We can act in solidarity with resistance of Haitian migrants, bring attention to it, and find ways to offer material support and solidarity, as we join with those in the streets who are calling for freedom for all of those detained.

Break The Borders

FOR SOLIDARITY, MUTUAL AID, & FIRE TO THE AMERICAN PLANTATION
Recent footage of Border Patrol agents whipping and herding Haitian migrants fleeing natural disasters and economic collapse like cattle while screaming, “You use your women? This is why your country is shit, because you use your women for this,” have shocked millions. They show that life in Biden’s America is simply a continuation of the same racist policies that characterized the Trump administration. Under Trump, these policies inspired millions to take to the streets, blockade airports, shut down ICE facilities, clash with the police, and combat the far-Right. Will we turn a blind eye, now that these horrors are happening under orders from Biden?

Thousands of migrants are currently locked in a makeshift concentration camp under a US freeway in Del Rio, Texas, terrorized by brutal border guards and without access to basic necessities and sanitation. The Biden administration, hoping to score votes with moderate Republicans and centrist Democrats, have promised to deport the vast majority of these asylum seekers, most of whom fled Haiti following a series of disasters in 2010. Many are also traveling with their children; infants and minors who have never stepped foot in Haiti, which has been torn apart by natural disasters, crippling poverty, rampant government corruption, and escalating armed conflict.

Biden is pushing for these deportations under the Trump-era law Title 42, which itself was popularized by the white nationalist and nativist Trump advisor, Stephen Miller. Title 42 argued that migrants pose a risk to the US during the pandemic and must be deported immediately, superseding existing laws that allow people to apply legally for asylum from political persecution and natural disasters. In reality, the horrific conditions within the detention camp and mass deportations will do more to spread COVID-19 globally than simply giving migrants access to health-care and the vaccine.

But this is just the latest in a long series of injustices that the United States has inflicted on Haitians. Over the past century, the US has occupied the island of Haiti, engaged in military intervention, backed a series of coups, and provided support to corrupt regimes in order to suppress popular movements in Haiti—all in order to preserve the island nation—begun out of a slave revolt—as a reliable source for cheap, expendable labor.

Just as the United States has responded to widening wealth disparities by ramping up mass incarceration, militarization of the police, and the never-ending drug war, nation-states across the world are now responding to the growing migration crisis by militarizing their borders, introducing brutal security forces, and carrying out mass deportations. Already, the US is eyeing opening a migrant detention facility at Guantanamo Bay.

Yet these measures will not diminish the number of refugees who are driven to seek a better life by crises originating from imperialist wars, climate change, and increasingly volatile economies. As long as we put off implementing systemic solutions to the problems generated by militarism, capitalism, and ecological collapse, more and more people will be forced into the conditions that these Haitian migrants face today—and we may soon be among them.

This is why we must act in solidarity with migrants and against borders. Already Haitians have launched revolts: taking over deportation vans, and organizing hunger strikes in protest. We can act in solidarity with this increasing resistance, bring attention to it, and find ways to offer material support and solidarity, as we join with those in the streets who are calling for freedom for all of those detained.