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<http://c-spanclassroomdeliberations.org/issues/u-s-mexico-border/>

Username: students Password: C-SPANCLASSROOM



**Deliberation Topic: What should the United States do to address problems along the U.S.-Mexico border?**

1. First, define these terms and phrases before reading the background article or using the videos from C-SPAN Classroom Deliberations. Try searching Google or a dictionary for a definition.
2. Finally, use these words in your deliberations and writing activities after you understand all sides of the issue.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Term | Definition  |
| Apprehensions |  |
| Asylum |  |
| Bracero Program |  |
| Cartel |  |
| Customs and Border Protection (CBP) |  |
| Demographics |  |
| Deport |  |
| Foreign Aid  |  |
| Migrate  |  |
| Port of Entry |  |
| Smuggling |  |
| Traffickers |  |
| U.S. Border Patrol |  |
| Unaccompanied Minors |  |
| Visa |  |

# **Background Video Questions**

**Deliberation Topic: What should the United States do to address problems along the U.S.-Mexico border?**

**VIDEO:** [**The History of Barriers on the U.S.-Mexico Border**](https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?9140)

* What were the reasons for the first barriers being built on the U.S.-Mexico border?
* Describe what the border was like before 1911.
* What were early border fences made out of? Describe the location and distribution of these fences.
* Describe the Bracero Program. What was its purpose?
* How did the Bracero program impact immigration and border policies?

**VIDEO:** [**Examples of Border Fencing**](https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?9150)- State Representative Russ Jones (AZ-R) (1:48)

* Describe how the border fencing is set up in San Luis, AZ.
* What are benefits and drawbacks of this structure in urban settings?
* What are benefits and drawbacks of this structure in rural settings?

**VIDEO:** [**The State of the U.S.-Mexico Border**](https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?9149)- Former Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske

* What does Mr. Kerlikowske mean when he says “when you’ve seen one part of the border, you’ve seen one part of the border?”
* How do geographical differences along the border impact border crossings?
* What does Mr. Kerlikowske suggest might decrease immigration from Central American countries?
* Discuss the recent trends in migration along the U.S.-Mexico border.
* What is meant by credible fear and asylum? According to Mr. Kerlikowske, what are problems with this process?

**VIDEO:** [**Immigration Trends and Asylum Policies in the United States**](https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?9141) (5:24)

* How has migration along the southern border changed recently?
* What is meant by asylum? What are the trends associated with this?
* According to Secretary Nielsen, what was the agreement that was made with Mexico regarding asylum?
* Describe the judge’s ruling regarding asylum and immigration courts.
* What is meant by asylum fraud?
* Why does Ms. Sacchetti describe the asylum issue as “life or death?”

# Background Article Questions

**Deliberation Topic: What should the United States do to address problems along the U.S.-Mexico border?**

[**The Numbers Behind a Border ‘Crisis’**](https://freebeacon.com/national-security/the-numbers-behind-a-border-crisis/)- *Washington Free Beacon*

* Describe the trends in data relating to apprehensions along the border.
* How has the composition of people apprehended changed recently?
* What are the reasons for this change in the composition of people being apprehended?
* Describe the laws relating to these migrants. How have they contributed to the problems along the border?
* How do the current policies and laws at the border contribute to the drug crisis?
* According to the article, how does the data from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection “paint a complicated picture?”

[**There Is a Crisis at the Border. It's Not the One Trump Is Describing**](http://time.com/5499377/donald-trump-border-wall-crisis/)**-** *Time Magazine*

* What is President Trump’s proposal for the border?
* How is the problem described in the article different from the one that President’s proposal addresses?
* What is meant by asylum? Describe the current policies of seeking asylum.
* Explain the problems associated with these new asylum policies.

[**This is what the US-Mexico border looks like**](https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2018/12/politics/border-wall-cnnphotos/)**-** *CNN*

* Describe the length and locations of the current fencing and walls along the U.S.-Mexico border.
* Explain the differences in appearance and function of the structures presented in the pictures. How do the different structures meet the geographic needs and features of that area?
* How can geographic features impact border crossings?

**What should the United States do to address problems along the U.S.-Mexico border?**

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| **Barriers and Security Between Ports of Entry** | **Border Security at Ports of Entry** |
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| **International Solutions Relating to Border Crossing** | **Improving Policies for Migrants along the Border** |
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