

NOVEMBER 3RD, 2023

**BILATERAL
X-RAY
MEXICO-UNITED STATES**



SECURITY AND RULE OF LAW

**DEMOCRACY AND
INSTITUTIONS**

North America

**Economy and
Commerce**

MIGRATION AND LABOR

MOBILITY

RELEVANT EVENTS

- **SECOND EDITION OF THE NORTH CAPITAL FORUM**

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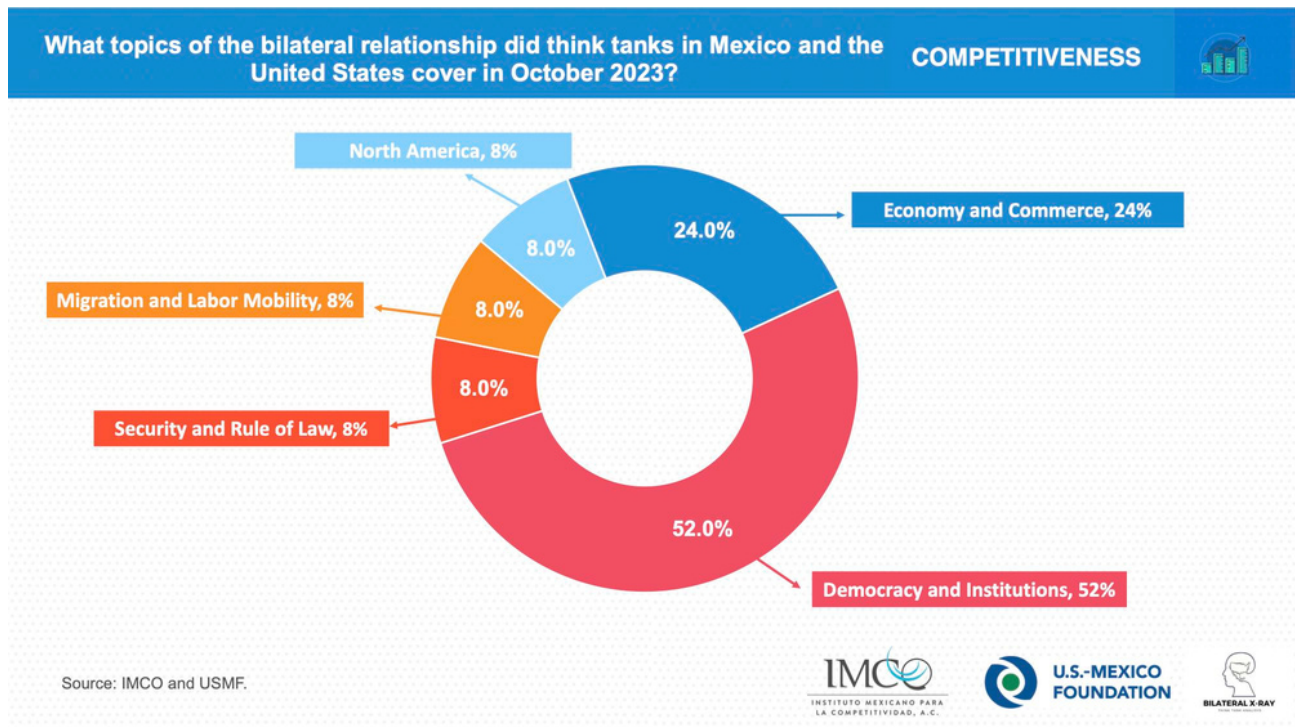
Coverage Report

October 1st to October 31st

During the period, a total of 26 publications were collected on the bilateral relationship between Mexico and the United States. Out of these publications, 4% were generated in Mexico, and the remaining 96% originated in the United States. The Mexico Institute contributed the highest number of publications with 8, followed by the Council on Foreign Relations with 3 articles. Additionally, the Baker Institute, AS/COA, Heritage Foundation, and The Milken Institute each presented 2 publications. In October, the most frequently mentioned topics were **Democracy and Institutions** with 13 publications, and **Economy and Commerce** with 6 publications.

The next figure shows the top five most mentioned topics.

Topics Covered



Democracy and Institutions

During the month of October, the articles generated by various think tanks remained consistently centered on issues pertaining to **Democracy and Institutions**. More specifically, substantial attention was directed towards analyses concerning the forthcoming Mexican elections scheduled for 2024. The Mexico Institute emerged as a prominent contributor to this discourse, offering an extensive array of content that delved deep into the profiles of political parties and opposition alliances set to participate in Mexico's upcoming presidential elections. Concurrently, institutions such as AS/COA were focused on meticulously tracking electoral preferences concerning the 2024 electoral process. It is unequivocal that the interest in the forthcoming Mexican presidential elections will continue to occupy a position of prominence within the research agendas of think tanks in both nations during the following months.

Key publications regarding Democracy and Institutions this month:

- Mexico Institute [The Public and Mexico's Presidential Election](#) by Jorge Buendía & Javier Márquez
- AS/COA [Approval Tracker: Mexico's President AMLO](#) by Carin Zissis

DEMOCRACY AND INSTITUTIONS RECENT DATA

- According to a survey by **INEGI**, confidence in Mexico's democratic institutions has experienced a decline in recent years. In the year 2023, only **26% of the Mexican population expressed having a significant or moderate level of confidence in Congress, 23% in the president, 22% in the Judiciary, and 21% in political parties.** INEGI (National Survey of Civic Culture and Ethics 2023).

Economy and Commerce

In the field of **Economy and Commerce**, during October, articles primarily focused on the importance of supply chains and the USMCA. It's worth noting the consistent attention that think tanks have maintained regarding the trade agreement throughout 2023. In this context, institutions such as the Baker Institute and the George W. Bush Presidential Center highlighted different alternatives to strengthen the regional integration of supply chains. Additionally, IMCO made reference to the fiscal incentives announced by the Mexican Ministry of Finance in order to attract investments and leverage the Nearshoring trend. Furthermore, other think tanks like PIIE and the Milken Institute emphasized, the role of the Rapid Response Labor Mechanism (RRM) within the framework of the USMCA and the significance of Mexico as a strategic player in North American trade.

Key publications regarding Democracy and Institutions this month:

- The Milken Institute [Mexico's Competitiveness as a Strategic Trade Partner](#) by Maggie Switek, Lawson Mansell, & Leilani Jimenez
- PIIE, [The Rapid Response Labor Mechanism of the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement](#) by Chad P. Bown & Kathleen Claussen

ECONOMY AND COMMERCE RECENT DATA

- The **United States is Mexico's primary supplier of manufactured goods.** In 2023, the U.S. exported \$190 billion worth of manufactured products to Mexico, primarily automobiles, transportation equipment, and electronics (TMEC Report, Ministry of Economy 2023).
- Following the strike's conclusion in the U.S. **automotive sector, the combined losses of the three automotive companies were close to \$80.2 billion** (Reuters).

Security and Rule of Law

In October, publications in the realm of Security and Rule of Law shed light on critical issues, with a particular focus on human trafficking and emerging security threats posed by digital technologies. A report from the Council on Foreign Relations addressed the persistent challenge of human trafficking within the United States, despite global efforts to combat it. The trafficking of drugs has exacerbated the problem, making human trafficking an even more pressing concern, as highlighted in various Bilateral X Ray Reports. Additionally, the security discourse also mentions the regulation of digital technologies being introduced into the region. The U.S. has long voiced concerns regarding companies like Huawei, emphasizing the inherent security risks associated with their presence, which could potentially grant China unwarranted access and influence within the U.S. and the region at large.

Key publications regarding Security and Rule of Law this month:

- CSIS [Managing Geopolitical Risk in Mexico's ICT Sector](#) by Ryan Berg
- Council on Foreign Relations [The Nexus of Human Trafficking, Democracy, and Corruption](#) by Ann Norris

SECURITY AND RULE OF LAW RECENT DATA:

- **Human trafficking and forced labor generate \$150 billion** for the United States annually (CFR).
- **Huawei controls 30% of the global market** share of telecommunications equipment (CSIS).

Other topics

In the publications for October, key topics included **Migration and Labor Mobility** and **North America**. Regarding migration, the articles delved into the comprehensive landscape of illegal immigration and border security in the United States. Notably, they highlighted record-breaking levels of border crossings in 2023 (3 million people), shedding light on the significant challenges that this surge poses for the United States. This has also impacted several American states, such as New York, which are confronting their own migrant crisis, demonstrating the impact of this complex issue. Regarding North American affairs, numerous experts have discussed the ongoing dynamics within the U.S.-Mexico relationship, with an emphasis on the challenges it confronts. Over recent months, a consistent focal point has revolved around security concerns, primarily stemming from the increase of issues related to drug trafficking and organized crime.

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

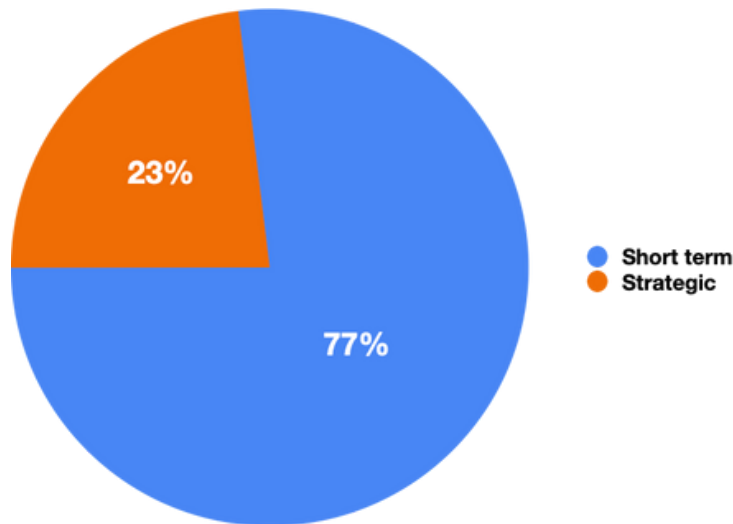
- Heritage Foundation [The BorderLine: The Border Crisis by the Numbers](#) Simon Hankinson
- The Dialogue [How Well Are the U.S. & Mexico Cooperating?](#) by Earl Anthony Wayne, Stephanie Brewer, Gary J. Hale, Raúl Benítez Manaut, Vanda Felbab-Brown

MIGRATION AND LABOR MOBILITY AND NORTH AMERICA RECENT DATA

- In fiscal year 2023, **3 million people were "encountered" by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection illegally entering the U.S.** (Heritage Foundation).
- The migrant crisis **has cost New York over 1 billion dollars**, creating a state of emergency in the area (CFR).

Relevant short-term events for the bilateral relationship

- Once again, in **Democracy and Institutions**, all the topics discussed had short-term relevance. During the month of October, the content focused on Mexico's 2024 presidential process and the tracking of voter preferences. As we have pointed out, this trend will likely persist as we approach the 2024 electoral process.
- Consistent with previous releases, the strategic publications in the month of October continue to focus on the field of **Economy and Commerce**. Of particular note is the ongoing significance of the USMCA and the attention given to the nearshoring trend.



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
Baker Institute	<u>THE ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT UNITED KINGDOM TRADE AGREEMENTS FOR THE US, TEXAS AND MEXICO</u>	November 2nd 11:00 (GMT) Online
Baker Institute	<u>THE ROLE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE IN MEXICO'S DEMOCRACY</u>	November 17th 11:00 (GMT) Online
Baker Institute	<u>THE ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT UNITED KINGDOM TRADE AGREEMENTS FOR THE US, TEXAS AND MEXICO</u>	November 2nd 11:00 (GMT) Online
Aspen Institute	<u>NEARSHORING SUMMIT MX</u>	November 16th 8:30 (CT) Online
Hudson Institute	<u>STILL FRIENDS AFTER ALL THESE YEARS? THE US-CANADA RELATIONSHIP IN A DANGEROUS WORLD</u>	November 14th 14:00 (ET) The Hudson Institute Wash. DC
Mexico Institute	<u>MEXICO'S NEXT PRESIDENT: CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS</u>	November 14th 11:00 (ET) Wilson Center, Wash. DC
COMEXI	<u>CONVERSATORIO DE LAS ELECCIONES DE ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA</u>	November 9th 18:30 (CT) Club de Industriales, CDMX

PUBLICATIONS

MEXICAN THINK TANKS

- [IMCO SE OTORGARÁN ESTÍMULOS FISCALES PARA IMPULSAR LAS INVERSIONES POR NEARSHORING](#) IMCO Staff

UNITED STATES THINK TANKS

- [Baker Institute Supply Chain Alternatives for Ocean Shipping if Climate Change-driven Water Shortages Persist at the Panama Canal](#) David A. Gantz
- [Council on Foreign Relations The Nexus of Human Trafficking, Democracy, and Corruption](#) Ann Norris
- [Council on Foreign Relations Why New York Is Experiencing a Migrant Crisis](#) Will Freeman
- [Council on Foreign Relations America's Fentanyl Epidemic: The China Connection](#) Gabrielle Sierra
- [Heritage Foundation The BorderLine: The Border Crisis by the Numbers](#) Simon Hankinson
- [The Dialogue How Well Are the U.S. & Mexico Cooperating?](#) Earl Anthony Wayne Stephanie Brewer Gary J. Hale Raúl Benítez Manaut Vanda Felbab-Brown
- [The Dialogue What's at Stake in the Mexico City Mayoral Election?](#) Omar García-Ponce Flavia Freidenberg Diego Castañeda
- [Center for Binational Institutions Report July-September 2023](#) Staff
- [George W. Bush Presidential Center NASCO's annual meeting highlights the spirit of North American collaboration](#) Jenny Villatoro
- [PIIE The Rapid Response Labor Mechanism of the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement](#) Chad P. Bown and Kathleen Claussen
- [Milken Institute Mexico's Competitiveness as a Strategic Trade Partner](#) Maggug Switek, Lawson Mansell, Leilani Jimenez
- [Milken Institute New Report by Milken Institute Calls To Leverage Trade Partnership With Mexico To Unlock Capital, Talent, and Workforce](#) Yeen Chong
- [CSIS Managing Geopolitical Risk in Mexico's ICT Sector](#) Ryan Berg
- [Mexico Institute Mexico 2024 Electoral Landscape: Buendía&Márquez](#) Jorge Buendía & Javier Márquez
- [Mexico Institute The Public and Mexico's Presidential Election](#) Jorge Buendía & Javier Márquez
- [Baker Institute Mexico's Ongoing Search for Democracy: A Conversation with Macario Schettino on the 2024 Elections](#) Tony Payan, Rodrigo Montes de Oca
- [Heritage Foundation With U.S. Support, Ecuador's New Leader Can Combat a Daunting Narco-Crisis](#) Andres Martinez-Fernandez
- [AS/COA Poll Tracker: Contenders for Mexico's 2024 Presidential Vote](#) Carin Zissis
- [AS/COA Approval Tracker: Mexico's President AMLO](#) Carin Zissis
- [Mexico Institute AMLO Has a Plan to Install Sheinbaum – Will It Work?](#) Carlos Heredia
- [Mexico Institute Explainer: Frente Amplio por México](#) Aldrin Ballesteros
- [Mexico Institute Juntos Hacemos Historia - Explainer](#) Alexandra Helfgott
- [Mexico Institute Candidate Profile: Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo](#) Alexandra Helfgott
- [Mexico Institute Movimiento Ciudadano - Explainer](#) Alexandra Helfgott
- [Mexico Institute El Partido del Trabajo \(PT\) - Explainer](#) Alexandra Helfgott



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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