



The U.S.-Mexico Binational Relationship at a Crossroads

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Change and Continuity

- Three major issues
 - The Economic Relationship
 - The Border
 - Security Cooperation
 - Migration, Terrorism, Drugs, Environmental Issues
- Issues are the same
- Approach and attitude about them is different



Conflict and Cooperation

- 1930s to 1980: Distant neighbors and slow integration
- 1980 to 1985: Chaos and transition
- 1985 to 2016: Closer neighbors and accelerated integration
- 2017: Uncertainty



The Trump Administration

- Domestic concerns and anxiety drive American politics
- The Undoing of American Patient Work (on many fronts)
 - American perceptions of Mexico
 - Mexico's poor job at grooming its image
 - Mexico as one focal point for American anxiety



Uncertainty in Mexico

- The Mexican Government's Strategy
 - Four Tracks
 - Inner Circle
 - Industry
 - Legislation
 - Upper Bureaucrats
 - NOT the American Public
 - Mexico's strategic vulnerability (from within)



The Peña Administration

- Mexico's remarkable continuity over 35 years
 - Economic reform and consolidation of openness
 - Energy Reform
 - Failure of the Neoliberal model (subsidies)
 - Neglected institutional issues at home
 - Security and Justice
 - Poverty and inequality
 - No sign of a nationalistic reaction
 - Mexicans and institutional (electoral) change
 - 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
- The 2018 Scenarios



Where to go?

- Border Management
 - Developing a new framework
- Commercial Relationship
 - The possible versus the ideal
- Security Cooperation
 - Central America
 - Drugs
 - Immigration