

Hearing on “Humanitarian Aspects of the United States Migratory Crisis”

U.S. House of Representatives

House Foreign Affairs Committees

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations

Charanya Krishnaswami Biography

Charanya Krishnaswami is the Advocacy Director for the Americas at Amnesty International USA, where she directs the organization’s US-facing policy advocacy related to human rights in the Americas, with a focus on Mexico/US border issues and access to asylum. Previously, she worked with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, where she managed some of the agency’s refugee status determination work, worked to facilitate refugees’ access to economic and social rights, and led trainings on the international refugee protection framework. Prior to that, she was the Peter and Patricia Gruber Fellow in Global Justice at Public Counsel in Los Angeles, where she advocated for precedential protections for children fleeing gang- and cartel-based violence and co-counseled a groundbreaking lawsuit advocating for universal legal representation for children in U.S. deportation proceedings. She also worked as an attorney in Denver, Colorado, where she provided legal representation to detained immigrants in the region, and as a law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in Pasadena, California.