

When thousands of children fled violence and poverty in Iraq, Syria and Darfur and suddenly rushed toward the borders of other nations, it was seen as a humanitarian crisis and they were considered refugees.

A huge number of young migrants from Central America, many telling United Nations workers they are trying to escape drug cartels, gang violence, murder and rape as they stream across the southern border of the United States, have not been granted the same status.

The contrast in what politicians from both sides and others have characterized as a humanitarian crisis has introduced new complexity to America's debate on immigration.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is pushing for the United States, Mexico, and Central American countries to treat many of the children as refugees which could prompt more from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador to seek asylum.

However, the White House has said most won't qualify as refugees to stay in the country.

What do you think? Should the United States accept more refugee populations? Why?

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2014/07/17/politics/immigration-border-crisis-refugee-politics/>