

## Mexico Foreign Press Chatter

August 15, 2025

Tensions in the Mexico-US relationship dominated headlines this week. First, both the NYT and WSJ reported on a leaked directive from President Trump, ordering the Pentagon to prepare for strikes against cartels. Predictably, President Sheinbaum stated any such interventions would be ‘unwelcome’ (looking at the bigger picture, the NYT had an interesting article with the complicated historical context of US interventions in LatAm). Nonetheless, days later the Mexican government shipped a couple dozen drug kingpins to stand trial in the US, and then explained the flyover of an American drone near Mexico City as a ‘request for assistance’ in an investigation on cartel operations. Summing up matters, President Trump told reporters in the Oval Office that [‘Mexico does what we tell them to do’](#), perhaps saying the quiet part out loud.

Staying on bilateral security matters, the New York Times had an impressively reported story on the logistics of smuggling fentanyl into the US. Meanwhile, Reuters reported on the increasingly wide scope of American legal moves, with prosecutors targeting alleged bribes paid to Pemex’s executives, and cartel-related fraud on timeshares in Puerto Vallarta. And in more offbeat news, the NYT profiled Rick Perry, former governor of Texas and one-time presidential hopeful, who now spends time in Tijuana promoting ibogaine, a potent hallucinogenic that made headlines [back in June](#).

There were several pieces on tariff implications. Reuters covered the Mexican government’s imposition of minimum prices for tomato exports, while the WSJ noted GE is set to relocate some production from China and Mexico to the US. The NYT reported carmakers are absorbing some of the impact from tariffs – for now; it also highlighted efforts on both sides of the border to tackle the threat of screwworms. For its part, Bloomberg reported on efforts by Canadian officials to engage their Mexican counterparts.

On the domestic business front, Bloomberg covered Citi’s Jane Fraser visit to Mexico, including a stop at Palacio Nacional, as the US bank moves forward with its plans to spin-off Banamex; it also had an upbeat article on fintech Stori’s path to an eventual IPO. Less cheerfully, the NYT reported on the controversy surrounding Adidas’ ‘Oaxacan-inspired’ new shoes, which were seen as cultural appropriation.

Shifting gears, the Times had a delightful story on a new trend for destination weddings: hiring a shaman to prevent rain. Spoiler alert: results have been mixed. Reuters also reported on Waldog, an AI-powered robot roaming Monterrey, trying to raise awareness about animal abuse and welfare. Meanwhile, the AP had yet another story on the beloved axolotl, with ongoing efforts by scientists to collect its DNA from Mexico City’s canals.

Lastly, on this week's MexMoves, Damian and Eduardo speak with Ernesto Piedras — one of the country's leading consultants and experts on the digital economy — about the recent telecom reform. They also cover Western Union's purchase of rival Intermex, the fallout for Mexican beverage giant Cuervo from Canada's rejection of U.S.-made spirits, the potential takeover of a controlling stake in Banamex by Chico Pardo, the latest on Mexican fintechs, and the storm over Adidas's alleged cultural appropriation. You can listen to it [here](#).

### Photo of the Week



*Though Robyn Panarisi and her husband Blake hired a “rain witch” to keep storms away from their destination wedding in Mexico, umbrellas were required for the ceremony. Photo by Taryn Baxter for The New York Times.*

## FOREIGN PRESS COVERAGE

[Trump Directs Military to Target Foreign Drug Cartels](#)

08/08/25, The New York Times, Helene Cooper et al

[Trump Orders Pentagon to Prepare to Target Latin American Drug Cartels](#)

08/08/25, The Wall Street Journal, Lara Seligman et al

[These Are Drug Cartels Designated as Terrorists by the U.S.](#)

08/09/25, The New York Times, Lynsey Chutel

[Mexico's President Says U.S. Forces Are Unwelcome in Her Country](#)

08/08/25, The New York Times, Maria Abi-Habib

[Trump's Cartel Order Revives Bitter Memories in Latin America](#)

08/10/25, The New York Times, Simon Romero and Annie Correal

[Mexico and Brazil Rebut Trump's Claims About Violence in Their Cities](#)

08/12/25, The New York Times, Emiliano Rodríguez Mega and Ana Ionova

[Under Pressure by Trump, Mexico Sends 26 Accused Cartel Operatives to U.S.](#)

08/12/25, The New York Times, Jack Nicas et al

[Mexico Transfers 26 Suspected Cartel Members to U.S.](#)

08/12/25, The Wall Street Journal, Steve Fisher et al

[US drone flies over central Mexico in operation requested by Mexican government](#)

08/14/25, BNO News, Carlos Robles

[Secret Compartments and Cartel Lookouts: How Fentanyl Reaches the U.S.](#)

08/09/25, The New York Times, Paulina Villegas and Maria Abi-Habib

[Texas businessmen indicted for allegedly bribing officials at Mexico's Pemex](#)

08/11/25, Reuters, Stefanie Eschenbacher

[US issues sanctions against Mexican cartel fraud scheme in Puerto Vallarta](#)

08/13/25, Reuters, Benjamín Mejías

[The Long, Strange Trip of Rick Perry](#)

08/12/25, The New York Times, Robert Draper

[Mexico sets minimum export prices for fresh tomatoes](#)

08/10/25, Reuters, Brendan O'Boyle

[GE Appliances Plans \\$3 Billion U.S. Investment to Help Blunt Tariffs](#)

08/13/25, The Wall Street Journal, John Keilman

[Car Companies Are Paying Tariffs So You Don't Have To](#)

08/09/25, The New York Times, Jack Ewing

[Gene Editing and Fly Factories: The Fight Against a Flesh-Eating Pest](#)

08/09/25, The New York Times, Linda Qiu and Alexa Robles-Gil

[Alberta Bolsters Canada-Mexico Energy Ties as Trump Upends Trade](#)

08/12/25, Bloomberg, Alex Vasquez

[Citi CEO visits Mexico President During Banamex Stake Talks](#)

08/11/25, Bloomberg, Michael O'Boyle and Todd Gillespie

[Mexico's Stori Eyes IPO by 2027 With Trend Toward Profits](#)

08/12/25, Bloomberg, Maria Clara Cobo and Kelsey Butler

[Adidas Apologizes After Mexico Criticizes Oaxacan-Inspired Shoe](#)

08/11/25, The New York Times, Michael Levenson

[Who'll Stop the Rain? At Some Weddings, the Answer is a Shaman](#)

08/12/25, The New York Times, Zachary Schwartz

[Robot dog in Mexico teaches animal kindness on the streets](#)

08/12/25, Reuters, Alberto Fajardo and Mariana Hernandez

[Scientists search for DNA of an endangered salamander in Mexico City's canals](#)

08/11/25, AP News, Maria Verza