

ITP Research Form

ITP: Argentina 2019

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Paper Title: A Shift in Argentina's Immigration Policy: A Human Rights Perspective on Argentina's Executive Changes to the Migratory Decree

Abstract:

In January of 2017, in the wake of international trends of tightening immigration controls, Argentina's President Mauricio Macri passed the Necessity and Urgency Order 70/2017, modifying the Migration Law 25,871 and its Regulatory Decree 616/2010. With organized crime to blame, the decree restricts rights of migrants who have committed "major crimes." This change provides for a timely assessment of Argentina's immigration system within a human rights context. With activists advocating the decree is unreasonable and a pretext for racism, and others opining the move is purely political and superficial, there is debate as to the reasons for the decree and the potential impacts it may have on Argentina.

Immigration has long been central to Argentina's culture and existence, and human rights have, in the last half-century, become a pillar of accountability and understanding. By assessing the history and current backdrop of both immigration and human rights generally in Argentina, this paper analyzes a contemporary issue through the lens of topics that have shaped Argentina's identity for centuries.