

# We all are Mexico *in* Australia

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## Victor Valdés: Distinguished Mexican

On January 26, 2022, during the celebration of Australia Day in Canberra, the Distinguished Mexican Recognition 2021 was presented to Mr. Víctor Valdés, for his successful career and constant work to promote Mexican music in Australia and in various countries in the region.

Víctor Valdés said he was proud of his roots, thanked the recognition from the Mexican government and by the Institute of Mexicans Abroad and remembered his teachers in Veracruz with whom he trained. He assured that, although he also holds the Australian nationality, being his country of residence for more than twenty years, Mexico remains in his heart and, for this reason, he has a calling to promote traditional Mexican music, which is such an important part of his culture.



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## GRULAC meeting with Minister of Trade, Dan Tehan

On February 17, the Heads of Mission of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) in Canberra met with the Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment, Dan Tehan, at the Federal Parliament. The objective of the meeting was to explore the complementarities between the economies and discuss measures to strengthen trade, investment and tourism flows between Australia and the GRULAC region.



## Mexico receives the Presidency of the Pacific Alliance

On January 26, Mexico received the pro tempore Presidency of the Pacific Alliance, with the commitment to promote actions to transform the bloc into an "international benchmark." Its objectives are: economic recovery; gender equality and youth participation; sustainable management; the consolidation of the digital market and the democratization of banking; the strengthening of creative and innovative industries, and investment in infrastructure. On this occasion, the entry of Singapore as an associated State, the first Asian nation to achieve it, was made official. Australia is in negotiations to join the Pacific Alliance as an associated state as well.



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# Mexican Flag Day

On February 24, personnel from the Embassy of Mexico and the Military Attaché's Office, as well as members of the Mexican community in Canberra, celebrated Flag Day, as a symbol of cultural identity that unites Mexicans abroad.

The civic ceremony included the presentation and raising of the Flag, where the attendees proudly sang the Mexican National Anthem.

## Saturday Sessions

In order to meet the demand for consular services, during December, January and February, 4 "Saturday Sessions" (jornadas sabatinas) were held at the Consular Section of the Embassy, where more than 60 Mexican nationals processed their passports and voting credentials.



## Mexico attracts more than \$31 billion USD in FDI

During 2021, we reported a preliminary Foreign Direct Investment figure of \$31.62 billion US dollars, which meant an increase of 8.7% compared to the previous year.

By sector, investments were concentrated in manufacturing (39.7%), mining (15.2%), financial and insurance services (15.0%), transportation (8.8%), commerce (8.5%) and temporary accommodation services (5.2%).



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# Mexican Birth certificates for recognition of gender identity

With the aim of guaranteeing the human right to identity, recognized by the Mexican

Constitution, as of January 2022, Mexican embassies and consulates around the world can issue birth certificates for trans people with their gender rectified. Mexican nationals in Australia interested in rectifying their birth certificates based on gender identity, should contact the consular section ([consularaus@sre.gob.mx](mailto:consularaus@sre.gob.mx)).



On February 21, the Australian government opened its borders to international travellers. However, there are still national and state entry requirements, including the need to have the appropriate visa, international certificate of vaccination, and presenting a negative PCR test before boarding the plane. Check the latest information at [covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/](https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/)

## Australia opens its borders to international travellers

### Next activities

- 1 Processing of "Police checks" or Federal Criminal Record Certificates (CAPF) directly at the embassy, for Mexican nationals over 18 years of age.



- 2 Events and conferences within the framework of the "International Women's Day".

- 3 Registration deadline to vote from abroad in the elections for the governorship of Aguascalientes, Durango, Oaxaca and Tamaulipas, March 10.



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