

Mexico Foreign Press Chatter

August 8, 2025

With trade negotiators back at it for at least another 90 days, coverage this week centered on behind-the-scenes developments. Bloomberg reported the two governments are nearing a security deal that 'could quell some of President Trump's chief concerns'. Terms could include increased intelligence sharing and stepped up efforts to reduce the flow of drug precursors, but also of guns coming from the US. Meanwhile, the WSJ highlighted how the Sheinbaum administration has faced challenges as it seeks to demonstrate cooperation, after a high-profile cartel operative escaped from house arrest and political scandals continued. For its part, the New York Times covered the Justice Department's decision not to pursue the death penalty against three notorious drug kingpins, in a surprise move contradicting prior statements.

Reports also looked at wider (and uneven) implications from tariffs and other cross-border disputes. On the one hand, the AP reported that some 84% of Mexican trade has not been impacted by tariffs, thanks to the exception for USMCA-compliant goods; however, those affected are facing significant challenges. The same AP delved into the dire situation of ranchers in Sonora, who are 'rethinking everything' as US markets remain closed due to the presence of New World screwworm parasites, mainly in southern Mexico; some have pursued other ventures, such as beekeeping, while others have gone to domestic markets, selling at a steep discount. In the auto sector, the FT quoted Rogelio Garza, president of the Mexican Auto Industry Association, describing tariffs (some of which are already in place) as 'unsustainable' and a paralyzing force on investments. Bloomberg also highlighted the dearth of recent deals: 'everyone is waiting to see how things will play out', said Alberto Villarreal, founder of Nepanoa, a Chicago-based business advisory firm.

On domestic matters, Bloomberg profiled Altagracia Gómez, industrial heiress turned business ambassador, an 'unlikely ally' of President Sheinbaum, who has helped assuage investors' concerns. In grimmer news, The Guardian and AP covered developments on violence, including the murders of activist Sandra Domínguez in Oaxaca, and a high-profile government official in Tamaulipas.

On the business front, Pemex's new strategic plan had a lukewarm reception, with analysts quoted by Bloomberg criticizing the lack of measures to solve the company's operating woes, and suppliers complaining to Reuters about the absence of concrete plans to deal with the 'massive debt' Pemex has accumulated with them. The yet-to-be-confirmed plans by AT&T to sell its Mexican business, first reported by Bloomberg, also drew significant attention.

Shifting gears, ARTnews reported on the likely rediscovery of *Sak-Bahlán*, or Land of the White Jaguar, ‘the last recorded Maya rebel stronghold, famed for its century-long defiance of Spanish colonization’. After falling into disrepair and obscurity, the site had long been considered lost. Meanwhile, the NYT profiled Flip Gordon, former American soldier turned *lucha libre* wrestler, who has overcome a less-than-friendly reception from fans and rivals. Embracing his military background but also learning Spanish, Mr. Gordon has successfully adapted to this new home: “he’s Mexican now”, said a fan. Here’s to hoping tariff negotiations have a similarly happy ending.

Lastly, on this week’s MexMoves, Damian and Eduardo interview Carlos García, President of AmCham México, to discuss the current state of U.S.-Mexico business relations heading into the critical 2026 USMCA review. They also speak with Raúl Livas, former COO of Pemex, who breaks down the government’s new rescue plan for the struggling oil giant. You can listen to it [here](#).

Photo of the Week



A ranch hand sorts calves at a ranch that supplies livestock for export to the U.S., in Zamora, northern Mexico. Photo by Fernando Llano for AP Photo.

FOREIGN PRESS COVERAGE

[Mexico Nears US Security Deal in Step Toward Trade Pact](#)

08/01/25, Bloomberg, Maya Averbuch, Eric Martin and Michael O'Boyle

[Mexico's Drug Cartels Bedevil Sheinbaum's Dealmaking With Trump](#)

08/04/25, The Wall Street Journal, Santiago Pérez and José de Córdoba

[U.S. Says It Will Not Seek Death Penalty Against 3 Drug Cartel Bosses](#)

08/05/25, The New York Times, Santul Nerkar

[Crucial exemption allows majority of Canadian and Mexican goods to be shipped to US without tariffs](#)

08/05/25, AP News, Rob Gillies

[Mexican ranchers struggle to adapt as a tiny parasite ravages their cattle exports to the US](#)

08/05/25, AP News, Fernando Llano and Fabiola Sánchez

[Trump tariffs are 'unsustainable', says Mexico's auto sector chief](#)

08/02/25, Financial Times, Christine Murray

[M&A Dries up in Mexico as Politics Get in the Way of Dealmaking](#)

08/05/25, Bloomberg, Andrea Navarro

[Mexico's Sheinbaum Finds Unlikely Ally in Young Heir to Corn-Flour Fortune](#)

08/07/25, Bloomberg, Maya Averbuch

['She stood up to men with machetes': Sandra Domínguez fought against femicide in Mexico – then became a victim herself](#)

08/05/25, The Guardian, Thomas Graham

[Mexican investigators suspect organized crime in killing of a top federal official](#)

08/05/25, AP News, Staff

[32 bodies found in clandestine graves in central Mexico](#)

08/04/25, AP News, Staff

[Pemex Comeback Plan Lacks Operations Overhaul Sought by Analysts](#)

08/06/25, Bloomberg, Scott Squires

[Pemex plan disappoints suppliers awaiting billions in overdue payments](#)

08/07/25, Reuters, Ana Isabel Martinez and Adriana Barrera

[AT&T Seeks More Than \\$2 Billion for Mexico Mobile Unit](#)

08/07/25, Bloomberg, Michael O'Boyle, Michelle Davis and Todd Gillespie

[Last Mayan Rebel Stronghold, Long Believed to Be Lost, May Have Been Found](#)

08/06/25, ARTnews, Tessa Solomon

[A Former American Soldier Finds a Home in Mexican Wrestling](#)

08/03/25, The New York Times, James Wagner