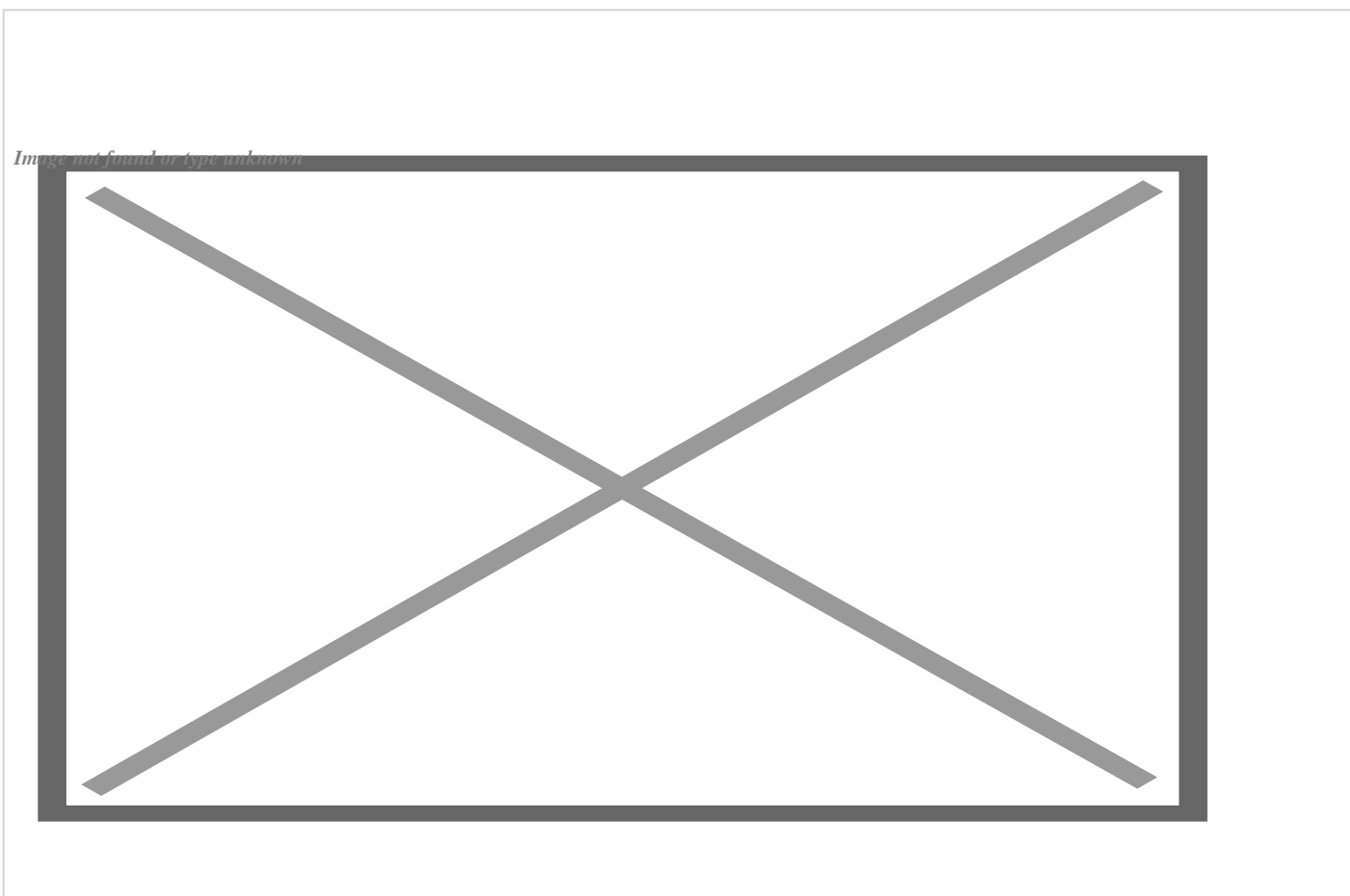


# *López Obrador proposes regional integration and an end to the blockade against Cuba*

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Mexico City, January 5 (RHC)-- Regional economic integration throughout the Americas and the elimination of the blockade against Cuba are among Mexico's six proposals to the United States to face the migratory crisis, revealed Andrés Manuel López Obrador today at his morning press conference.

The president responded to a question about the migratory issue and the foreigners in that situation present in Mexico with the dangers it entails, such as the recent kidnapping of 32 migrants, most of them Venezuelans.

López Obrador explained that Mexico's approach to the United States is the integration of the entire continent. If it has already proven to be successful in North America, why not the whole of America, and that is what we are proposing to Washington and Canada, since this is to regularize the migratory situation.

Furthermore, it is also to do so with a great deal of realism, so as not to allow the exploitation of the workers who are regularized, starting with those who have been working in the United States for more than 10 years and are not recognized, he added.

We are proposing, he said, something that we now want to move forward on. Two things: one, to reach an agreement with the neighboring governments that have a good relationship with us to be able to apply support programs, so that we can work together and we are doing so.

Two, containment, that is, that migrants stay more in the southeast of Mexico so that they do not have to cross the country to the north because of the risks of organized crime and traffic accidents due to the poor condition of the trucks, and the people suffer a lot.

The other measures proposed are to dedicate a budget of 20 billion dollars for Latin American and Caribbean countries, that the U.S. Congress present a welfare and structural development plan, but they do not do it and on the contrary they question it.

In addition, regularize at least 10 million compatriots with more than 10 years working honestly in the United States.

Suspend the economic and commercial blockade of Cuba and begin a bilateral dialogue, remove it from the list of terrorist countries, abandon those fears and admit what danger the island could pose to the United States or any other country.

In this regard, he wondered, how can a people be sacrificed for political and ideological interests? Can there not be a dialogue of understanding, a relationship of respect?

In addition, to remove all sanctions against Venezuela. How many Venezuelans were among the 32 kidnapped? To fulfill those four points, he said, is to go to the bottom of the problem. Ah, that some party will not like it! Yes, but the people, which is what is important, will like it because they are the citizens' reserves and they know that this is facing the problem as such, and not managing the conflict as it is being done now.

I think, he said, that those in the US Congress are shouting to the skies, there must be a human policy with a social dimension and it is time to abandon that policy of 200 years ago, hegemonic of blockades, impositions, that is from the Middle Ages and has nothing to do with today's world, as neither does the irrationality of wars. (Source: Prensa Latina)

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