

Global Immigration alert

March 2025

United States

DHS announces termination of parole programs for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans

Executive summary

On 25 March 2025, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that the temporary period of parole previously granted to certain Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan (CHNV) nationals would be terminated on 24 April 2025 unless the Secretary of DHS makes an individual determination to the contrary. Parolees whose grant of parole expires on 24 April as a result of this announcement, or before, must depart the United States before their parole termination date if they are not able to apply for another lawful status.

Background and analysis

The CHNV parole programs were established under the Biden administration as part of its strategy to stem the flow of undocumented immigrants at the U.S.-Mexico border. More than 500,000 foreign nationals have since been granted parole under the program and relocated to the United States.

The 25 March announcement from DHS follows Executive Order 14165, issued by President Donald Trump on 20 January, which, among other directives, instructed the Secretary of DHS to terminate all categorial parole programs that are contrary to the policies of the United States, specifically naming the parole program for CHNV as an example. DHS determined subsequent to this directive that the CHNV parole programs need not be included in the new administration's strategy to deter and prevent the entry of undocumented immigrants into the United States.

The announcement also reflects DHS's intent to notify parolees that any parole-based employment authorization will be revoked.

What this means

Termination of the CHNV parole programs is already the subject of litigation. Therefore, while there is the possibility of temporary relief, which may take the form of delaying the effective termination date beyond 24 April, CHNV parolees ought to quickly assess whether they have alternative options for remaining in the United States and continuing to work, if applicable. Additionally, DHS may still take action to remove parolees prior to 24 April. Institution of removal proceedings against a parolee also has the effect of terminating parole-based work authorization.

We will continue to monitor and share future developments. For additional information, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact your EY Law LLP professional or Mehlman Jacobs LLP professional.

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