

WHAT PRES TRUMP CAN DO TO BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH MEXICO

1. Invite President Peña Nieto to the White House to rebuild the relationship. Give him a State dinner. US-Mexico relations at its lowest ebb ever. Treat Mexico as an equal partner, not as a subordinate.

2. Let State-Commerce be the principal lead agencies on US-Mexico relations, not the White House. Keep career diplomat Roberta Jacobsen as Ambassador, not a political appointee in these turbulent times. Perhaps Rubio-Menendez invite Tillerson—Videgaray bring back relationship to an institutional framework.

3. Accelerate NAFTA discussions—not one year

- trigger the 90-day consultation period now that healthcare is over

- the longer they keep dragging NAFTA negotiations, the more populist-nationalism and anti-Americanism will play a role with all kinds of bilateral ramifications

4. Stop talking about import tax or border taxes. Mexico can retaliate against unfair trade policies. Do we want Mexico to punish Midwest corn, a \$2.5-million-dollar export. Talk to American farmers and ag interests that benefit from free trade.

5. Against threats that are now transnational (health, crime, immigration, terrorism) or opportunities which are equally so (energy security—from fossil fuels to renewables such as wind and solar in Baja feeding the California grid, Americas are better off and better protected when we work with Mexico. That cooperation is on hold.

WISHES, BUT NOT DOABLE

1. Forget the wall—too expensive, unworkable, and Mexico not going to pay for it. Forget deportations.

2. Comprehensive immigration reform—
border security but a path to citizenship—
like Pres George Bush

N.2.

-US-Mexico border has never been more secure

-US-Mexico bound together by geography, by trade, by family, by culture, by affinity

-US-Mexico economies don't compete vs. each other. We make each other more competitive in the global market.

-Mexico is the second-largest destination for US exports and the second-largest destination for exports from California, Arizona and Texas. Mexico buys more American goods than Japan, Germany and England combined. In 2015, 14-million tourists came to the US and spent around \$10 billion.

-Mexican immigrants are not violent criminals. They are patriotic and hardworking and make enormous contributions to the US economy. US agriculture, construction and restaurant industries might collapse.

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-gift to China if we abrogate NAFTA. China has poured about 60B into Venezuela.

-NAFTA strengthens US economy

-NAFTA needs updating-

- digital trade didn't exist in 1993

- more worker protections needed like labor standards and dispute settlement systems don't empower corporate interests

-with more competition from Asia and with increased sophistication of the Mexican economy, there is a strong case for strengthened rules of origin that enhance North American manufacturing.

-a way forward on immigration—wall terrible idea. Illegal immigration does not take place through people coming across borders in the desert. Takes place from illegal entry at legal checkpoints as people are smuggled across in freight containers unaffected by the wall. Technology, data science, enhanced collaboration, and cooperation with Central America are much better ways to resist illegal immigration flows.