Question regarding Facebook Groups that Target Migrants

arajaraman@usaid.gov Anupama Rajaraman Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 6:09:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: [redacted]@fb.com

Hi Shiva,

I have an informal inquiry for FB. As you probably have seen in the news, the U.S. Government is confronting unprecedented levels of migrants attempting to enter the U.S. in an irregular manner at the southwest border. The majority of these migrants are coming from Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador) and Mexico.

Unfortunately Facebook, among other social media tools, is a source of misinformation on U.S. policies and the dangerous journey that vulnerable migrants undertake.

Here are two examples:

https://www.facebook.com/Pr%C3%B3xima-caravana-de-inmigrantes-2021-105272871562229

https://www.facebook.com/groups/447320573075041

These FB groups are full of misinformation and inaccuracies about U.S. policies and, most importantly, these FB groups encourage illicit activities -- specifically human smuggling and trafficking, on the part of "coyotes" and transnational criminal groups. They also place vulnerable migrants at risk of exploitation and violence.

I'm curious (again this is not a formal question from the U.S. Government) if FB has policies governing groups like these.

Thanks!
Anu

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