and July 2018. In the first, similar data from the defined themes were collected; in the second, detailed interpretations were made in the study. (Yıldırım & Şimşek, 2011, p. 227)

## Data sources

The material selected in this process were official documents related to the subject. The official documents considered were produced by employees for record-keeping and dissemination purposes such as newsletters, files, articles, and the like are used to study bureaucratic rhetoric (Bogdan & Bilken, 1998, p. 58; Merriam, 2015, p. 132; Karasar, 2003, p. 183). The official documents used were:

- reports of United Nations specialized agency International Labor Organization (ILO)
- reports of United Nations bodies and their specialized services: IOM; UNHCR; UNFPA; UNDP; United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- data reported by Government of Brazil: Civil House of the Presidency, Chamber of the Deputies, Brazilian Air Force and the Ministry of Justice and Public Security and Ministry of Labor
- data reported by Department of Public Policy Analysis of Getúlio Vargas Foundation (FGV DAPP)
- data reported by Sergio Vieira de Mello Academic Consortium (SVMAC) – group of academic institutions fostered by UNHCR in Brazil.

## Findings

Data source used in Table 1 were official documents collected from 2010 to 2017 by Ministry of Justice and Public Security of Brazil. (Ministério da Justiça, 2017). The topics demonstrated in the study in numbers of the total global case of application of refuge, the total of Venezuelans refuge request and the judged request of the applications by Government of Brazil.

**Table 1. Asylum application in Brazil**

Year	Refuge request	Refuge request by Venezuelans	Judged request
2010	966	4	394
2011	3.220	4	409
2012	4.022	1	606
2013	17.631	55	1.293
2014	28.385	209	2.414
2015	28.670	829	1.667
2016	10.308	3.375	1.986
2017	33.865	17.865	-

Between 2010 and 2017, the number of request for refuge in Brazil shows an increase of 951%. The increase does not occur only in 2016, when the reduction is 64% compared to the previous year, however in 2017 returns to grow significantly by 228%. Although the number of global orders fell in 2016 to 10.308, the requests by Venezuelans increase over the same period. In 2013 and 2014, the refuge request by Venezuelans shows an increase of 280%, while in 2015 and 2016 the increase is 307%. Still it can be seen that in 2016 and 2017, the increase intensified widely, rising to 429%.

About the judged requests, it is seen that in 2016 there is a 12% increase in the total number recognized refugees in Brazil. In 2016, 1.986 of the 10.308 asylum applications were judged while no data were released on the trial of 33.865 cases in 2017.

In addition to the data in Table 1, the current study found relevant data relative to the refugees profiling in the research carried by the Brazilian Ministry of Labor, in partnership with the UNHCR and SVMAC. They conducted a statistical assessment on the socioeconomic and labor characteristic on this population. (UNHCR, 2018d)

It was needed to understand the characteristics of the Venezuelan population that came to the border was essential to ensure proper government planning. This study focused on the data distribution of Venezuelans immigrants according to the educational level, the average age and working status before the migration to Brazil. The data were analyzed by the relationship between the obtained results, reported as percentage values of unanswered questions and answers.

*Table 2. Age group*

18-19	20-39	40-64	65 or more	No answer
2,9	72	23	0,9	1,2

It is possible to see in Table 2 the age average of the Venezuelans that crossed the border of Brazil. It demonstrates that almost three quarters of the Venezuelans refugees were between 20 and 39 years old; 2,9% of the population was between 18 and 19 years old; 23% was between 40 and 64; less than 1% was 65 years old or more, and 1,2% did not answers. It can be seen that the elderly people did not migrate as the young and adult ones. Below, Table 3 indicates the statistics about employed, self-employed, unemployed or student position of the Venezuelans refugees before became refugee in Brazil.

*Table 3. Status of labor*

Employed	Self-employed	Unemployed	Student	No answer and other
51,8	20,8	13,8	5,9	7,7

As can be seen, almost three quarters of the population was working in Venezuela before their exodus to Brazil. More than half the population were employed in Venezuela and 20,8% was self-employed. The unemployed people 13,8%, the students 5,8% and 7,7% did not answer.

Another relevant data, not included in table format, is the study level of the refugees in Brazil. According to research above, 78% of the Venezuelans researched had complete secondary level, and 32% had complete higher education or postgraduate level. It shows that the refugee population in the research is completely literate and have diplomas of different school grades. According to the Venezuelans profile, the new program was put into practice as part of the Shelter Operation. The Strategy of Interiorization was the most innovative and voluntary program installed in the operation. According to the education level, profession, age, genre, family situation and marital status, the refugees have the possibility to try their lives in another city. The Table 4 shows the phases of the program, the destination cities, the shelters, how

many people travelled and the marital status. In the program, the shelters around the country, are organized according to the age, genre and marital status. Some shelters are more distinctive than others. For example, the shelter CTA São Mateus, in São Paulo, accepted only men. The shelters in Rio de Janeiro accepted families, the shelter Don Jackson, in Manaus, accept only single women or single women with children. Others shelters are more flexible in genres and marital status, as in the case of Casa do Imigrante Missão Paz, in São Paulo. The shelter accepted 23 families, 10 men and 20 men and women in the Phases I, II and V respectively.

*Table 4. Phases of Interiorization*

City	Shelter	Immigrants	Profile
<b>Phase I</b>			
São Paulo	CTA São Mateus	128	Men
São Paulo	CTA Butantã	33	Men and Women
São Paulo	Terra Nova	15	Families
São Paulo	Casa do Migrante	23	Families
	Missão Paz		
Cuiabá	Centro Pastoral do Imigrante	66	Families
<b>Phase II</b>			
Manaus	Santo Antônio	13	Women
Manaus	Santa Catarina	122	Families with children
Manaus	Don Jackson	30	Single women or with children
São Paulo	CTA São Mateus	50	Men
São Paulo	Casa do Migrante	10	Men
	Missão Paz		
São Paulo	Centro de Acolhida para mulheres migrantes	8	Women
<b>Phase III</b>			
Cuiabá	Centro Pastoral do Imigrante	29	Families or Women and Men
<b>Phase IV</b>			
Conte (Paraíba)	Casa de Acolhida do Migrante	44	Men and Women age 18-30

Igarassu (Pernambuco)	Aldeias Infantis SOS	69	Families with Children, heads of families
Rio de Janeiro	Aldeias Infantis SOS	50	Families with Children, heads of families
<b>Phase V</b>			
Cuiabá	Centro Pastoral do Imigrante	24	Men and Women
Brasília	Aldeias Infantis SOS	50	Families
São Paulo	Casa do Migrante Missão Paz	20	Men and Women
Rio de Janeiro	Casa de Acolhida Papa Francisco - Caritas	36	Families

In phase I, States of São Paulo and Amazonas were the firsts to collaborate with the Shelter Operation. Completed on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of April, the operation had 265 voluntary refugees. 199 people went to the cities São Paulo and 66 to Cuiabá. The phase II was completed on 4<sup>th</sup> of May and had 233 voluntary refugees, 165 to Manaus and 68 to São Paulo. The phase III was the shortest operation and carried 29 voluntary refugees to the municipality of Cuiabá. The phase IV carried 163 voluntary refugees to the States of Paraíba, Pernambuco and Rio de Janeiro. The last phase completed on July 2018, carried 130 voluntary refugees. 24 people went to Cuiabá, 50 to Brasília, 20 to São Paulo and 36 to Rio de Janeiro. In the total, the Strategy of Interiorization had 820 voluntary refugees travelling from Roraima to other Brazilian States.

## Discussion

The current Global Migratory Crisis has caused the most severe displacement by force of people in history. The South America are not outside this international context, and Brazil has been assumed the role of host country, especially in the year 2016 and 2017 when the numbers of asylum request grow by 228%. In this period, nationals from 51 countries were recognized as refugees in Brazil. According to

CONARE, from 33.865 applications, 17.865 were Venezuelans, the nationality with the highest number of requests in 2017. (Fernandes, Accioly, & Duarte, 2018, p.2)

However, Brazil Government took a long time to act in the situation. The increase of refuge applications in the north of Brazil caused debility in the local administrative service, clearly not prepared to situations of over-population.

As it can be seen in Table 1, from 10.308 requests for refugees, only 1.986 were tried in 2016. It means that the process of approving a refugee request takes more than a year to be approved or rejected. Making a comparison, in ten years, Brazil, with 200 million inhabitants, accepted only 10.000 requests; that is what Germany, with a population of 80 million, gives in less than a week. (Teixeira & Nublat, 2018, p.55)

The UNHCR had been watching Brazil's reactions closely. At the same time that the agency praised the modernization of the laws, it also criticized due to the delay of assistance to the refugees. The imbalance between asylum requests and judgment, generated a mismatch in integration of the refugees in the formal labor market. As result, a significant number of Venezuelans remained in an irregular situation, without documentation or permission to remain including those not able to apply for asylum because of bureaucratic obstacles, long waiting periods, or high application fees. (UNHCR, 2018b)

According to Baum (2004, p.44) the paragraph above it is a "discussion hard to accept", but the refugees are the "wasted lives" in the humanity. When the worries are "focused on them not in us", the refugees are a problem that must be controlled. In fact, when the border cities became out of control – when the phenomenon of over-population created a humanitarian emergency in the streets and squares of Pacaraima and Boa Vista – meetings and decisions were provided.

Only in the first semester of 2018, the local government took measures such as sanctioning new legislation, guaranteeing more resources to states impacted by migration and health care actions. "The actions of the government were not directed towards the construction of a migration policy with a solid basis, but rather to manage crisis situation in response to the pressures". (Fernandes & Faria, 2017, p.46)

Another point to be discussed is the research carried out by Ministry of Labor, UNHCR and SVMAC, demonstrated in Table 2 and 3. The results of this research demonstrate the high level of education of the refugees, even higher than the local population according to FGV DAPP source. The profile of the Venezuelans is young and productive. It is what Table 2 and 3 shows: almost three quarters of the population has between 20 and 39 years old and was working in Venezuela before came to Brazil. It can be saying that they came looking for job opportunities, and perhaps, send financial help to whom stayed, for example, for the elders.

Apropos, it is worth mentioning the importance of SVMAC participation, where local universities are affiliated on a consortium academic, ensuring wider possibilities of conducting a safe and reliable research. Founded under the pillars of the Mexico Action Plan, the SVMAC represents a group of universities that promote education and research on asylum matters, as well as direct assistance to refugees and asylum seekers. At this juncture, the questionnaire was applied by a field team composed by students from the Federal University of Roraima and who were trained beforehand.

### **Strategy of Interiorization**

The strategy of relieve the over-population in the border cities had completed its fifth phase. The program offered logistical plan for the purpose of help the assimilation and integration of the refugees nationwide. Comparing Figure 1 with Table 4, it is possible to see that the logistic plan was restrictive to a few States.

It is known that the Brazilian Government articulated the communication with the States, and the interested ones provide shelters and teams to receive the refugees. Thus, it is understood that only seven of the twenty-five States (State of Roraima is not included) agreed in receiving refugees in the period of three months. The States are São Paulo, Mato Grosso, Amazonas, Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco, Paraíba and Brasília.

The lack of support of the States demonstrates that Brazil carry a potential of sheltering and rejecting at the same time. The fear of the



governors in receive refugees, “the human wasted” and the “strangers everywhere and out of place”, put at risk the sameness. (Baum, p.80)

On the other hand, the attitude of the Federal Government in let to the governors the decision of take or not take refugees in their States, is an example of democracy.

## Conclusion

- In fact, the Venezuela Situation has affected Brazil with the sudden displacement of people in one dysfunctional border. The chaos was the necessary trigger for the historical changes in migration Laws in Brazil. From 2018, with referential Laws for refugees, Brazil is ready to receive more people and balance its percentage of foreigners in respect to the world.
- Even though the figures had been demonstrated since 2014 alarming and abnormal increase in numbers of Venezuelans refugees, decisive measures were taken only on February and March of 2018. On 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2018, date of carnival holiday, for the first time of the Venezuela crisis, President of Brazil Michel Temer visited the State of Roraima for a meeting with the leaders and release of financial resources in total of R\$190 millions, equivalent of US\$50 millions. Weeks later, on 13 of March of 2018, the UNHCR had released new guidance for governments to address the situation of persons in need of international protection and humanitarian assistance, declaring the Venezuelans as refugees. The UNHCR required US\$46.1 million for the Venezuela Situation, being US\$7.5 destined to Brazil. During this research, no data or official document were found about the similarity of dates. However, this study concludes, that the synchronization between the Federal Government and the UN agency release of funds were condition sine qua non for beginning of Strategy of Interiorization and humanitarian helps for the Venezuelans.
- The South America countries were included in the global migrant and refugee crisis. Affected by Venezuela Situation, it is observed deep alterations in the behaviour of the migratory

phenomenon in Brazil. It pointed out for a necessary legal update that sustain migrate on policies, making urgent replacement of the Immigrant Statute. The changes in the Brazilian laws, were fundamental for guarantees of rights and protection of the migrant and it became reference for other countries. However, it is necessary to strengthen the refuge system updating the infra-legal norms and expand the administrative structure, ensuring that the regulations preserve the progress reached and that the Law does not become disfigured in the process.

- The example of the research assisted by SVMAC and showed on Table 2, 3 and 4, demonstrated extreme importance on governmental decisions, such as Strategy of Interiorization, new laws for labor and migration. The Sergio Vieira de Mello Academic Consortium has played an important role in the protection and integration of refugees, promoted education and research on asylum matters, as well as direct assistance to asylum seekers. This example of academic consortium can be extended to European and Middle East universities in researches on refugee cases, where the numbers of forcibly displaced people are hundreds of times bigger than in Brazil.
- In the period of this investigation, no research was found on the voluntary refugees who were relocated by the Strategy of Interiorization. Researches about the consequences of this program should be supported.

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