

Caribbean Juan Gonzalez.

"On the long term, it's not going to work, because people that are fleeing violence and that are looking for opportunities are either going to go to Mexico, which is something that we've been seeing, or they're going to make the journey to the United States," he said.

According to Gonzalez, investing in socioeconomic development in particularly crime-prone regions like the Northern Triangle countries would be a more efficient allocation of resources than increasing spending on US domestic security measures.

Improving law enforcement and judicial institutions could also help curb crime and corruption, thus reducing the incentive for citizens to migrate, the authors said.