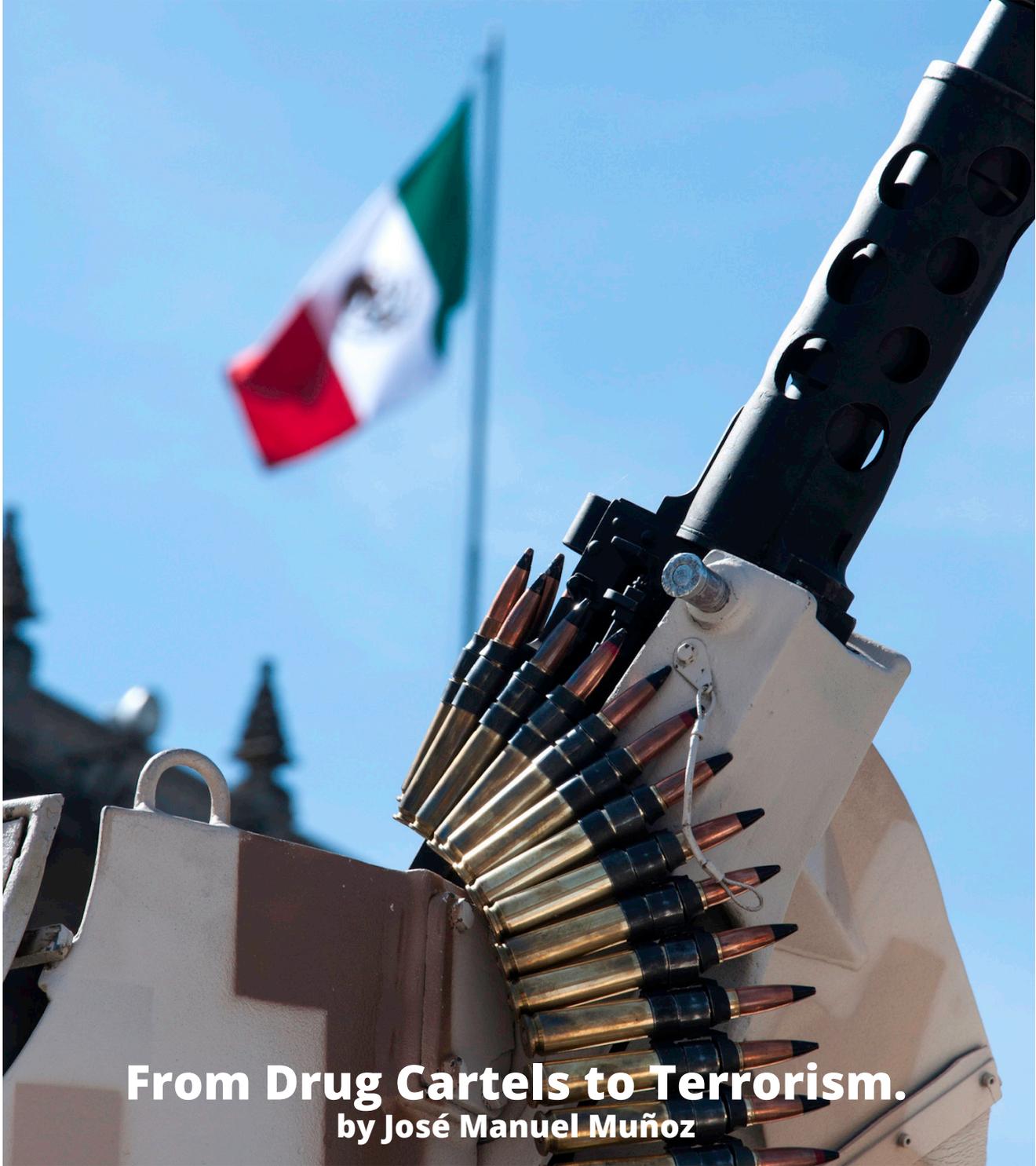


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“DILIGITE JUSTITIAM QUI JUDICATIS TERRAM.” “Ye who judge the earth, give diligent love to justice”



From Drug Cartels to Terrorism.
by José Manuel Muñoz

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Since the end of the Second World War, the United States has assumed a role as an international vigilant. At the first stage of assuming this role during the Cold War, the United States shared this role with the USSR, but after some years and due to the fall of the USSR, the United States managed to position themselves not only as a 'protectionist nation' but as a State with huge influence over the United Nations.

The United States throughout modern history has developed two main ways to act before other countries when some group or groups within a specific country or governments inside those countries represent any kind of danger to United States citizens, territory or interests.

"In that international political context, a new administration in Mexico has assumed the power in 2019, and according to this new administration the principal problem of violence in Mexico lies in the corruption and impunity that has been present in Mexico for decades".

The first one is to recognize the existence of radical governments that oppose the ideals of freedom and democracy of the United States, then proceeding to conduct some kind of military and economic intervention that allows them to impose the ideals of the United States and procure their conception of international security.

In the case of countries or groups that do not represent a big conflict to the ideals or interests of the United States, international forums are used, such as the United Nations, aiming to search for pacific solutions by using diplomatic instances.

Over the last 30 years, the United States have managed international policies among states based on the following factors:

1. The exponential growth in informal and illegal parallel economic activities in other countries, that directly affects the United States, given that they are the country with the biggest consumption market in the world.
2. Terrorist groups that have created strong alliances with drug cartels in the world, in which both illicit organizations profit by joining their resources.
3. The huge impact that represents 09/11 terrorist attacks, that could be equivalent to Pearl Harbor attack during the Second World War, since they represent a direct attack to the two essential elements of the United States, their territory and their citizens.

For a long time, the United States have conducted bombings in some Middle East territories by instruction of its Executive Power in order to eradicate terrorist presence in the world, this as example of how the United States intrude in other jurisdictions to maintain their view of liberty and democracy¹.

1.- <https://www.globalresearch.ca/united-states-bombings-of-other-countries-americas-bombing-list/5533371>

In that international political context, a new administration in Mexico has assumed the power in 2019, and according to this new administration the principal problem of violence in Mexico lies in the corruption and impunity that has been present in Mexico for decades.

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According to this new administration, by implanting these new measurements, improvements in Mexico’s security would be evident over the first 100 days of government, but as expected, the depth of the problem overlaps the unexperimented government and they proceeded to change the deadline to 6 months, and then again to 2 years to start feeling and living some real changes in security.

Four months ago the lowest point of insecurity in Mexico reached not only Mexico but the international community, horrible slaughters in Veracruz and order parts of the country started to reach international media, the inefficiency of the Mexican government to control the situation was all over the world, Mexican cartels have proven to the international community that the Mexican government has no clear and concrete strategies to control them. Once again, cartels had stablished their brutal force and their superior power before Mexican authorities, and at this moment is the first time that the United States began to ponder the possibility of considering drug cartels as terrorists due to the implacable force and violence they use in Mexico.

That line of thought in the Unites States was reinforced by the terrible tragedy that was lived by the Lebaron family in the states of Chihuahua and Sonora, in which members of a drug cartel conducted the same terrible injustice and tragedy that Mexican people face day to day, innocent North American children and women were brutally slaughtered by members of the drugs cartels.

This event presents the clear possibility to the United States of changing the classification of the drug cartels from international criminal organization to terrorists, this modification of the classification would represent many changes for Mexico in its long-standing relationship with the Unites States.

But the question arises if it is possible for this classification imposes by the Unites States be in accordance with the Mexican law. According to the Mexican Federal Penal Code the crime of terrorism has de following definition:

“a) To whom using toxic substances, chemical, biological or similar weapons, radioactive material, nuclear material, nuclear fuel, radioactive mineral, radiation source or instruments that emit radiation, explosives, or firearms, or by fire, flood or by any other violent means, intentionally perform acts

against goods or services, either public or private, or against physical, emotional, or people lives, who produce alarm, fear or terror in the population or in a group or sector of it, to threaten national security or pressure the authority or an individual, or force this one to make any determination.

b) Anyone who agrees or prepares a terrorist act that is intended to be committed, committing or has been committed in national territory²."

From the above definition it is possible for Mexico to classify drug cartels actions as terrorism, but by applying this or any other classification of the crimes committed by any drug cartels, the United States of America would not be able to intervene in any way in Mexico, since according to the articles 33 and 39 of Mexican Constitution they establish that non foreign State or person could intervene in any national political matter of Mexico, and the sovereignty of the Mexican State rests only in the Mexican people³.

Among these changes presented by the new classification proposal by the United States, would be the treatment that anyone who is related to the drug business would receive since they would be judged by anti-terrorism laws and the patriot act that gives more severe and harsh convictions, but as stated on my previous paragraph this changes would be only inside United States jurisdiction

For example, if the correct procedure in some company of Know you client (KYC) is not conducted correctly, the United States would be able to charge the people involved in terrorism finance;. Another example could be the final consumers⁴, considering buying drugs like an act of terrorism finance would have great implications among people in the United States given that this nation has the biggest drug consumption in the world.

Other direct implication for Mexico would be the long arm policy of the United States⁵ since they will be able to conduct military operation within Mexican territory if it is considered that the activities conducted by the drug cartel could potentially affect the national security of the United States.

Moreover, economic sanctions could be imposed by the United States to Mexico in the case that actions conducted by Mexican government are not considered enough by the United States' government⁶ affecting substantially Mexican economic growth.

In the end, it seems that this proposal is mainly a publicity campaign conducted by the current president of United States, aiming to be consistent with his migratory policy and his international agenda.

Mexico is suffering a huge security problem concerning drug cartels, unfortunately, the new Mexican administration has proven to be unable to manage this terrible and deep social problem that has taken lives every day in Mexico. But as any legal or illegal economic activity, the main reason for its existence is based on the simple economic law of supply and demand, and by having one of their biggest drug consumers as a neighbor and an incompetent new government in Mexico it seems irrelevant if the name we put to the problem is terrorism or international crime organizations it will continue until true and concrete actions are taken by both countries.

2.- http://www.diputados.gob.mx/LeyesBiblio/pdf/9_081119.pdf

3.- http://www.diputados.gob.mx/LeyesBiblio/pdf/1_201219.pdf

4.- <https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-internacional-50573418>

5.- <https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-internacional-50573418>

6.- <https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/mundo/que-implicaria-que-trump-declare-como-terroristas-los-carteles-de-la-droga>

Latest estimates for Mexico's GDP in 2019 average 0.0%.

During this year, growth expectations for Mexico were decreasing. Different institutions such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and even the Bank of Mexico (Banxico), among others, spun reductions in the estimates of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2019. In its last quarterly report, Banxico cut its expectations for this year. According to their calculations, the GDP of 2019 could be in a range of -0.2 to 0.2% with an average level of zero growth, which is below the range predicted by August, when they considered viable to reach a growth rate between 0.2 and 0.7 percent. The new estimate for this year's GDP was the lowest expected by the central institute for the economy since the Great Recession of 2009, when it anticipated a 7% contraction for the Mexican product. Despite considering a negative rate on the floor of his estimated range of GDP, the governor of Banxico, Alejandro Díaz de León, stressed that the institute's diagnosis for the economic cycle is a stagnation. www.economista.com.mx/economia/Ultimas-estimaciones-para-el-PIB-de-Mexico-en-2019-promedian-en-0.0-20191225-0074.htm 25/12/2019.

2019 concludes well regarding Economic terms.

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador stressed that this 2019 concludes with good economic news because, among other issues, the public debt did not increase and inflation is controlled; in fact, for next year there will be no "unpleasant surprises" in that area. As he stated: "We are concluding 2019 with very good results, regardless of the macroeconomic ones, that that sometimes stays in the abstract, the important thing is this, what has to do with the pockets, with what can reach the table of the Mexicans, It is a controlled inflation, ". During his press conference, he affirmed that everything has been achieved thanks to the discipline in the management of public finances. www.excelsior.com.mx/nacional/termina-2019-bien-en-lo-economico-lopez-obrador/1355053 26/12/2019.

Mexico will denounce before the International Court of Justice siege in embassy in Bolivia.

Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard said that a legal appeal for violation of diplomatic operations will be filed before the International Court of Justice after the siege at the Mexican embassy in Bolivia. Regarding the arrest warrants of former Evo Morales officials, he reiterated that Mexico was notified of them eleven days after the political asylum was granted. The foreign minister warned that Mexico will not allow any country to violate its sovereignty. www.milenio.com/politica/mexico-presentara-recurso-asedio-embajada-bolivia 26/12/2019.

AMLO's Government saves 230,000,000 pesos.

President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, assured that due to the diminish of the Public debt, there will be new resources in order to finance infrastructure projects. With the above mentioned, as he stated, "We have assured the financing for next year's Santa Lucia's Airport and the "Mayan train". In fact, the Federal Government is preparing an agreement with four Bank institutions in which the goal focuses on the dispersion of resources. www.eluniversal.com.mx/nacion/gobierno-de-amlo-ahorro-230-mil-mdp-gracias-la-austeridad-republicana 27/12/2019.

Manufacturing employment grew 1.4% in October.

Personnel employed in establishments of the Manufacturing, and Export Services (Immex) Industry Program increased 1.4% during the tenth month of 2019, when compared with the same period of 2018, the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (Inegi) reported. The institute said that in non-manufacturing establishments (for activities related to agriculture, fisheries, commerce and services) it grew 12.4% and in manufacturers 0.2% at an annual rate. www.economista.com.mx/empresas/Empleo-en-manufactura-crecimiento-1.4-en-octubre-20191227-0011.html 27/12/2019.

In this month extract was prepared by J. Estrada, J. Muñoz, A. De la Fuente, P. Arandia, R. Nerio, R. López, R. Mancilla.

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