

**To the people of Mexico,  
To the people of the world,  
To the international organizations,  
To the world governments,  
To the governing entities at a municipal, state, and federal level,**

We are Mexican by birth, by conviction, and we all live in Germany due to different reasons. Our plans are also varied; some of us will return home in a couple of months or years, and some of us do not know when we will return to Mexico. However, all of us without exception hope to return to our country. It is there where our families, our memories, and our friends live. Mexico is the place we feel we never entirely left.

Through news on the internet, sporadic trips home, or updates from family and friends, we have watched the number of murders and human rights violations increase exponentially in just a couple of years. The distance imposed by our being abroad does not deny us the right to disagree or to want to change this situation. It also does not prevent us from exercising our influence as Mexican citizens, a right granted to us by the law.

There are different visions of Mexico among those of us taking part in this initiative; our own political party inclinations and our own approach to politics remains heterogeneous. Nevertheless, this has not been a pretext for rift among us. To the contrary, it has encouraged us to unite under the following statement: All of us, without regard to social class, creed, or political ideology, deeply regret the degree of social breakdown our country currently finds itself in and we are all willing, in accordance with our capacities, to change it.

Our reading of the situation is clear: the current state of social breakdown is the outcome of an economic, political, and social system incapable of solving historical and structural problems. When combined with Mexico's geographically complex location, these deeply rooted problems then favor the transnational networks responsible for managing the import and export of drugs and weapons.

Until now the solution has been geared toward militarizing the country, instead of addressing the real national problems driving the situation. Issues like: the precarization of life in the city, rampant social inequality, political corruption, impunity, the marginalization of the countryside, the neglect of public education, and the monopolization of the mass media.

With this in mind, as Mexicans residing abroad, and through our public manifestations we want the following: I) to value the life of the more than 40 thousand deceased in the "war on drugs (drug-trafficking)", demanding from the authorities a different sensibility in relation to these deaths, namely, one that recognizes the dignity of each one killed and not one that reduces lives to collateral damage, II) to demand the establishment of an expeditious and

respectable justice system that is simultaneously mindful of human rights, III) to demand the further investigation of each and every one of the murders perpetrated on behalf of organized crime and the military, IV) to exhort governmental entities to work in conjuncture with international organizations in devising public policies that do not target the issues of violence and drugs in a reactive manner (the military sphere), but on a preventive manner (the socio-economic sphere).

Our initiative emphasizes that we are NOT asking the state to renounce the fight against organized crime. On the contrary, we demand that long-term strategies be designed, strategies that prioritize: the restructuring of the social fabric, the persecution of criminals' private bank accounts, investing and restructuring in public education, tackling corruption on all levels of government, the caring of public spaces, the promotion of culture, the democratization of the media, and the restoring of state institutions such as the judicial system, the military, and the police force.

Furthermore, we demand Mexican politicians—all of them, without regard to their party affiliations—a conduct that is consistent with the public position they hold. We demand from them courage, commitment, and an identity of interests that places public, instead of private causes, at the fore. We demand that they, as representatives of the people, listen to our demands and instead of evading them, find solutions to their causes.

We also address our concerns to the international community. What summons us here today neither starts nor ends in our country. Drugs and weapons do not walk on their own right; they travel together around the world from hand to hand. Although performing today at the Mexican stage, this transnational problem concerns everyone and not only Mexicans. The hands and labor of producers, competitors, distributors, intermediaries, facilitators, and also consumers embody its global character. A local approach does not suffice for this worldwide reality. Today is the time for every world citizen to question him or herself on this regard.

Until we see a clear response on behalf of all of the actors of the state to the undergoing crisis in the country, we will continue to demand the transformation of Mexican public life and will continue to concentrate our efforts in making the current situation in Mexico a priority among international organizations concerned with the protection of human rights with the goal of strengthening the work of Mexican organizations arduously working on these matters.

To conclude, we will continue to make use, from abroad, in thought and in action, of our citizenship.

Brandenburg Gate, Berlin  
“No more blod” Demonstration  
8th of May 2011.