

OCTOBER 3RD, 2023

# BILATERAL X-RAY MEXICO-UNITED STATES



**BILATERAL X-RAY**  
THINK TANK ANALYSIS

MIGRATION AND LABOR  
MOBILITY

DEMOCRACY AND  
INSTITUTIONS

North America **Economy and  
Commerce**

SECURITY AND RULE OF LAW

## RELEVANT EVENTS

- **THE HIGH-LEVEL ECONOMIC DIALOGUE TOOK PLACE IN WASHINGTON.**

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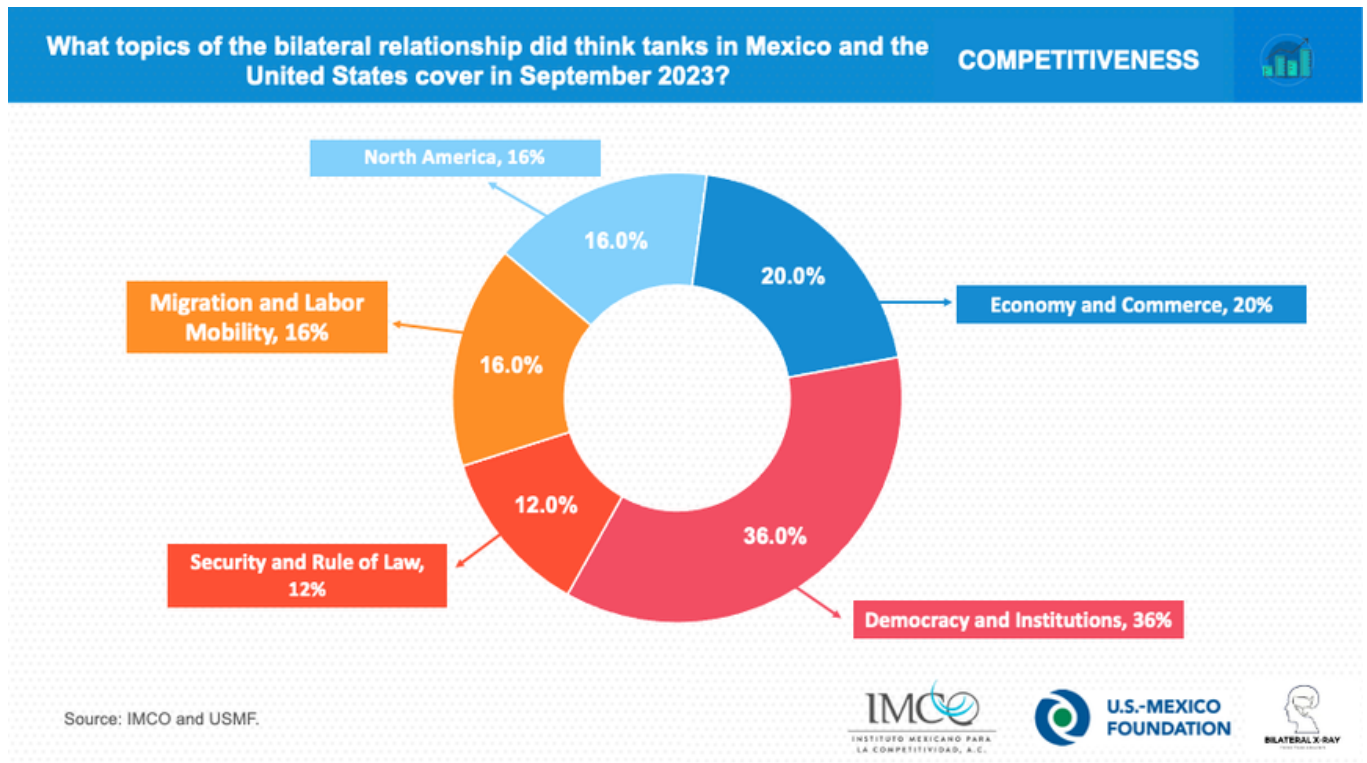
## Coverage Report

### September 1st to September 30th

During the period, 25 publications were compiled on the bilateral relationship between Mexico and the United States. Of these publications, 8% were made in Mexico and 92% in the United States. AS/COA presented 5 publications, the highest during the period, followed by the Pew Research Center with 4 articles, and the Baker Institute, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Atlantic Council each with 3 publications. In September, the most mentioned topics were **Democracy and Institutions** with 9 publications, **Economy and Commerce** with 5 publications, and **Migration and Labor Mobility** with 4 publications.

The next figure shows the top five most mentioned topics.

## Topics Covered



## Democracy and Institutions

In September, the primary focus of publications centered around Democracy and Institutions. These publications revisited the analysis of the upcoming elections in Mexico next year, with an emphasis on gender equity implications. In 2024, both the United States and Mexico have presidential elections, but the presidential race in Mexico is a recurring topic in the United States due to the implications associated with the ruling party. In this context, the Council of Foreign Affairs placed significant emphasis on the presence of two female contenders, Claudia Sheinbaum and Xóchitl Gálvez, in the Mexican presidential race. Meanwhile, other research centers observed the involvement of the armed forces and the growing violence against journalists in Mexico.

### Key publications regarding Democracy and Institutions this month:

- Atlantic Council [MEXICO "MOSTLY FREE"? MEXICO "MOSTLY PROSPEROUS"](#) Vanessa Rubio-Marquez
- AS/COA [POLL TRACKER: CONTENDERS FOR MEXICO'S 2024 PRESIDENTIAL VOTE](#) Carin Zissis

### DEMOCRACY AND INSTITUTIONS RECENT DATA

- Claudia Sheinbaum holds a **41% internal approval rating within Morena**, attributed to a perception of her being closely connected to the people and maintaining a reputation for honesty. On the other hand, **Xochitl Galvez secured 57% of the internal vote within the opposition coalition.** (AS/COA)
- Because of the attacks on reporters and journalists **Mexico ranks 82nd of 174 countries in the Political Freedom Index** which situated the country in the category "Mostly Free". (Atlantic Council)

## Economy and Commerce

In September, the Think Tanks focused on opportunities to expand regional connectivity. AS/COA evaluates alternatives for deepening economic partnerships and underscores the importance of private sector involvement in promoting regional integration. Foreign Affairs, on the other hand, provides an analysis on the background, benefits, and future of the USMCA. The Dialogue analyzes Mexico's challenges in attracting foreign direct investment (FDI). Finally, the importance of U.S. investments in fostering initiatives that promote relocation in North America was highlighted.

### Key publications regarding Democracy and Institutions this month:

- AS/COA, [USMCA EXPANSION: OPTIONS AND RATIONALE](#) Staff
- Foreign Affairs, [THE NEW AMERICAN WAY OF TRADE](#) Robert E. Lighthizer

### ECONOMY AND COMMERCE RECENT DATA

- Since the entry into force of the **USMCA**, in July 2020, trade and investment have grown substantially among the three Parties: trilateral **trade grew from 1 trillion dollars in 2020 to 1.5 trillion in 2022.** (AS/COA)
- The amount of **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Mexico was 35.3 billion dollars in 2022**, while remittances reached 58.5 billion dollars. Remittances were 65.8% higher than FDI during 2022. (BBVA Research)

## Security and Rule of Law

The publications focusing on Security and Rule of Law primarily centered on the heightened influx of drugs and its impact on the United States' electoral landscape. The alarming use of fentanyl in the United States has raised concerns due to its deadly consequences on the population, consequently becoming a pivotal talking point in the internal elections of the republican party. In this context, many think tanks have commented on the need for the U.S. and Mexico to strengthen their security cooperation. Additionally, the Baker Institute published an article emphasizing the necessity for reforming and reshaping the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to effectively combat these challenges.

### Key publications regarding Security and Rule of Law this month:

- COMEXI [ELECCIONES Y FENTANILO: CÓMO MÉXICO SE HA CONVERTIDO EN ENEMIGO DE ESTADOS UNIDOS](#) COMEXI Staff
- Council on Foreign Relations [LATIN AMERICA THIS WEEK: SEPTEMBER 29, 2023](#) Shannon K. O'Neil and Will Freeman

### SECURITY AND RULE OF LAW RECENT DATA:

- **The State Department is allocating \$100 million to combat fentanyl** and other synthetic drugs. (Council on Foreign Affairs)
- In the last year, **100,000 Americans have died from overdoses**, many of them from fentanyl. This is proportional to the **300,000 Mexicans which have died from homicide**, many of these related to the violence of the drug trade. (David Shirk, COMEXI)

## Other topics

With the beginning of Latino Heritage Month celebrations, the Think Tanks have presented articles related to **Migration and Labor Mobility** and **North America**, highlighting the relevance of the Latino community residing in the United States. Notable among these works are the analyses conducted by the Pew Research Center, which examine demographic dynamics and the migrant perception in both countries. Meanwhile, the Baker Institute has crafted an intriguing analysis about the potential alternatives and opportunities arising from a reconsideration of the status of undocumented workers and the possible positive impacts on the job market by improving their migratory conditions.

### Key publications regarding Migration and Labor Mobility and North America this month:

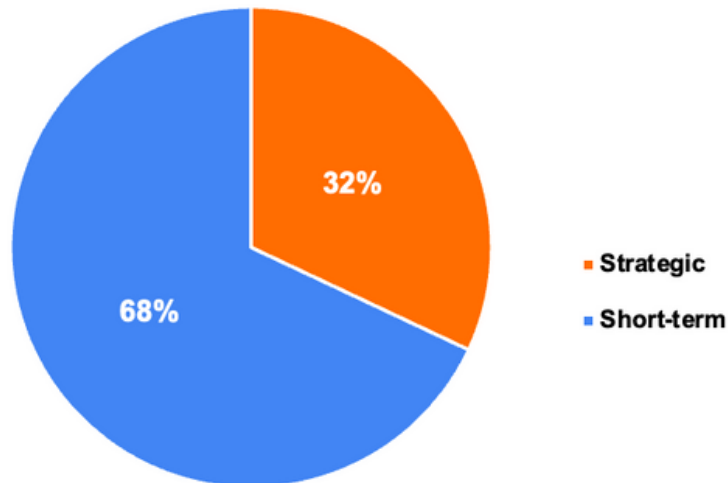
- Pew Research Center [8 FACTS ABOUT RECENT LATINO IMMIGRANTS TO THE U.S.](#) Joanne Harner and Mark Hugo Lopez
- Baker Institute [HOW GRANTING AMNESTY TO UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS COULD BOOST THE US LABOR MARKET](#) Hugh Cassidy

### MIGRATION AND LABOR MOBILITY AND NORTH AMERICA RECENT DATA

- The **Hispanic** population of the United States as of July 1, 2022, making it **the nation's largest racial or ethnic minority** – 19.1% of the total population. (US Census Bureau)
- In 2021, **Mexicans made up 34%** of the recent Hispanic immigrant population and were **the largest group**. (Pew Research Center)

## Relevant short-term events for the bilateral relationship

- In the **Democracy and Institutions** section, all of the topics addressed were of short-term relevance. In particular, the articles and content for the month of September are centered around electoral processes and the monitoring of preferences. It is highly likely that this trend will persist as we approach the elections in both countries in 2024.
- Mainly all the articles and publications related to **Economy and Commerce** have strategic relevance. The vast majority of articles in this section address topics, such as the alignment of actions for the relocation of supply chains and the ongoing implementation of the USMCA.



Publications on the bilateral relationship remain at the same volume compared to previous months. Democracy and Institutions-related topics are prominent, focusing on elections in both countries. On the other hand, the contents related to Economy and Commerce keep their focus on the nearshoring alignment strategies.

## Upcoming events

THINK TANK	EVENT	TIME AND PLACE
COLMEX	<a href="#"><u>RELACIONES MÉXICO-ESTADOS UNIDOS, MIRANDO HACIA EL FUTURO: UNA PERSPECTIVA ESTADOUNIDENSE</u></a>	October 5th 9:30 (CST) <b>Colegio de México</b> <b>Youtube</b>
Baker Institute	<a href="#"><u>THE ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT UNITED KINGDOM TRADE AGREEMENTS FOR THE US, TEXAS AND MEXICO</u></a>	November 2nd 11:00 (GMT) <b>Online</b>

## PUBLICATIONS

### MEXICAN THINK TANKS

- [IMCO MÉXICO EN EL MUNDO](#) IMCO Staff
- [COLMEX THE TRADE DEPENDENCE OF MEXICO AND CANADA TOWARDS THE USA: AN INPUT-OUTPUT APPROACH \(1965-1990\)](#) Héctor Romero-Ramírez
- [COMEXI ELECCIONES Y FENTANILO: CÓMO MÉXICO SE HA CONVERTIDO EN ENEMIGO DE ESTADOS UNIDOS](#) COMEXI Staff

### UNITED STATES THINK TANKS

- [American Enterprise Institute DIGITAL TRADE RULES AND THE INDO-PACIFIC ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK FOR PROSPERITY](#) Claude Barfield
- [American Enterprise Institute THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S CRIPPLING DIVIDE OVER VITAL DIGITAL TRADE ROUTES](#) Claude Barfield
- [Atlantic Council VIOLENCE AGAINST JOURNALISTS: A TOOL TO RESTRICT PRESS FREEDOM IN MEXICO](#) Sergio M. Alcocer and Jeziret S. González
- [Atlantic Council MEXICO "MOSTLY FREE"? MEXICO "MOSTLY PROSPEROUS"](#) Vanessa Rubio-Marquez
- [Baker Institute XÓCHITL GÁLVEZ COURTS VOTERS IN TEXAS](#) Rodrigo Montes de Oca
- [Baker Institute MARIJUANA RESCHEDULING IS CREATING A BUZZ FOR SOME, CONSETERNATION FOR THE DEA](#) Gary J. Hale
- [Baker Institute HOW GRANTING AMNESTY TO UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS COULD BOOST THE US LABOR MARKET](#) Hugh Cassidy
- [Council on Foreign Relations WOMEN THIS WEEK: MEXICO ON TRACK TO ELECT FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT](#) Noël James
- [Council on Foreign Relations LATIN AMERICA THIS WEEK: SEPTEMBER 29, 2023](#) Shannon K. O'Neil and Will Freeman
- [Council on Foreign Relations THE GOP'S POSTURING WILL PUSH LATIN AMERICA INTO CHINA'S ARMS](#) Will Freeman
- [Pew Research Center 6 FACTS ABOUT HOW MEXICANS VIEW THE US AND THEIR OWN COUNTRY](#) JACOB POUSSHTER AND JORDAN LIPPERT
- [Pew Research Center KEY FACTS ABOUT US LATINOS FOR NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH](#) JENS MANUEL KROGSTAD, JEFFREY S. PASSEL, MOHAMAD MOSLIMANI AND LUIS NOE-BUSTAMANTE
- [Pew Research Center 8 FACTS ABOUT RECENT LATINO IMMIGRANTS TO THE US](#) JOANNE HANER AND MARK HUGO LOPEZ
- [Pew Research Center WHO IS HISPANIC](#) MARK HUGO LOPEZ, JENS MANUEL KROGSTAD AND JEFFREY S. PASSEL
- [The Dialogue WHY IS MEXICO LAGGING BEHIND IN ATTRACTING FDI?](#) Arturo Sarukhan Lucinda Vargas Diego Marroquín Bitar Arnulfo Rodríguez
- [Foreign Affairs THE NEW AMERICAN WAY OF TRADE](#) Robert E. Lighthizer
- [Mexico Institute ANNOUNCING THE US-MEXICO BICENTENNIAL KALEIDOSCOPE SHORT FILM CONTEST WINNERS, TO BE SCREENED AT MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION IN WASHINGTON, DC](#) staff
- [Mexico Institute ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF AMLO'S ENERGY POLICIES: INSIGHTS FROM ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS AND GLOBAL FELLOWS](#) Earl Anthony Wayne
- [AS/COA LATAM IN FOCUS: HOW WOMEN WON POLITICAL PARITY IN MEXICO—AND WHAT COMES NEXT](#) Carin Zissis
- [AS/COA REGENERATING THE HEMISPHERIC TRADE AGENDA THROUGH USMCA ACCESSION](#) Staff
- [AS/COA UPDATE: XÓCHITL GÁLVEZ AND CLAUDIA SHEINBAUM TO COMPETE FOR MEXICO'S PRESIDENCY](#) Carin Zissis
- [AS/COA APPROVAL TRACKER: MEXICO'S PRESIDENT AMLO](#) Carin Zissis
- [AS/COA POLL TRACKER: CONTENDERS FOR MEXICO'S 2024 PRESIDENTIAL VOTE](#) Carin Zissis
- [CSIS THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF MEXICO'S NEW MILITARISM](#) Ryan Berg

The Mexican Institute for Competitiveness (IMCO) and the U.S.-Mexico Foundation's initiative, The Center for Bilateral Institutions, monitor publications of the leading think tanks and research centers in Mexico and the United States, analyze the topics discussed, and the actors pushing the narrative.

For the making of this report, thirty-seven think tanks are monitored every month, twenty-four think tanks are from the US, while thirteen are from Mexico. The think tanks included in this report are: Instituto Mexicano para la Competitividad (IMCO), México Evalúa, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económica (CIDE), El Colegio de México (COLMEX), Consejo Mexicano de Asuntos Internacionales (COMEXI), Fundar, Centro de Estudios Espinosa Yglesias (CEEY), Fundación Idea, Aspen Institute México, The Coppel-Intuit Center for Binational Institutions (CBI), Brookings, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Hudson Institute, Peterson, Milken Institute, Bush Center, USC Schwarzenegger Institute, Bay Area Council Economic Institute, Meridian, New America, México ¿cómo vamos?, The Dialogue, American Enterprise Institute, Atlantic Council (AALAC), Baker Institute, Center for American Progress, Council on Foreign Relations, Heritage Foundation, Mexico Institute, Pew Research Center, USMEX UCSD, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (AS/COA), Centro de Competitividad de México (CCMX), Ethos Laboratorio de Pol. Públicas, Harvard Growth Lab, International Republican Institute (IRI), y Observatorio Nacional Ciudadano.

The history of the Mexico-United States relationship is also written by the Think Tanks since they help to build the long-term government agenda. Their active participation is crucial, particularly for in-depth analysis of political, economic, and social issues.



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