

# Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela: Exodus to Colombia



**35,000 Venezuelans** cross the border to Colombia every day, either to migrate or to buy food & medicine.



## Current Situation in Venezuela



## Venezuelans in Colombia: Why?

- Severe shortages of food and medicine
- Economic Crisis: hyperinflation & plummet of Bolivar currency
- Extreme Violence: human rights violations by state forces

- Venezuela and Colombia share a border, family ties, and commercial ties
- Eligible for Border Mobility Card (TMF): Over 1.5 million Venezuelans have TMF, which allows them to spend 7 days in Colombia's border region for up to 2 years to buy food & access healthcare: (Government stopped issuing them in February 2018)
- Eligible for Special Stay Permit (PEP) if have valid passport: Over 70,000 Venezuelans have PEP, which allows them to legally stay & work in Colombia for up to 2 years: (Application for PEP expired October 2017)

Venezuelans identified the economic crisis over insecurity and political instability as the main problem in their country.

## Current Concerns

Intensifying health crisis:  
Due to the lack of health access in Venezuela, the number of visits by Venezuelans to Colombian ERs increased by 16 times between 2015 and 2017. Border reception areas are confronting the spread of diseases.



60% of Venezuelans believe that Venezuela needs international assistance despite President Maduro's disregard for it.

Massive militarization of the border:  
Santos administration has enforced stricter migratory controls & deployed 3,000 military troops and border police to monitor illegal crossings.

Increased number of illegal entry points along the border put Venezuelans at great risk of harm by guerrillas and criminal networks.

Colombians are showing escalating signs of xenophobia against Venezuelan migrants.

