

About the Project

Dedicated to the study of the rule of law in Mexico since 2002, the Justice in Mexico Project is based at the USD Trans-Border Institute. The project conducts research and builds networks among scholars to analyze and identify solutions to problems related to public security, government transparency and accountability, and access to justice in Mexico. The Justice in Mexico Project has received generous financial support from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, as well as from The Tinker Foundation.

Research Outputs

Edited Volume: In 2007, the project released *Reforming the Administration of Justice in Mexico*, (Notre Dame Press; Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies) edited by Wayne Cornelius & David Shirk.

Monograph Series: In 2007, the project published its first monograph, *Evaluating Accountability and Transparency in Mexico*, edited by Alejandra Ríos Cázares & David Shirk. In 2008, the project's second monograph will focus on public security challenges in Mexico.

Working Papers, Briefs and Factsheets: The project maintains an open call for papers on the rule of law in Mexico, and regularly publishes briefs and fact sheets on related topics. Links to most project publications are available on the project website.

Web-based Resources: Access to information about the project, a directory of experts on rule of law and security issues in Mexico, links to electronic publications, and other justice-related information can be found on the project website.

Tinker Legal Ethics Seminar Series: Five keynote talks by distinguished jurists and legal scholars from Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Spain, and the United States offer comparative insights on best practices for promoting legal ethics and professionalism. Sponsored by the Tinker Foundation.

Monthly News Report: Each month, the project distributes a news report on recent justice-sector developments in Mexico via a free electronic listserv (subscribe online).



March 6, 2006. Conference on Rule of Law Challenges

Activities and Events

Conferences and Forums: The Justice in Mexico Project hosts forums and events focused on rule of law and security issues of binational interest in Mexico and the United States.

Major Conferences and Forums:

- **April 2003:** *Reforming the Administration of Justice in Mexico*, UC-San Diego
- **May 5, 2004:** *Women in Civic Action for Accountability: Combating the Murders in Ciudad Juárez*, Trans-Border Institute
- **December 2, 2004:** *Cross-Border Prosecution and Extradition*, Trans-Border Institute
- **November 19, 2005:** *Crime, Violence, & Insecurity in Mexico & the Border Region*, Trans-Border Institute
- **March 6, 2006:** *Rule of Law Challenges Along the U.S.-Mexico Border*, Trans-Border Institute
- **July 28, 2006:** *Profesionalismo en la Enseñanza y el Ejercicio del Derecho en México*, Mexico City
- **March 7, 2007:** *Los Juicios Orales y la Definición de un Sistema Acusatorio Garantista*, Saltillo, Coahuila
- **May 9, 2007:** *Las Salidas Alternas en Mexico*, Mexicali, Baja California
- **July 11, 2007:** *Seguridad Pública y Reforma Penal en México*, Guadalajara, Jalisco
- **September 27-28, 2007:** *La Etica y Practica Profesional en México*, Aguascalientes & Zacatecas
- **January 25, 2008:** *El Futuro de la Enseñanza del Derecho*, Monterrey, Nuevo León
- **March 6, 2008:** *La reforma penal: Experiencias en el Estado de Chihuahua*, Chihuahua, Chihuahua
- **April 21, 2008:** *Justice in Mexico: National and Local Initiatives*, Trans-Border Institute

Binational Collaborative Research

- **Institutional Partnerships:** Through the Trans-Border Institute, the Justice in Mexico Project regularly partners with U.S. and Mexican institutions to conduct research and organize justice-related events.
- **Justice Network / Red de Justicia:** In 2006-08, the Justice in Mexico Project partnered with the Centro de Investigación Para el Desarrollo, A.C. (CIDAC) to conduct research and host forums on justice sector reforms in nine different Mexican states: Aguascalientes, Baja California, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Jalisco, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Querétaro, and Zacatecas.
- **Contributing Researchers:** Over two dozen U.S. and Mexican researchers have contributed their research to various project publications, and many more have participated as guest speakers and commentators in project meetings and events.

Policy Briefings & Analysis

- **Policy Briefings:** The project has hosted and participated in numerous policy briefings for U.S. and Mexican officials to provide information, analysis, and policy recommendations. To better inform policy-makers, the project regularly involves high ranking government officials in its forums and activities.
- **Legislative Analysis:** In 2005, in an effort to assess the merits of the Fox administration's justice reform proposal, the project collaborated with the Mexican Senate to produce a technical analysis authored by José Luis González, Layda Negrete Sansores, and Guillermo Zepeda Lecuona.

Featured Public Officials:

- Sigrid Arzt
- José Ramón Cossío
- Marcelo Ebrard
- Eugenio Elorduy
- Alejandro Gertz Manero
- Ernesto Ruffo Appel
- José Luis Soberanes

Red de Justicia Partners:

- Aarón Castillo (Aguascalientes)
- María Candelaria Pelayo (B.C.)
- Daniel Solorio (B.C.)
- Antonio Berchermann (Coahuila)
- Luis Efrén Ríos Vega (Coahuila)
- Heliodoro Araiza (Chihuahua)
- Jorge Lugo (Chihuahua)
- Marcos Pablo Moloeznik (Jalisco)
- Guillermo Zepeda (Jalisco)
- Alejandro Ponce de León (N.L.)
- Rubén Vasconcelos (Oaxaca)
- Enrique Ramírez (Querétaro)
- Omar Williams López (Zacatecas)

Contributing Researchers:

- Mario Arroyo
- Elena Azaola
- John Bailey
- Marcelo Bergman
- Robert Buffington
- Hugo Concha
- Wayne Cornelius
- Irasema Coronado
- Hector Ortiz-Elizondo
- Hector Fix-Fierro
- José Luis González
- Rosalva Aida Hernandez
- Yessika Hernández
- Jorge Alberto Ibáñez
- Robert Kossick
- Sergio López Ayllón
- Ana Laura Magaloni
- Marcos Pablo Moloeznik
- Mauricio Merino
- Layda Negrete Sansores
- Pablo Parás
- Juan Pardini
- Pablo Piccato
- Nicolas Pineda Pablos
- Andrea Pozas-Loyo
- Benjamin Reames
- Alejandra Ríos Cázares
- Julio Ríos-Figueroa
- Alison Rowland
- Sara Schatz
- Carlos Silva
- Jeffrey Staton
- Kathleen Staudt
- Elisa Speckman Guerra
- Robert Varenik
- Guillermo Zepeda Lecuona

Project Staff 2007-08

- **David A. Shirk:** Director, Trans-Border Institute
- **Robert Donnelly:** Project Coordinator
- **Cory Molzahn:** Research Associate
- **Theresa Firestine:** Research Associate
- **Ruth Gomez:** Research Assistant
- **Lorie Lopez:** Events Assistant
- **Carla Meyers:** Promotions Assistant
- **Marcus Fujita:** Project Intern

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