

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FILED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

DEC 11 2023

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

CARLA PATRICIA AREVALO-RAMOS,

Petitioner,

v.

MERRICK B. GARLAND, Attorney
General,

Respondent.

No. 22-202

Agency No.
A206-629-049

MEMORANDUM*

On Petition for Review of an Order of the
Board of Immigration Appeals

Submitted December 6, 2023**
Portland, Oregon

Before: BERZON, NGUYEN, and MILLER, Circuit Judges.

Carla Patricia Arevalo-Ramos (“Arevalo-Ramos”), a native citizen of Honduras, petitions for review of a decision by the Board of Immigration Appeals (“BIA”) dismissing her appeal of the immigration judge’s (“IJ”) denial of asylum

* This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by Ninth Circuit Rule 36-3.

** The panel unanimously concludes this case is suitable for decision without oral argument. *See* Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).

and withholding of removal. We have jurisdiction under 8 U.S.C. § 1252.

Reviewing the agency’s factual findings for substantial evidence and its legal conclusions de novo, *see Flores Molina v. Garland*, 37 F.4th 626, 632 (9th Cir. 2022), we deny the petition for review.

The IJ denied asylum and withholding of removal relief because of the possibility of relocation within Honduras, among other reasons. The BIA decision dismissing Arevalo-Ramos’ appeal of the IJ’s denial of asylum and withholding of removal rested exclusively on the possibility of relocation, concluding that she “did not establish that she faces a risk of persecution countrywide.” But Arevalo-Ramos did not provide any arguments in her opening brief before this court regarding relocation. In particular, she did not argue that she had established past persecution, such that the BIA should have placed the burden of establishing that internal relocation was possible or reasonable on the government. *See Kaur v. Wilkinson*, 986 F.3d 1216, 1231 (9th Cir. 2021).¹ Because “[i]ssues raised in a brief that are not supported by argument are deemed abandoned,” *Martinez-Serrano v. I.N.S.*, 94 F.3d 1256, 1259 (9th Cir. 1996), Arevalo-Ramos has abandoned a challenge to the BIA decision’s sole basis for dismissing her appeal of the IJ’s denial of relief.

¹ Arevalo-Ramos’s brief appears to recognize that she did not establish past persecution.

PETITION DENIED.