



Eyes on Mexico: Monthly Political Overview

January 2026

Top Highlights

Third Meeting of the Mexico-U.S. Security Implementation Group (SIG). Representatives from Mexico and the U.S. gathered in Washington, D.C., on January 23, 2026, to follow up on joint security efforts. Both governments reaffirmed security cooperation based on sovereignty, mutual trust, shared responsibility and cooperation without subordination. Both sides also highlighted the progress made since SIG's establishment in September 2025, including advances in customs information sharing, cooperation against unmanned systems threats and strengthened judicial collaboration. Key agreements focused on expanding information sharing on U.S. security actions, prioritizing Mexico's cases and intensifying efforts to combat arms trafficking. The U.S. delegation recognized Mexico's recent transfer of high-impact criminals as a concrete result against impunity.

United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Review. The Secretary of Economy Marcelo Ebrard met with U.S. Ambassador Jamieson Greer of the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) on January 28, 2026, to review the status of bilateral trade relationship and prepare for the upcoming joint review of the USMCA. Both sides acknowledged significant progress made in recent months and agreed on the importance of sustained dialogue to address nontariff barriers. Discussions covered tariffs, Section 232, the evolution of the automotive industry and bilateral trade flows, as well as strategic issues such as critical minerals and supply chain security. The parties also agreed to initiate formal talks on potential structural and strategic reforms, including strengthening rules of origin and closer alignment of external trade policies to counter dumping practices.

Governor General of Canada Visits Mexico. Mexico President Claudia Sheinbaum received Canada's Governor General Mary Simon on January 20, 2026, as part of an official visit aimed at strengthening bilateral ties. The meeting served as a follow-up to Canada Prime Minister Mark Carney's September 2025 visit and reaffirmed the close Mexico-Canada relationship. Discussions focused on shared priorities, particularly policies to support Indigenous peoples in both countries.

2026 Presidential Outlook. President Sheinbaum's outlook for 2026 centers on delivering concrete results through increased public investment in infrastructure and strategic sectors under Plan México, reinforcing poverty reduction, higher wages and reduced inequality as the basis for sustaining public support. She underscored that social welfare programs and the expansion of universal public healthcare remain central to the well-being agenda and linked these priorities to a new public investment framework designed to boost economic growth while improving quality of life – particularly through formal job creation, better wages, access to social security and alignment with Economic Development Poles for Wellbeing to ensure growth translates into stronger labor conditions.

Mexico Reaffirms Stance on Venezuela Amid Regional Tensions. In the context of recent developments involving Venezuela, the Federal Executive reiterated that Mexico will uphold its long-standing principles of sovereignty, nonintervention and respect for international law while maintaining a cooperative relationship with the U.S. based on shared economic and security interests and firmly rejecting any form of foreign military intervention. Amid public scrutiny over Mexico's oil shipments to Cuba, President Sheinbaum clarified that these flows continue through two sovereign channels: commercial contracts managed by Petróleos Mexicanos (Pemex)

and humanitarian aid. The president reaffirmed that humanitarian support to Cuba and other countries reflects Mexico's historic policy of international solidarity and independent decision-making.

Congressional Report

Legislative Agenda. The ordinary session of the second year of the 66th Legislature will begin on February 1, 2026, during which legislators are expected to address several pending issues, including 1) reforms to reduce the workweek to 40 hours, 2) political-electoral reform, 3) amendments to energy legislation and consumer protection, and 5) secondary legislation stemming from the constitutional reforms approved between 2024 and 2025.

Electoral Reform. Rep. Ricardo Monreal, president of the Political Coordination Board (JUCOPO) and a leading figure within the National Regeneration Movement (Morena), reported steady progress in negotiations toward an electoral reform spearheaded by the Ministry of the Interior – with Morena, the Green Party (PVEM) and Labor Party (PT) working to build a unified, consensus-based bill. He stressed that constitutional approval depends on maintaining the coalition's qualified majority. In parallel, the National Electoral Institute (INE) formally presented its own inputs and technical considerations on electoral reform to the legislative branch. Monreal's role will focus on facilitating dialogue and consensus-building among parliamentary groups once the bill is formally introduced. The goal is to present a consensual proposal as early as February 2026, enabling timely debate and approval.

Executive Branch

Guidelines for Mixed Development Schemes in the Electric Sector. The Ministry of Energy (SENER) published the [guidelines for mixed development schemes](#) of the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE) on January 28, 2026, in the *Federal Register* (DOF). The guidelines establish the criteria and procedures for developing power generation projects under mixed schemes, allowing CFE to partner with private entities to share investment, risks and benefits. They regulate technical, financial, contractual and selection processes to ensure transparency and efficiency. The framework aims to strengthen reliability, sustainability and long-term planning of Mexico's National Electric System while also enabling public-private collaboration.

Circular Economy Law. Mexico [published the decree](#) issuing the General Law on Circular Economy on January 19, 2026, marking a key step toward a sustainable production and consumption model in Mexico. The law aims to reduce waste generation, promote efficient resource use and reincorporate materials into productive value chains. It establishes the National Circular Economy System, sets guiding principles and introduces policy instruments such as Extended Producer Responsibility (REP). The decree also amends existing environmental legislation to mainstream circular economy principles across economic activities and strengthen environmental protection and resource efficiency.

2026 World Economic Forum. At the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources Alicia Bárcena promoted Plan México as a framework for sustainable and inclusive growth. She highlighted Mexico's circular economy strategy and the Development Poles for Wellbeing as key instruments to attract green investment and generate quality jobs. Bárcena underscored Mexico's commitment to transitioning away from a linear economy and toward large-scale circular solutions and ecological restoration. Together with Altagracia Gómez Sierra, coordinator for the Advisory Council for Regional Economic Development and Relocation (CADERR), she engaged global investors interested in sustainable projects. The government announced that a first delegation of 100 global business leaders will visit Mexico in March 2026 to explore investment opportunities in circular economy and green projects.

Health Sector Appointment. President Sheinbaum announced a change in leadership at the Federal Commission for the Protection Against Sanitary Risks (COFEPRIS), emphasizing the agency's central role in authorizing medicines, food products and key health-related inputs. She confirmed the appointment of Víctor Hugo Borja as the new head of COFEPRIS, highlighting his prior senior experience at the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS).

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