

Externalization and Border Enforcement between the EU and Morocco

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Conclusions

- Similar to externalization between US and Mexico → Mobility impeded in third countries → High rate of victimization when in transit
- Mexico provides some legal recourse for migrants, Morocco considerably less
- Additional field work required

Project Background

- Iberian peninsula (Spain + Portugal) has been primary destination for migrants transiting along Africa's western route
- What measures do north African countries adopt in response to EU states externalization of border enforcement?
- What is the impact on migrant mobility?
- Pilot project building on previous fieldwork in Mexico



Key Findings

- Due to geographical features, Spain serves as the frontline on the “western route”
- More restrictive immigration and border enforcement policies enacted by Spain/EU created three “migratory chokepoints”: Canary Islands, Melilla, and Ceuta
- Intended place of entry influenced by country of origin, economic resources, and gender
- Internal mobility control inside Spanish territory

Methodology

- Three weeks of field work in Portugal, Spain, and Morocco
- 14 semi-structured interviews with local experts, 4 oral histories with migrants



References

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