



UNSC

United Nations Security Council

Topic:

Discussing the Mexican Cartels' prolific influence and infrastructure damage.

Index:

- Introduction to the Agenda
- Timeline of the Issue
- Key Terms
- Key Issues
- Major Parties Involved
- Previous Attempts To Solve The Issue
- Possible Solution
- Question Research Must Answer
- Bibliography

For more than decade, Mexican authorities have fought a brutal war against drug cartels. Every year, the violence claims the lives of thousands of Mexicans, including journalists, students, and politicians. Since the government launched war on the cartels in 2006, there have been more than 360,000 homicides in the nation.

Mexican cartels have had a huge and continuous impact on the nation, both in terms of the illicit drug trade and their impact on the Mexican government and society at large. Numerous illegal activities, including drug smuggling, money laundering, extortion, and even modern slavery, have been linked to the cartels.

One of the cartels' most striking outcomes has been their capacity to undermine and corrupt several tiers of the Mexican government. Because of this, the government has had a tough time effectively combating the cartels and their illegal activities. In fact, there have been several cases of officials from the government being detained or under investigation for their connections to the cartels.

The economy of Mexico has also been significantly impacted by the cartels. The cartels are known to use the estimated billions of dollars generated by the illegal drug trade to acquire people and companies to develop their criminal enterprises. This has caused employment losses and slower economic growth in several regions of the nation.

For many years, civil organizations, journalists, and foreign officials have criticized the Mexican government's war against the cartels, accusing the military, police, and cartels of committing numerous violations of human rights, such as cruelty, targeted killings, and forced disappearances. Since 2006, approximately 79,000 people have disappeared, mostly at the hands of cartels and other criminal organizations, while government forces also play a part. Local search efforts to locate the missing and bring those guilty to justice have frequently been hampered by cartel-related violence, incompetent and corrupt government officials, and other circumstances.

To combat the cartels, the government has increased financing for law enforcement and put new laws and policies into effect. Despite these

initiatives, the cartels remain a significant issue in Mexico. In this battle, the United States and its southern neighbor Mexico have worked closely together. Mexico has received billions of dollars from the United States to advance its security forces, rebuild its judicial system, and finance development initiatives aimed at reducing migration at Mexico's southern border.

In conclusion, in terms of the illicit drug trade and its effects on the Mexican government and society, the Mexican cartels have had a considerable impact on the nation. Numerous illegal activities have been linked to the cartels. Their actions have also resulted in a decline in the nation's general safety and security, as well as a decline in tourism. Although the Mexican government has undertaken attempts to fight the cartels, these have not been sufficient to end the issue.

TIMELINE OF THE ISSUE

DATE	EVENT
December 11, 2006	More than 6,500 Mexican soldiers were sent to the state of Michoacán by newly elected Mexican President Calderon to combat drug traffickers.
2006	62 people were executed in the first few weeks of the government's campaign against drug trafficking.
January 2007	Osiel Cardena Guillen, a convicted drug lord and suspected former leader of the Gulf cartel, was transferred to the United States.
February 2007	As part of President Calderon's drug campaign, more than 20,000 Mexican military and federal police were dispersed throughout Mexico.
2007	In the first year of the drug war, 2837 people were killed.
May 1, 2008	Mexico City witnesses the death of Roberto Velasco Bravo, the country's director of criminal organizations investigations.
May 8, 2008	The head of Mexico's federal police, Edgar Eusebio Millan Gomez, and two bodyguards were assassinated in Mexico City.

TIMELINE OF THE ISSUE

May 9, 2008	Esteban Roble Espinosa, the head of Mexico City's investigative police force, was assassinated outside his residence.
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DATE	EVENT
September 15, 2008	Grenades were thrown into the crowd at a celebration of independence in the town plaza of Morelia, killing eight people. The act has been referred to as Mexico's first terrorist attack on innocent civilians.
November 1, 2008	Victor Gerardo Garay, the acting director of Mexico's Federal Police, resigned due to allegations of corruption.
2008	6844 people were killed in Mexico's drug war.
2009	The Mexican government reports 9,635 deaths in 2009 in the drug war.
February 25, 2010	Texas has condemned Cardenas Guillen, who reigned over the Gulf Cartel until his arrest in 2003, to 25 years in prison. A \$50 million payment to the US also was required of him.
June 25, 2010	Manuel Garibay Espinoza, a top member of the Sinaloa cartel, was detained in Mexicali (a city in Mexico).
August 25, 2010	On a property in the state of Tamaulipas, the dead of 72 migrants from South and Central America are found. The 58 men and 14 women were allegedly abducted and murdered by the Los Zetas cartel for refusing to market cocaine.
August 30, 2010	Mexican authorities announce that they have captured "La Barbie."

February 23, 2011	Six members of the Los Zetas drug gang, including Julian Zapata Espinoza, who is accused of being behind the murder of US ICE Agent Zapata, are detained by the
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	Mexican military.
May 29, 2011	Ten police officers were arrested on charges of protecting the Los Zetas drug cartel.
June 2011	According to a Congress study, the majority of the weapons confiscated in Mexico for tracking were imported from the United States by roughly 70%. 29,284 weapons filed in 2009 and 2010 are covered by the report.
July 11, 2011	In an effort to stop the flow of firearms to Mexican drug cartels, the US government unveils a plan to enforce that gun sellers in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas disclose the sales of semi-automatic rifles under specific circumstances.
January 11, 2012	According to a statement from the Attorney General's office of Mexico, drug-related violence claimed the lives of approximately 13,000 individuals between January and September 2011.
September 3, 2012	President Calderon slams the United States for giving criminals virtually "unlimited access" to guns in his final state of the nation address while defending his government's strategy to fighting crime and drugs.
February 22, 2014	Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, the leader of one of Mexico's most effective drug trafficking organizations, has reportedly been detained in Mexico, a US official confirmed to CNN.
October 1, 2014	Hector Beltran Leyva, the leader of the Beltran Leyva drug gang, was arrested by Mexican authorities in San Miguel de Allende (a town in Mexico).

July 11, 2015	"El Chapo" escaped from his cell block using a hole that connected to a tunnel that was nearly a mile long. Guzman previously escaped from prison in a laundry cart in 2001 and managed to evade law enforcement for more than a decade before being apprehended in 2014.
January 29, 2016	24 Sinaloa cartel members were detained as a consequence of a cross border raid by US and Mexican law enforcement officials. Several hundred pounds of drugs and weapons were also seized during the operation
June 11, 2018	"La Barbie" was sentenced to prison and fined \$192,000.
August 8, 2019	In Mexico City, police discovered 19 bodies. Nine of the victims were discovered hanging from an overpass next to a banner warning of rival cartels by a drug cartel.
2020	Cartels began infiltrating legitimate industries, notably the avocado sector in Michoacán. Dubbed "green gold," avocados became a lucrative target for extortion, leading to increased violence against farmers and significant environmental degradation due to illegal deforestation for avocado cultivation.
2022	Cartels diversified their extortion activities, targeting the tortilla industry. Businesses faced pressure to pay protection fees, leading to increased prices for staple foods and economic strain on local communities.
2023	May 2023: In Culiacán, Sinaloa, violent conflicts erupted between factions loyal to Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada and "Los Chapitos," following the arrest of key cartel leaders. The infighting led to numerous deaths and disruptions in daily life, with businesses closing and residents fearing for their safety

2024	December 2024: In Michoacán, the use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) by cartels marked a dangerous escalation. Several soldiers were killed or injured by these devices, often placed around drug labs or cartel encampments, posing significant risks to law enforcement and civilians. Alejandro Arcos, the mayor of Chilpancingo in Guerrero, was beheaded shortly after taking office. His murder underscored the perilous intersection of politics and organized crime, with cartels exerting control through intimidation and violence.
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Drug Cartel: A drug cartel is a hidden alliance of independent businesses created to prevent competition and manage the manufacturing and sale of illicit substances.

Illicit: An illicit activity or substance is not allowed by law or the social customs of a country.

Illicit Drugs: A substance purchased from a drug dealer; may be a legal substance, sold illicitly (without a prescription, and not for medical use), or it may be a substance that is illegal to possess.

Extortion: Extortion is the use of coercion or force to impose an action or accomplish a goal, mainly using violence, threats, intimidation, from one's authority to force one to hand over the money or items required.

Judicial system: The judicial system is the group of courts that determine whether a person or other legal body has violated the law and determine what consequences are suitable. It consists of a wide range of professions, including paralegal practitioners, court employees, judges, attorneys, and defense and prosecution professionals.

Embezzlement: It is the dishonest theft of personal property by a person who was given the item in trust; it is the crime of taking money that doesn't belong to the person.

Drug Trafficking: A global illicit trade involving the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, and sale of substances that are subject to drug prohibition laws.

DTO: Drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) create, transport, and/or distribute substantial amounts of one or more illicit substances. They are intricate organizations with well-defined command and control systems.

DEA: Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA): The DEA is the Drug Enforcement Administration of the U.S. Department of Justice, and every prescription written in the United States carries the prescribing physician's DEA number.

TCO: To increase their political and criminal influence, transnational criminal organizations (TCO) have taken advantage of Mexico's poverty, unrest, and corruption. TCOs engage in crimes like murder, bribery, theft, abduction, extortion, and the smuggling of goods like drugs, weapons, and people.

FTO: According to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended, foreign organizations are classified as foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs) by the Secretary of State. FTO designations are essential in our fight against terrorism because they are a successful way to reduce funding for terrorist activities and put pressure on organizations to stop engaging in terrorism.

Drug Cartel Terrorist Designation Act: A bill passed by the US Senate that directs the Department of State to designate the Gulf Cartel's Reynosa/Los Metros faction and the Los Zetas' Cartel Del Noreste faction to be classified as international terrorist organizations, and to produce a thorough report on these and any additional cartels it may find. Any identified cartel that satisfies the requirements for identification as a foreign terrorist organization must be designated as such by the State Department based on this report

The Mérida Initiative and Beyond: The Merida Initiative is a historic collaboration between the United States and Mexico to combat organized crime and the violence it fosters while advancing the respect for legality, human rights, and the rule of law. The Merida Initiative has resulted in a new framework for mutual security cooperation, given real support to Mexico's judicial and security establishments, and sparked coordinated attempts to halt the flow of weapons, money, and drug demand.

Methamphetamine: Methamphetamine impacts the central nervous system and is a potent, addicting stimulant. It appears as a white, tasteless, bitter-tasting powder that readily dissolves in water or alcoholic beverages.

Heroin: A natural chemical called morphine, which is derived from the seed pods of several opium poppy plants growing in Southeast and Southwest Asia, Mexico, and Colombia, and is used to make the opioid narcotic heroin.

Proxy war: a conflict involving smaller nations or groups that may receive assistance and backing from other, more powerful nations. where a government/state helps in the arming or funding of one of the players, and tries to strengthen its power or influence without really taking part in the action.

Leading suppliers of illicit narcotics to the United States:

Traffickers use a variety of strategies to avoid being discovered at the border by American law enforcement. These include sneaking drugs into the United States through underground tunnels, concealing them in vehicles or marine boats, or flying them over border barriers using drones or other aircraft. Local organizations and street gangs control retail distribution in cities across the nation after Mexican drug traffickers sneak wholesale shipments of drugs into the country. The majority of heroin and methamphetamine are produced by Mexican suppliers, while the majority of cocaine is made in Colombia and then shipped to the United States by Mexican criminal organizations. Fentanyl, a synthetic opioid up to fifty times more potent than heroin, is also mostly sourced from Mexico and China. Therefore the number of drugs sold illegally and consumed by the population has increased severely over the years; due to the cartels being successful by not being caught, their groups have expanded along with their reign in many states.

Torture:

Torture is frequently used to extract information and elicit confessions. It is routinely used after victims have been imprisoned, frequently without a cause, but before they are turned over to civilian prosecutors; at military outposts or unauthorized detention facilities, victims are frequently held incommunicado (not able, wanting, or allowed to communicate with other people.).

Confessions gained under torture cannot be used as evidence in court, according to a 2017 law. However, reports of torture are frequently not looked into by the authorities. More than 64,000 inmates in 338 institutions were polled by Mexico's national statistics agency in 2016, the most recent year for which data are available. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of those who were arrested claimed to have experienced physical abuse, such as electric shocks, choking, and suffocating. Cartels have used the form of torture on Mexican citizens, in order for them to achieve their motives, by increasing their sales of drugs.

Organ trafficking:

The illegal organ trafficking began in India in the 1980s, when patients from the Gulf States, Malaysia, and Singapore received kidney transplants from destitute Indian individuals. Later, this unlawful practice of organ donation extended to regions like China and the Middle East. Mexico is another nation that has a problem with organ trafficking. While not as common as in China, the methods utilized there are very horrific; there have been reports of the Knights Templar cartel abducting young infants and collecting their organs. The kids were held in appalling conditions in a well-known institution in Mexico.

The lack of care and delicacy used to remove some of these organs led experts to the conclusion that they were most likely used for witchcraft or ceremonial purposes. Accounts of organ trafficking, however, are usually dismissed by experts as mere rumors, even when involving the country's most sophisticated and ruthless cartels, given the amount of medical infrastructure and fine-tuned complicity with hospitals and doctors required to get organs to patients awaiting transplant on time.

Homicides:

Mexico is one of the most dangerous places in the world for journalists, with a comparable number of journalists murdered as in war zones like Syria and Afghanistan. Reporters reported 692 threats, assaults, or other acts of aggression in 2020, apparently the most ever. From January to September 2021, five journalists were reported by Article 19 as having died while performing their jobs. Authorities commonly conduct inadequate investigations into crimes against journalists, frequently disqualifying their line of work as a possible motive. The federal Special Prosecutor's Office to look into crimes against journalists has initiated more than 3,362 investigations since its founding in 2010, filed 265 criminal charges, and won 25 convictions as of August 2021. As many journalists are eager to uncover information on the cartels and expose their plans and truths to the world, it has resulted in homicides and increased threats towards all the journalists.

Corruption:

Only 5.2% of crimes committed in Mexico are solved, and police and prosecutors commonly use torture to obtain confessions. Pretrial detention is mandatory for many offenses, violating international human rights standards. Prisons are notoriously unsanitary and overcrowded. The criminal justice system routinely fails to provide justice to victims of violent crimes and human rights violations. Human rights and rule-of-law organizations claim that the attorney general failed to carry out a 2018 reform that was supposed to increase the office's autonomy from the executive branch and its accountability to victims and their families. Many of the 2018 reform's human rights provisions were removed by Congress in 2021. Pro-government lawmakers enacted a law in April 2021 extending the terms of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the members of the Federal Judiciary Council, which oversees selecting and dismissing judges. The law was struck down by the Supreme Court in November and deemed unconstitutional.

Police brutality:

One of the biggest issues facing Mexican law enforcement and politics now is police corruption. High unemployment rates, low incomes, and the presence of drug trafficking all contribute to corruption in Mexico. Many have commented on the continued excessive use of violence by police officers, yet the situation appears unchanged. José Miguel Vivanco, America's director at Human Rights Watch, stated in a recent report that "Mexico's police forces are infamous for their corruption, their use of torture and violence, and their ties to organized crime". Mexican journalist Juan Carlos Garca Cortés was abducted by officers of Mexico City's special police unit. After assaulting Mr. Garca, the officers demanded 50,000 pesos (\$2,500) from him and threatened to murder him. This is only one of numerous instances of police brutality, violence, and corruption across the nation. A 2012 survey reported that over 92% of crimes go unreported or uninvestigated, leading to thousands of cases similar to Mr. García's in 2022. Mexican police have been found involved with cartels and their gangs while still being in the force to mislead investigations, so the concern of safety of the citizens is questioned.

Relationships with other countries:

The influence of the Mexican cartels has been widespread to other drug lords in different parts of the world, moreover, the alliances created between these groups have raised concerns between countries and their citizens in terms of health, safety, laws and regulations along with trade relationships.

Cartel:

Sinaloa Cartel (The west, mainly the Tierra Caliente region.)

The Sinaloa Cartel is one of the biggest drug-trafficking organizations in the world, according to US authorities. It was established in the late 1980s, and Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzmán served as its leader for many years. El Chapo, often known as "Shorty," was once considered one of the richest men in the world. Numerous books and television shows have been produced about his life and enormous drug-trafficking business.

The cartel developed a fierce reputation for violence under his leadership and defeated several adversaries. Mexican cartels frequently engage in conflict with one another, but it is important to note that they are also capable of forming partnerships. During Guzmán's protracted leadership, Sinaloa reportedly became the main supplier of illegal drugs to the US, according to officials.

According to experts, they also keep smuggling illegal drugs into the US, Europe, and Asia for billions of dollars. The cartel is thought to be largely controlled by Mr. Guzmán's son, Ovidio Guzmán Lopez, with its longtime leader now in prison.

The Jalisco New Generation (CJNG) (The west, mainly the Tierra Caliente region.)

The Jalisco cartel, which was established in or around 2010, is Sinaloa's strongest and most vicious rival. The organization has rapidly spread throughout Mexico and is currently among the most powerful organized crime organizations in the nation. The estimated value of its assets is more than \$20 billion. Ruben Oseguera, aka "El Mencho," the most wanted man in Mexico and a former police officer, is the cartel's leader.

According to the US authorities, one of the continent's major distributors of synthetic narcotics is the Jalisco cartel. It is a major player on the black market for methamphetamine in the US and Europe and is rumoured to have connections to the Asian drug trade. The cartel has become well-known for a string of assaults against law enforcement and government figures. The CJNG has also been a party to prominent assaults on government figures. Despite once being allies, CJNG and the Sinaloa Cartel are now bitter rivals throughout most of Mexico.

The Gulf Cartel (The northeast centred around the border state of Tamaulipas.)

One of Mexico's oldest organized crime organizations, with origins in the 1980s.

Around this period, it became well-known for smuggling cocaine and marijuana into the US. It is also suspected of smuggling heroin and amphetamines, and it collaborated closely with Colombian gangs. The Gulf Cartel allegedly made billions of dollars annually from drug trafficking by the 1990s. In order to keep officials on its side, it engaged in political bribery and corruption to sustain this network. Juan Garca Abrego, the first Mexican drug lord to be listed among the FBI's 10 most wanted, served as the cartel's initial leader. He was apprehended in 1996 and given a life sentence in the US.

Los Zetas Cartel (North East based mainly)

Corrupt members of a top-tier branch of Mexico's special forces created this organization. The Zetas were particularly notorious for their brutality; they frequently tortured and beheaded their victims. Beyond narcotics, they started engaging in any form of criminal activity that would earn them money, such as cigarette trafficking and modern slavery.

Beltran-Leyva Organization:

The band was established in 2008 after the Beltrán-Leyva brothers broke away from Sinaloa. Since then, all four brothers have either been killed or detained, but their supporters still operate in Mexico. With continued ties to Jalisco,

Juárez, and Los Zetas, the organization's breakaway factions have grown increasingly independent and formidable.

Parties:

Mexico: In recent years, the Mexican government has made efforts to combat the cartels and their criminal activities. The government has increased funding for law enforcement and implemented new laws and policies aimed at cracking down on the cartels. However, despite these efforts, the cartels continue to be a major problem in Mexico. The violence and crime associated with the cartels has also had a significant impact on the safety and security of the Mexican people. The cartels have been known to engage in brutal acts of violence, including kidnappings, murders, and torture. This has led to a decrease in the overall safety and security of the country, as well as a decrease in tourism. The illegal drug trade is estimated to be worth billions of dollars, and the cartels have been known to use this money to corrupt businesses and individuals in order to further their criminal activities. This has led to a loss of jobs and a decrease in economic growth in certain areas of the country.

Mexican Cartels: Mexico's drug cartels are in a constant state of flux. Over the decades, they have grown, splintered, forged new alliances, and battled one another for territory. The Mexican cartels are organized crime groups that have been active in Mexico for many years. They are well-known for their participation in extortion, money laundering, drug trafficking, and other illegal crimes. The cartels have a big impact on Mexican culture and have caused a lot of violence and damage to the country's infrastructure. The Mexican government started to crack down on drug traffickers in the 1970s, which is when the first Mexican cartels emerged. As a result, the drug trade became more fragmented, with numerous smaller organizations springing up to fill the void left by the more powerful traffickers. These earlier groups had developed into strong criminal gangs known as cartels by the 1980s. The infrastructure in Mexico has also suffered severe harm as a result of the cartels. In order to obstruct the passage of goods and people, they have been known to blow up bridges, wreck roads and highways, and even sabotage pipelines and electricity lines. This has had a severe effect on the lives of typical Mexicans and caused the nation to suffer huge economic losses.

United States of America: The United States is the largest market for illegal drugs in the world, and Mexican cartels are the primary source of these drugs. The Cartel smuggle large quantities of cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, and marijuana across the border into the United States. The drug trade generates billions of dollars in revenue for the cartels and has a devastating impact on communities in the United States. The U.S. government has been actively involved in efforts to combat the Mexican cartels. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has been working with Mexican law enforcement to disrupt and dismantle the cartels. The U.S. government has also provided financial and technical assistance to Mexico to help them fight the cartels.

Canada: The United States has received much of the attention in the story of the Mexican cartels' international reach. A few Mexican organizations, however, have moved further north and established themselves in the Canadian underworld, where they are displacing more established mafias. Numerous new players, pharmacological routes, and business practices have aided in this process. A generational change in Canadian organized crime, away from older, traditional, and ethnically oriented entities, toward a youthful, tech-savvy, post-ethnic criminal cohort, has been one of them.

Peru: Since the 1990s, it has been known that vicious Mexican cartels have controlled the drug routes from isolated Andean villages where raw coca plants are grown to the United States, the world's largest consumer market. The top producer of cocaine worldwide right now is Peru. Although there are no official estimates of the country's real production, experts concur that the amount would be in the low hundreds of tons annually. Mexico is expanding its influence in this area. Over the past five years, authorities have caught numerous Mexican cartel members operating in South America, where they launder money, transport drugs, or hide from domestic law enforcement.

Brazil: Mexico and Brazil show how organized crime organizations serve as ruling entities, for example during the pandemic. They acted as generous godfathers, aiding, safety, and a sense of certainty to communities by taking advantage of the states' incapacity and the pandemic. Naturally, because of

this, they won the public's sympathy and solidarity as well as increased credibility. This leverage gives cartels a greater scope of control and a free hand in perpetuating their illegal activities, however its long-term repercussions are questionable. Above all, it draws attention to the harm caused by institutional gaps in poverty and inequality.

The government of Mexico and the United Nations have implemented various solutions to combat the Mexican Cartels' activities. One of the most significant of these solutions is the deployment of military and law enforcement personnel to areas where the cartels are known to operate. This has led to the capture or killing of several high-profile cartel leaders, as well as the disruption of many of the cartels' operations.

Another solution used by the government and the United Nations is the implementation of economic and social programs in areas affected by the cartels' activities. These programs are designed to provide support to the local population and to create alternative livelihoods, which can help to reduce the dependence of local communities on the cartels.

Due to the ever-growing influence of the Mexican cartel and the poverty that exists in Mexico and its neighboring countries. Young individuals and men find it financially and socially easier to join the Cartels, to ensure financial and personal safety. To prevent the ever-growing influence and expansion of the Cartels, the Mexican Government along with its Allies could help create new jobs to attract young people and this would aid in minimizing young people to join the cartel groups.

This would counteract the stability the Cartel may offer. Due to the rise in employment in the rural areas, the dwindling economy of Mexico could see a rise and growth. Furthermore, as more individuals are avoiding to side with the cartel, the safety of the families and peoples in the rural areas exponentially grows. This also provides support to the Mexican government as it can push the Cartels out of the rural areas allowing more control and protection to be implemented in the past conflicted regions.

The Mexican cartels have a vast reach, and it can be noted with their actions in recent years that the implications of the Cartels actions can not only be felt in Mexico but in other parts of the world. Primarily its neighboring countries have experienced a great influx in the level of illegal drugs smuggling. So, in order to counteract its neighboring countries, along with other countries must employ tighter drug enforcing laws and regulations.

They would have to focus on enforcing stern board security, whether it land, air or sea, to ensure that people entering countries do not possess any narcotics. To develop stricter import laws in countries that neighbor or frequently trade with Mexico. Additionally, to call up the Mexican government to regulate the exports from the country to ensure there is no trafficking of narcotics through goods that are being exported.

- 1- The effects of drug cartels in your country.
- 2- The impact of Mexican drug cartels specifically in your country (if any).
- 3- How drug cartels are affecting the economy (can be past and present).
- 4- Measures the country has taken to reduce (the number of drug cartels) / minimize cruelty and smuggling of illegal substances.
- 5- How Mexico is in danger, possible solutions proposed by allies of Mexico.
- 6- How have rivalries between groups like CJNG, Sinaloa, and others impacted stability in affected areas?

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