

MEXICAN DRUG WAR: INTERNATIONAL EFFECTS THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD OF ESCALATION OF THE CONFLICT IN 2007-2012

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Mexican Drug war with its first 62 casualties in 2006 is an ongoing armed conflict among rival cartels fighting each other for regional control and against Mexican government forces. The National Drug Intelligence Center has reported that Mexican cartels are predominant smugglers of South American cocaine and Mexico-produced heroin and cannabis. What we have as of 2013 is more than 86 thousand people killed and 27 thousand people disappeared. Mexican Drug War entered the period of its escalation in 2007. Since 2007 the gangs have been growing more powerful, the influence of the cartels has spread over politicians and local administration as well. The threat of conflict to Mexican economy, tourism, and politics is no question, but the international effect is more than obvious. So my task was to find out what countries suffer from this narcotic outrage most and what these effects on the world community are. And I asked myself a question: has Mexico already become a gaping hole on the political map of the world in the opinion of the international community? To what extent other countries are splattered with its blood?

The USA feels the effect of the conflict more than any other state, and is also bearing shared responsibility for the drug-fueled violence sweeping Mexico. The States have contributed a lot to the alleviation of the sufferings through cooperation within a framework of Merida Initiative with Mexico. It's no secret that America is the main consumer of drugs transported from Mexico. In addition the States suffer a lot from illegal immigrants. The states of Arizona, California and Texas require more security today. It also has been recently stated by «Business Week» and «Houston News» that Mexican cartels have infiltrated over 200 cities in the US. US mass media are also reporting a spike in killings: more than 90 Americans were killed in 2010. So, while America is obsessed with Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan, there's a significant security problem brewing much closer to the borders. Another point is Canada. Increased efforts in defense against cartels in the US and Mexico have forced many cartels to move to this country, and allegedly Vancouver and British Columbia have become the main targets for the gangs. The same effect may be seen in Guatemala which is now controlled by one of the most powerful drug gangs. Mexico's troubles are beginning to afflict Honduras, El Salvador and even Costa Rica, although the latter has long been an enclave of democracy and stability in the region. It is also known that at least 9 Mexican drug gangs set up bases in 11 West African states (such as Burkina Faso, Guinea, Senegal,

etc.) to work closely with local drug producers and later access the lucrative European market. Most of cocaine is smuggled into Spain, France and the United Kingdom. The demand on cocaine in Europe is blooming. In 2012 it has been reported that Mexican Drug cartels have set up connections with the Sicilian mafia. The conclusion is that the main problem that all the states mentioned above face is the presence of drug-dealers inside their countries.

But that is just the tip of an iceberg. Mexican Drug War also affects international tourism. What can travellers expect from Mexico today? The number of the Americans and Canadians visiting the state has already become considerably lower than it used to be in 2006. The effect on the global monetary system includes money laundering and adulterated money printing, trafficking and spreading. Money laundering is a topical issue. In most cases the stream of adulterated money is heading the USA. Legalization of marijuana is even a more topical issue. Colorado and Washington have already voted in favor of legalization of recreational use of marijuana, so that has changed the rules of the game at short notice. Mexico is fighting for dear life against drugs but the closest neighbor and ally in the struggle is going to cross the line. There's no use in defining the international impact of marijuana legalization; though we have all heard of a domino effect. Human Rights have also been affected and violated. People are murdered and slaughtered. Another important point is killings of journalists from abroad. Mexico is considered the most dangerous country in the world to practice journalism. The gangs also threaten to kill news reporters in the US who are working on the drug violence in Mexico. Illegal arms use and trafficking is a scourge of the conflict. Thousands of illegal pistols, rifles, grenades and guns are withdrawn in Mexico from drug-dealers monthly and prevented from being smuggled in order to supply gangs with armament.

Morality is also affected severely. «Komsomolskaya Pravda», «the Guardian», «New Mexico News» make detailed reports on the Mexican drug massacre. The cruelty of the conflict is revealed in the pictures made by the photographers from all over the world. The schemes of homicide shock with their rigour. Murdered people are often dismembered in 20 or even more parts, which later can be found in various places by local people. Killed people are often buried in common graves or even left to putrefy in the streets so sometimes it takes a lot of time to identify the remains.

As you can see, the list of the effects could last forever. Today a war fought in a country is not a war of the sole state. The conflict spreads over bordering states and the rest of the world. Who else but the international community is responsible for the termination of the sorrowful atrocities in Mexico? So we should hope that in the near future the only shots in Mexico will be tequila shots.

Literature

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I PROBLEMI ATTUALI DEL TURISMO IN ITALIA

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Il turismo è e rappresenterà sempre più nei prossimi anni uno dei fenomeni socio-economici più rilevanti a livello mondiale: secondo l'Organizzazione Mondiale del Turismo, nel 2010 si sono mossi oltre 940 milioni di turisti, che hanno speso oltre 1 trilione di dollari.

Per l'Italia, il Turismo è un'opportunità fondamentale grazie a quanto segue:

- straordinario patrimonio climatico-paesaggistico;
- ineguagliabile patrimonio artistico-culturale;
- patrimonio enogastronomico diversificato ed universalmente apprezzato.

In effetti, il Turismo è un'importante fonte di ricchezza per l'Italia: tra effetti diretti e indotti, genera oltre l'11% del PIL e quasi il 12% dell'occupazione. Inoltre, il Turismo è sempre stato un settore con un saldo attivo della bilancia di pagamenti, contribuendo in maniera significativa al riequilibrio delle partite correnti nazionali. Così, secondo i dati dell'UNWTO, nell'anno 2010 Italia ha ospitato più di 43 milioni dei turisti, ed il reddito era i 38,8 miliardi di dollari.

Negli ultimi anni però il settore turistico italiano ha perso quota di mercato a livello mondiale: dalla prima posizione occupata a livello europeo all'inizio degli anni Ottanta e ancora verso la meta degli anni Novanta, oggi è soltanto quinto.

Il declino nel turismo è stato causato dai seguenti problemi principali del settore:

- mancanza di una strategia per il Turismo a livello Paese e di un coerente governo del settore;
- focalizzazione limitata alla vocazione primaria (ad esempio mare, montagna) di ogni luogo territoriale specifico. Ne conseguono la stagionalità dei flussi, la concentrazione degli arrivi in poche località, la mancanza di un'offerta a livello sovraregionale;
- prodotto turistico costoso e debole a livello di qualità e offerta complessiva;
- frammentazione delle iniziative promozionali verso l'estero tra una molteplicità di attori, a differenza di Paesi concorrenti;