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Dear President López Obrador,

I am writing to express my alarm over the serious risks to the lives and safety of thousands of asylum seekers and migrants from countries such as Haiti, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador as a result of recent actions by Mexican authorities. According to the information available, authorities from the National Migration Institute (INM) and National Guard (GN) are conducting mass detentions, expulsions, and deportations without carrying out prior individualized risk assessments or enabling people in need to access protection.

I am also aware of recent incidents in which authorities have persecuted and violently detained migrants and asylum seekers, using unnecessary force against them. According to available information, children are also being held in migratory detention centers in the South of the country, against Mexican law and international standards surrounding the best interests of the child.

I call upon you to uphold the rights of migrants and asylum seekers by putting an end to mass deportations without due process, by ensuring that children are never detained in migratory detention, and by ensuring that migrants and asylum seekers are treated with respect and dignity, not unnecessary or excessive force.

Yours sincerely,