



Apr 14, 2021 - Politics & Policy

# Harris to visit Mexico and Guatemala to address "root causes" of border crossings



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Vice President Harris said Wednesday she plans to visit Mexico and Guatemala "as soon as possible" in a diplomatic effort to address surging migration at the U.S.-Mexico border, [Reuters reports](#).

**Why it matters:** The number of unaccompanied minors crossing the border [has reached crisis levels](#). Harris, appointed by Biden as border czar, said she would be looking at the "root causes" that drive migration.

**What she's saying:** "Our focus is to deal with the root causes, and I am looking forward to traveling, hopefully as my first trip, to the Northern Triangle, stopping in Mexico and then going to Guatemala," Harris said at a virtual roundtable with experts on Wednesday, per Reuters.

- Most people in the Northern Triangle countries don't want to flee their homes but do so as a last resort due to financial instability, political turmoil and violence, among other things, Harris said.

- That's why the U.S. needs economic stability, Ha



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security presence at their borders to curtail migration.

- Other top border officials [visited Mexico and Guatemala](#) in March.



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