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Seminar 3: Mexico – "Carteles" govern in a failed state?

Online seminar

Latin America to the left, to the right or the other way around?

Current regional developments and political issues #3 Mexico

Wednesday, 03. May 2023 | 18:00 – 20:00 hrs

Access link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84896485633?pwd=QUI2TXhzRHZDZDlacm9xcjN3U0MyZz09>

On 05.01.23, the son of the former head of the Sinaloa cartel, Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán, was arrested. As a result, trucks burned throughout the state of Sinaloa. Roadblocks were set up, access roads were blocked, and at least 29 people died and many others were injured in gunfights between members of the cartel and state forces. In October 2019, Guzmán had already been arrested once, but was released after a few hours to contain the escalating violence. This release pressured by the criminal gangs showed the power of the cartels in Mexico. 33,308 murders in 2021, ten femicides a day, more than 90,000 disappearances. And these are just the official figures. The Mexican Supreme Court ruled that the use of the army, navy and air force to assist civilian police in public security tasks did not violate the constitution, upholding Mexican President Andres Manuel López Obrador's agreement to use the military to "safeguard peace and justice". A complaint against the presence of the armed forces on the streets was dismissed. In the meantime, the National Guard has around 115,000 members. The leftist president justified the necessity with an ailing and corrupt police apparatus. In many places, the Mexican police are so enmeshed with the cartels that people have stopped reporting violent crimes. Mexico's crime-fighting government is also trying to stop the supply of weapons to the drug gangs. It is estimated that around 200,000 weapons are smuggled across the border from the USA every year.

The seminar explores the extent to which the Mexican state has lost control of the country to the "carteles" and whether the use of the military offers a viable solution.

Wednesday, 03. May 2023 | #3 Mexico

18:00 – 18:10 hrs	Welcome and introduction of the project partners RENATE KREKELER-KOCH Advisor on Civic Education, European Academy Berlin ANDRÉS GONZÁLEZ Academic Director, POLITIKUM
18:10 – 18:20 hrs	Introduction to the programme ANDRÉS GONZÁLEZ Academic Director, POLITIKUM
18:20 – 19:00 hrs	Presentation (in English): Mexico in the context of violence and organized crime: between militarization and other State responses Input and time for questions from participants GABRIEL MONDRAGÓN TOLEDO PhD(c) Political Science, University of Hamburg
19:00 – 19:30 hrs	Deep dives Discussing challenges in three parallel break-out rooms <i>Deep Dive 1: the role of organised crime in context of transit migration</i> Speaker: INDI-CAROLINA KRYG, University Osnabrück/German Institute for Global Area Studies <i>Deep Dive 2: Political Landscape in Mexico under López Obrador (AMLO).</i> Speaker: ANDRÉS GONZÁLEZ, POLITIKUM <i>Deep Dive 3: Violence against women in the Mexican countryside by the "Carteles".</i> Speaker: MARIE GIEBLER, University of Erfurt
19:30 – 19:50 hrs	Presentation of the Deep Dive results in the plenary and classification by the speakers GABRIEL MONDRAGÓN TOLEDO PhD(c) Political Science, University of Hamburg
19:50 – 20:00 hrs	Feedback and outlook for the next event in the series ANDRÉS GONZALEZ Academic Director, POLITIKUM RENATE KREKELER-KOCH Advisor on Civic Education, European Academy Berlin
20:00 hrs	End of the event

PROGRAM CONCEPTION

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PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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THE EUROPEAN ACADEMY BERLIN (EAB)

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