

Donald Trump Administration and Massive Deportation Policy of Undocumented Immigrants: Implication to America's Economy

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ABSTRACT

The articles hinged on the Donald Trump administration and its massive deportation policy of undocumented immigrants. The article explained the reasons why America has become the destination point for migrants following its history and its contributions to the underdevelopment of other countries and continents. The article ventured into the contributions of migrants to the development of American's economy. Also, how the deportation policy can be counterproductive to the economy of America at the long run. Recommendations were made on how to manage the undocumented immigrants, while migrants with criminal records should be deported, migrants who have contributed to the development of America without any criminal records should be documented and thus make their residence legitimate.

Keywords: America, America's Economy, Deportation Policy, Undocumented Immigrants

1.1 Introduction

Donald trump is the 47th president of the United State of America and had recently signed an executive order by declaring illegal immigration a national emergency and ordering the massive deportation of undocumented immigrants live in United State of America. The massive deportation included those who are working and probably contributing to the national economy. Regardless of their status, the president has called for massive clamp down of migrants. According to Ward and Jessica (2025) Trump promised to lunched the largest deportation program in American history. For Houghtaling (2025) maintained that on January 23rd 2025, the United State immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) began to carry out raids on sanctuary cities with hundreds of illegal immigrants detained and deported. The trump administration reversed previous policies and gave the immigration and Customs Enforcement permission through the Executive Order to raid schools, hospitals and places of worship (Santana, 2025). The reason for Donald Trump's massive deportation policy is high level of crime in the United State. In a place where insecurity abound no meaningful development can succeed (Ubi & Robert, 2021). Just like Covid – 19 affected the world and brought a new world order (Omini & Ofre, 2021).

The 47th President of the United State of America is insisting that undocumented immigrants are responsible for the high rate of crime, insecurity and other social vices in America. Thus, the deportation policy has come to stay and would be vehemently implemented in every area and sector in America. America is a multiracial society according to her historical antecedent. Twilight in his presidential campaigns, Donald Trump discussed that if he wins the United State presidential election in 2016, there will be massive deportation of undocumented migrants (Gass, 2015). He again repeated same discussion in the 2024 presidential election that undocumented immigrants would be deported massively out of America (Savage et al, 2023).

The Pew Research Center, estimated the total population of unauthorized immigrants in the United State to be eleven million in 2022 (Krogstad, et al, 2024). In 2025, the estimated undocumented and unauthorized immigrants stood at 18 million in the United State of America. The American government want a safer America devoid of insecurity and proper prosperity to 'Gods

own country'. Trump has solely maintained that between 15 and 20 million people would be deported (Garsd, 2024). The American Immigration Council says that a "highly conservative estimate of trump's plan would cost at least 315 billion United State Dollars to carry out the massive deportation policy since most of the undocumented immigrants are coming from different continents and countries. Though this massive deportation policy of Donald Trump's administration has come with mixed-feelings. Some scholars posited that the anti-migration policy would negatively impact on labour at the long run and this would affect the America's economy. For instance, economic reports from the Brookings Institution and Peterson Institute for International Economics have found that Trumps plans would result to a decrease in employment for American-born workers and subsequently result in "Slow or no economic growth" (Sheeler, 2024). According to Tomasky (2024) the Gross Domestic Product of America can shrink by 4.2 -6.8 percent due to the massive deportation policy. Human resource is responsible for the development of any society in the world. For instance, the importance of the people in rural areas in Nigeria and the world cannot be overemphasized considering the role they play towards global development (Omini & Mbang, 2021). For Awubi & Omini (2024) posited that, the rate of rapid development at global level has been so dynamic that it touches all aspect of human venture. Global macroeconomic stability is an objective emerging economy that needed human resources for development (Umoru et al, 2023). This article has to give brief history of the United States of America in order to understand why America has become the rallying point of people from other continents and countries. America is more of a multi-furious – racial society.

1.2 Brief history of America

The history of the lands that became the United States of America began with the arrival of the first people in America around 15,000 BC. The colonization of North America by the European began in the late 15th century, that period experienced wars and epidemics that decimated indigenous societies. In 1760s, the thirteen British colonies were established. The southern colonies built an agricultural platform on the basis of slave labour, enslaving millions from the continent of Africa.

After the popular defeat of France, the British parliament imposed numerous taxes which led to some of the imposed taxes resisted. For instance, Bolton Tea Party of 1773 led to the parliament issuing the intolerable Acts clearly designed for self-government.

The crux of the history was that in 1776, the United State declared its independence, the revolutionary war of 1783 was led by General George Washington. The revolutionary war was won in 1783, the constitution of the United State was formally adopted in 1789, while the Bill of rights was added in 1791 to ensure and guarantee the inalienable rights of the citizens of the United State of America. George Washington became the first president of the United State of America and his special adviser, Alexander Hamilton together created and formed a viable and strong central government, the United State of America purchased the Louisiana in 1803 that contributed in doubling the size of America. Motivated the available, inexpensive land and the position of manifest destiny, the country expanded the pacific coast. Slavery also was on the high side, mostly brought black slaves from Africa to work in the plantation in America and contribute to the development of the country. Slavery maltreatment continued in the United State of America until in 1860 when Abraham Lincoln became the president of United State of America. This period there were agitation globally to stop the slave trade malady. This agitation made the Southern States that were pro-slavery seceded from the United State since the slave trade was becoming unpopular. This secession prompted the civil war. The confederates defeat in 1865 urgently led to the abolition of slavery.

The United State of America became the world's leading industrial power into the 20th century, following the opportunity of entrepreneurship, industrialization and the arrival of millions of immigrant workers. The migrant worked and build the economy of America till date. These

migrants come from Africa, Asia, Mexico, Columbia etc. Migrants are responsible for the development of America.

For the last two decades the United States of American Government has introduced the Green Card Lottery to attract the best brains and manpower from Africa and other continents to America. This has also help to contribute maximally to the overall development of the United State of America. The four century (1460-1860) transatlantic slave trade is responsible for the involuntary migration of 388,000 enslaved Africans to the United States according to historians' best estimate.

However, the United State has witnessed a much larger influx of voluntary African migration since 1960.

1.2 Reasons for the migration of undocumented immigrants and the United State of America's connection and Europe

The common reason people give why they migrate to the United State of America is for greener pasture, better economy and better job provisions. Though there are genuine reasons why some persons migrated to the United State of America and other developed countries. For instance, research conducted by Omini and Jason (2024) stated that the relegation of merit system and politicization of appointments are the reasons why some Nigerians are migrating to developed countries with merit system. These Nigerians are intelligent people with requisite skills but do not have the political connection to secure appointments in Nigeria. Other reasons include poor condition of service and poor state of infrastructure, poor governance and political crisis. According to Omini and Jason (2024) most of the times, the young Africans migrating to Europe and other continents may not have the financial resources or required documents to travel. They resort to using illegal routes that can cost their lives. This is also applicable to migrants of other continents. The negative impact of globalization motivate migration to develop countries. According to Friday, Omini & Ruth (2021) in recent times, the serious and considerable interest in the process of globalization fueled by multinational corporations influenced massive migration. Globalization has both positive and negative impact on developing or poor countries where the developed countries have dominance in international relations and economy (Etim – James & Omini, 2024).

The American connection towards the destabilization of the economy of other countries or continent. Far from promoting democracy and freedom abroad, the United States has been perpetuating exploitation and subversion as a global empire (Jo, 2025). In a new book, "The Myth of American Idealism", Chomsky and his co-author, Nathan Robinson clearly stated how the United State of America's global domination has wreaked havoc in so many countries. For instance, the devastating wars in Iraq and Afghanistan (Jos, 2025). in Nigeria the Boko Haram terrorist group have caused more havoc in the North Eastern states of Nigeria for more than a decade. The sustainability of the terrorist organization against the Nigerian state for many years is being motivated by international sponsorship. For instance, in recent times, there was insinuations by the United State member of congress maintained that American taxpayer money may have been used to fund terrorist groups around the world including Boko Haram in Nigeria through United State Agency for International Development (USAID) (Taiwo, 2025). This statement has prompted the Nigerian National Assembly to order a probe into the activities of USAID in Nigeria's North East where Boko Haram have unleashed terror on the economy and destabilized the national economy prompting the government to hike the budget for defense over the years without any tangible result. Similarly, there are senseless wars in Africa not caused by the people but triggered by the West. In some Francophone countries in Africa, the government have asked the French government to pull out its military force and leave the country due to the exploitation of these countries' natural resources. While these countries in Africa glow deeper into poverty and destabilization, Europe and America become richer and wealthy.

Africa is termed a rich continent with abundant natural and human resources, but these resources are always exploited by America and the Western world. Rodney argues that the combination of power politics and economic exploitation of Africa by Europeans led to the poor state of Africa's political and economic development evident in the late 20th century (Walter, 1972). Similarly, America has always tried to impose its interest in terms of political leadership in other continents including Africa. This imposition always meets up with resistance that triggers political crises and economic destabilization of these countries. Therefore, such crises bring about unemployment, deeper poverty and make the atmosphere unconducive for investors to invest in such environment. More of the terrorists' responses directed towards America were seen to be retaliation of America's negative interest in many countries. According to Ivo and James (2003) explained that for the 20th century, geopolitics drive America's foreign policy. Successive presidents of America sought to prevent any single country from dominating the center of strategic power in Europe and Asia. To this end, United State fought two world wars and carried on its four-decades long cold war with the Soviet Union. All this domination is the reason why other continents are poor and not developing. America's presence in most countries is not for development but for personal interest and the development of America.

The reason for the massive migration to the United State of America is quite obvious considering the roles America is playing to destabilize other countries and continents through its negative foreign policy. The government of United State of America ensured that America has the best security network, buoyant and viable economy, job security and conducive atmosphere for investment. Omini and Ofem (2023) posited that, the reason why many young Nigerians and Africans are migrating to America and other European countries is because of the thriving merit system where jobs are secured on merit and requisite skills. the United State of America government has made America more attractive to other nationals. This is the reason why citizens of other countries would do everything possible whether legal or illegal to get into America. Some migrants used limited time tourist visa, visiting visa, study visa or medical visa to stay in America even when their visa had expired. Report showed that there are about 14 million undocumented immigrants in the United State of America waiting to be axed by the Donald Trump Policy of deportation.

Currently, most of these immigrants work in America and providing cheap labour and also contributing so much to the development of American economy, migrants play key role in the development of America's economy. Their massive deportation would cripple America's economy at the long run. America has the largest economy with the largest Gross Domestic Product. An economy of this nature creates greater and conducive atmosphere for opportunities that is attractive to many young people seeking for greener pasture and better condition of living. The United State government open the doors for medical personnel to easily travel to the United State, thereby leaving other continents with shortage of medical personnel. This shortage of medical personnel has encouraged medical tourism to the United State of America. The United State of America medical sector is robust and firm with state-of-the-art medical facilities. Though the American government cannot be blamed for the poor state of medical facilities in Africa and other continents, the government of the parent countries should be blamed for failing to fund and improve the medical sector including providing better condition of service for medical personnel to work. Medical tourism has contributed to the development of America's economy.

The American government used its non-governmental organization to cause destabilization in other countries, thereby collapsing the economies. The impact is that where people cannot secure jobs, they would move to developed countries where there can secure jobs and live a happy life with families and friends.

1.4 Implications of Donald Trump Deportation Policy on Undocumented Immigrants to the America's Economy

There is no country in the world that can be built by its people only, people of other nations are needed to enable them build the country of their emigration. According to America Immigration Council Analysis of United State Census Bureau Data immigrants of almost 48million of whom now live in the United States among the overall population of roughly 335 million people generated some 1.6 trillion United State dollars in economy activity in 2022. The most recent year for which such data is available. Immigrants also contributed more than 579 billion United State dollars in Local, State and Federal taxes (Diana, 2024). According to Diana (2024) the role of undocumented immigrants remains controversial. The scholar maintained that undocumented immigrants spending power totaled more than 254 billion United State dollars in 2022 and undocumented households has a combined income of 330 billion United State dollars and paying 76 billion United State dollars in taxes and other bills. Overwhelmingly, immigration restrictions argue that undocumented immigrants in particular are net drain, particularly on state and local budgets.

The position of most economists is that immigration is good for the United State economy because it contributes to grow the size of the labor forces, boost tax revenue and increase consumer demand. The United Arab Emirate was built by immigrants with specialized skills. More developed countries in the world have migrants that play key roles in the development of the country.

The implication of the Trump's massive deportation policy in the United State of America would be counterproductive as it would impact negatively in the American economy at the long run. The following are the implications that the United State of America's economy will face:

- a. **No more cheap labor:** Undocumented immigrants are ready to work at any cost. Mostly at low cost to enable them feed their families and send remittances home. Cheap labor from undocumented immigrants have successfully contributed to the development of America's economy. According to Jeff (2025) recent economic data indicate a slowing of the economy since Trump assumed office including declines in consumer confidence, less than predicted hiring. With the massive deportation of undocumented immigrants, America's economy would suffer as there would not be cheap labor since the immigrants are either hiding in places where they cannot be traced to be deported. Already a popular chief executive officer in Houston, United State of America, Larry Fink maintained that President Donald Trump's deportation policy will have a severe impact on the agricultural and construction sectors which could lead to elevated inflation in the near term. Chief executive officers in the agricultural sector explained that about 70% of the men and women who work in the industry were not born in the United State. This has raised the question of whether the United State will have enough labor to harvest the crops when spring arrives. America will no longer enjoy the services of cheap labor from undocumented immigrants.
- b. **Loss of manpower:** Some of the undocumented migrants in the United States of America have professional skills they leant in the state. With the present massive deportation policy of Donald trump administration, these undocumented immigrants would leave the country and ply their profession in their country of origins. Great countries of the world are built by people from other countries who arrive in their countries emigration to work. This massive deportation would lead to loss of manpower and impact negatively on the productivity level of the American economy.
- c. **Negative impact on the health sector:** The deportation policy of Trump's administration will definitely affect the health sector. Some of the health professionals are undocumented immigrants or immigrants whose documents to stay or live in America have expired. Immigrants play an outsized role at every level of the United States health system. Immigrants' health worker was vital and played different viable roles during the Covid 19

crisis (Immigrant Learning Center, 2025). Health workers who are immigrants are contributing to the development administration and administrative development of the health sector in the United State of America. According to Omini et al (2025) development administration is an action – oriented administration charged with the onus of responding to the needs of any country.

Therefore, the massive deportation of immigrants who are health workers would impact negatively in the health sector and probably plunged the health economy. The implication would include inadequate access to medical attention and shortage of health workers.

d Gang up against America: Countries whose citizens are being deported without regards on them can gang up against America to place sanctions on American goods and increase tariffs. Already China has vowed to increase tariffs on American products should American government hike tariffs on its products. The European Union is also making drastic efforts to impose unfavorable tariffs on American goods. More countries coming together to impose economic sanctions on America would cripple America's economic fortunes and by extension negatively affect other smaller countries that depends on America for financial assistance and economic survival. There is no country that can survive alone considering the fact that the world is a global community. Administration of the economic system is paramount for the development of America as it connects with the global community through economic connections. Development administration is an action –oriented administration charged with the onus of responding to the needs of the country (Omini, Opue and Etowa, 2025). Other countries who might disagree with the massive deportation policies of America can trigger its development administration strategy to respond to America's unfavorable economic policies.

1.5. Conclusion

The article hinged on the deportation policy of the Donald Trump's administration whose target is to deport massively undocumented immigrants who have been residing in America for many years and contributing to the development of America's economy. Great countries of the world are built by immigrants with little contributions from indigenous people. Most migrants may not have migrated to America should there be proper governance, rule of law and economic prosperity in their countries. Most of the devastation in Africa and other countries of Asia whose citizens have to migrate to America for better life are caused by developed countries. Developed countries of Europe and America always manipulate global economic system to favor them against other developing countries. Poor economy make life uncomfortable for the people. Thus, migration to countries where there can realized their potentials and live a better life cannot be overemphasized. According to Omini and Jason (2024) a compromised system that relegates merit and allow incompetence and injustice to thrive is capable of deepening induced poverty, unemployment, poor justice system and a failed state. These indices are capable triggering people to migrate to better societies.

People who reside in a country where the government is corrupt with broken infrastructure would have no option than to seek for better life in countries with conducive atmosphere to thrive. The Donald Trump administration should have a clear rethink to come out with policies that can unite the world and promote good governance. This should be the reason why the United Nation Development Programmes should step up its investment in agriculture in Africa to mitigate migration (Omini & Friday 2021)

1.6. Recommendations

The following recommendations were made

1. Donald Trump administration should rather have pushed for good governance in Africa, Asia and other continents where good governance is lacking and propelling people in these countries to seek better lives in America. Donald Trump can achieve this by sanctioning countries whose political leaders are known for rigging elections, breaching rule of law with weak institutions. This would go a long way in promoting good governance and democratic principles and then motivate citizens to remain in their countries.
2. The American government should deport only migrants with criminal records with crime related history, because these people are threat to the security of.
3. Undocumented immigrants with good conducts and have contributed to the development of America's economy should be given the leeway to become documented immigrants. This would boost the development of America's economy and by extension impact in countries that rely on America for financial assistance and economic survival.
4. America can continue to manage its global leadership roles by managing the immigration issues. America is the police of the world. This would enhance the respect other countries have for America.

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