

Mexico's President Defies Color Revolution with Infrastructure Projects

by Dennis Small and David Ramonet

Dec. 1—In a televised speech from the National Palace, Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto on Nov. 27 announced a 10-point program for peace, unity, and justice, along with a development plan for the southern region of the country encompassing the states of Guerrero, Oaxaca, and Chiapas, which would have an overall nationwide impact once initiated. This is the most direct counterattack that Peña Nieto's government has made up to now, to address the ongoing destabilization stirred up against his government, which is using as a pretext the grisly kidnapping and likely assassination of 43 teaching students by local policemen from Iguala, Guerrero, associated with the drug mafia.

The very next day, the City of London's mouthpiece *The Economist*, which, along with its sister the *Financial Times*, has been coordinating the attempted "color revolution" in Mexico by remote control, complained noisily that Peña Nieto had "missed a chance to turn the tide," because, instead of reshuffling his cabinet, as they had demanded, he instead insisted on fighting the poverty and inequality that are the basis of the problem.

The Peña Nieto government has been in London and Washington's cross-hairs since it began to build closer economic ties with China and the other BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, and South Africa) over recent months. That includes his Nov. 13 summit meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, which produced \$7.4 billion in energy and infrastructure agreements, as well as ongoing discussion on three major rail projects in Mexico that Chinese companies are proposing to build.

The same day that *The Economist* was reiterating its imperial warning to Mexico, the LaRouche Citizens Movement in Mexico (MOCILA) issued a policy statement titled: "Who Is Out To Unleash a 'Color Revolu-



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According to the British Empire and its Wall Street/White House toadies, Mexican President Peña Nieto committed the grave sin of merely indicating his willingness to join with the BRICS' new paradigm. For that, holy Hell has been unleashed in the country.

tion' To Topple Mexico's Peña Nieto Government, and Why?" with the diametrically opposite policy (see accompanying article). The MOCILA statement, which is circulating widely in Mexican institutional layers, urges the government to move full steam ahead with the BRICS.

The President's Plan

The ten points announced by President Peña Nieto include: a) reorganizing the country's municipal police forces, which in many places have been taken over by drug traffickers, as was the case in Iguala, where the student massacre occurred; b) empowering the Federal government to take over municipalities infiltrated by the drug traffickers; c) measures to protect human rights and fight corruption; and d) establishing a special law en-

forcement operation in the states of Guerrero and Michoacán, with full Federal power brought to bear against the drug networks. Most significantly, he also announced the creation of “new poles of industrial development” in the southern region of the country, including three Special Economic Zones and two industrial corridors.

A map distributed to the Mexican media by the Office of the Presidency (**Figure 1**) makes clear that those projects involve major economic development plans for the port of Puerto Chiapas at the southeastern tip of the country; Lázaro Cárdenas Port and its related industrial corridor on the Pacific Coast; and the Inter-Oceanic Industrial Corridor in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, which would build a rail line and development zone running the breadth of the isthmus from the port of Coatzacoalcos on the Gulf of Mexico, to Salina Cruz on the Pacific.

There are three notable features about this announcement by Peña Nieto.

FIGURE 1
Mexico's Special Economic Zones



Office of the Presidency of Mexico

- First, the very concept that social instability, conflict, and the drug trade—which dominate most of the national territory today—are best combatted with economic development. As Peña Nieto put it: “Peace

Coverage of LaRouche Charges On Mexico ‘Color Revolution’

Dec. 2—Mexican political columnist Rodolfo Sánchez Mena, in his Nov. 23 syndicated column “Reasons of State,” published a lengthy discussion of the crisis facing Mexico and the various options under consideration by the government over how to deal with it. The article reports that the Nov. 13 edition of Iran’s Press TV program “The Debate,” contrasted “the views of Dennis Small of the weekly *Executive Intelligence Review*, *EIR*, with those of the London leftist Isaac Bigio.” The article notes that “*EIR*’s Small clearly identified the protests in Mexico as a color revolution, promoted by the same international financial interests that were behind the uprisings in Ukraine, or in Egypt before President el-Sisi entered office. Small explained the strategic global battle behind the Mexican protests, the determination to stop Mexico from jumping ship from the international financial system

which is sinking under \$2 quadrillion in unpayable financial derivatives. The intention is to stop Mexico from joining the group of nations headed by the BRICS that are building an alternative system, oriented towards the growth of the productive economy.”

Similarly, a policy statement of the LaRouche Citizens Movement (MOCILA) (see accompanying article) has begun to circulate throughout the country, including at a late-November meeting of the Permanent Conference of Political Parties of Latin America and the Caribbean (COPPPAL) in Mexico City. COPPPAL is an association of center and center-left parties from the region established in 1979 at the initiative of Mexico’s PRI party. This year’s COPPPAL meeting featured a policy discussion among top government and party leaders from across Ibero-America, with some 25 leaders of Asian political parties. One of the topics discussed was the BRICS initiatives for global development. All of those present received a copy of the Schiller Institute’s international petition, “The U.S. and Europe Must Have the Courage To Reject Geopolitics and Collaborate with the BRICS,” as well as a copy of the MOCILA statement.

is also constructed with development.”

- Second, that the last two of the three projects come directly from the legacy of the national development plans of the late President José López Portillo (1976-82), and reflect the reemergence of an important (if still minority) voice for sovereignty and development in the country.

- Third, that among the major deals that Peña Nieto is negotiating with China, is the trans-Isthmus industrial corridor announced in his national address. *EIR* reported on this project in its Nov. 14 edition (see Figure 2).

China-Mexico Relations Stay on Track

There is little doubt that Mexico’s ruling institutions see in China and the other BRICS nations an alternative to the devastation unleashed against Mexico over recent decades. On Nov. 26, the day before Peña Nieto’s national address, he met at the Presidential Palace with the head of China’s National People’s Congress, Zhang Dejiang, at the end Zhang’s nine-day tour of Ibero-America, which also took the Chinese leader to Peru and Colombia. According to the account published by Xinhua, Zhang called on Mexico and China to “work closely in big projects in infrastructure, energy, and high-tech, and expand friendly exchanges in education, science and technology, and culture, in a bid to lift the China-Mexico all-around strategic partnership to a new high.”

The Zhang visit, the first time a top Chinese legislator has visited Mexico since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1972, was a follow-up to the Nov. 13 meeting between Peña Nieto and President Xi.

Peña Nieto told the visiting Chinese legislator, according to Xinhua, that Mexico admires China’s re-

FIGURE 2
Proposed Mexico-China Rail Project



Sources: Hal Cooper; *EIR*.

markable achievements and would like to learn from them, and he underscored Mexico’s commitment to “becoming China’s reliable partner” in such projects. This is an embarrassed reference to the fact that, prior to his trip to China, the Mexican President succumbed to pressure from the White House and London, revoking an earlier contract to a China-led international consortium for the construction of a high-speed rail line between Mexico City and Querétaro. That pressure was part of the color revolution destabilization which the British empire and its American stooges has unleashed against Mexico.