

MEXICO IN AUSTRIA, SLOVAKIA AND SLOVENIA

Newsletter of the Embassy of Mexico and Permanent Mission to the International Organizations in Vienna



SRE
EMBAJADA DE MEXICO
EN AUSTRIA

Newsletter No. 9
January 25th, 2017

Embassy



The Embassy of Mexico wishes you a Happy New Year!

The Embassy and Permanent Mission of Mexico in Austria is pleased to send you Newsletter No. 9 and to seize this opportunity to wish you a happy and successful New Year 2017.

Mexican Cultural Institute-ICM

Inauguration of the exhibition "Turning the Inside Out" by Lalo Sánchez del Valle

CONTENT:

Music Fridays at the ICM	2
Some of the main achievements of Mexico in 2016 on multilateral level	2-3
Call for participation in the Y20 Summit 2017 in Germany	3
Mexico becomes 9 th most visited tourism destination worldwide	4
Mexico participated in the Holiday-Fair Vienna	5
New App for tourists in Mexico "Tourist Map of Mexico"	5
Strawberries, valuable export product	6
Agreement for Economic Strengthening and the Protection of Family Economy	6-7
These are the main objectives of Mexico's negotiations with the USA	7



On January 19th, Ambassador Alicia Buenrostro Massieu inaugurated the exhibition "Turning the Inside Out" by Lalo Sánchez del Valle (MX, 1968) at the Mexican Cultural Institute in Vienna, in the presence of the artist. The exhibition comprises 23 works: 18 half-sized paintings (acrylic, ink and oil pastel colours) created during his *Artists-in-Residence* stay at Komaro, Slovakia, in 2015, as well as 5 sculptures "Coussin Cochon" (acrylic, encaustic and ink on pigskin) and 4 bronze figures created in México in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

[Continue reading on the next page>>>](#)



MEXIKANISCHES
KULTURINSTITUT
V I E N N A

Lalo Sánchez Del Valle was born in Mexico City in 1968. He began as a self-taught artist and after that, he continued his education at the *École des Beaux-Arts* in Paris and at *Parsons School of Design* in New York. He presented individual and collective exhibitions in Mexico, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, some cities in the USA, and at the UNESCO's *Maison* in Paris, which was inaugurated by

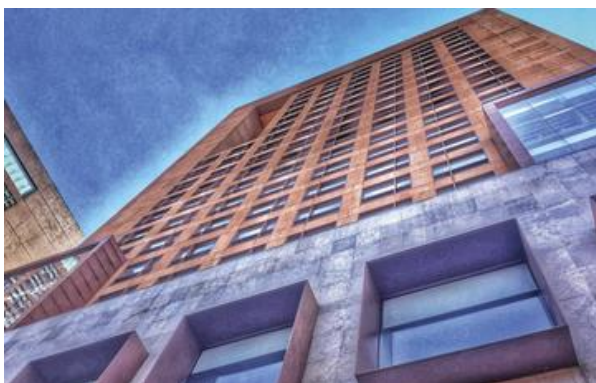
Gabriel García Márquez. In Mexico, he is currently presenting the exhibition "*Puertas del Subconsciente*" (Doors of Subconsciousness) at the BMV Group, Stock Market Centre Mexico, until January 26th. The exhibition "*Turning the Inside Out*" by Lalo Sánchez del Valle is the formal start of the activities of the Mexican Cultural Institute in Vienna within the Cultural Promotion Programme 2017. It will be open to the public until March 17th.

Music Fridays at the ICM

On Friday, February 3rd, at 19:00p.m., we invite you to the first concert in 2017 at the ICM Vienna. The **Duet "León-Marín"** - David León García (MX) and Carol Marín Barrios (VEN) - will play pieces by Agustín Lara, María Grever and the two Venezuelan composers Antonio Lauro and Roger Marín.

Multilateral Affairs

Some of the main achievements of Mexico in 2016 on multilateral level



Mexico played a leading role in the multilateral area in 2016, characterized by its active participation and leadership in several multilateral fora, as well as its contribution to the presentation of resolutions of great importance to the country.

71st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

In the framework of the 71st United Nations General Assembly, President Enrique Peña Nieto participated in the United Nations

Summits for Refugees and Migrants, reiterating Mexico's leadership in addressing these issues within the UN. He also expressed the country's willingness to host a preparatory meeting to contribute to the formalization of the *Global Pact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration* to be adopted in 2018. Mexico has also actively proposed, promoted and negotiated resolutions that contribute to the strengthening of international law, nuclear disarmament, promotion of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, human rights, international peace and security, as well as international prosperity. It is worth mentioning the adoption of a resolution promoted by Mexico and a group of countries aimed at nuclear disarmament, which establishes the will of the international community to negotiate a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. This resolution has a historical value that can change the course of international efforts for international peace and security. Regarding development-related issues, Mexico participated in the discussions for the implementation of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, by facilitating the negotiation of a resolution that recognizes the importance of continuing efforts at international level for its implementation, as well as the need to move towards sustainable patterns of production and consumption, which are fundamental to achieving a sustainable global development.

34th Regional Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

In March, Mexico hosted the 34th Regional Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), aimed at maintaining a dialogue on the region's challenges in the achievement of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including the challenges in transforming the region's agriculture and cooperation in order to meet our alimentation goals.

Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016)

In April, the President of Mexico participated in the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016). The UNGASS represented the beginning of a process towards a change in world politics on drugs. Also, Mexico's priorities were incorporated into the final document of the session. On the other hand, the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus the resolution promoted by Mexico titled "*International cooperation to address and counteract the world drug problem*", which calls on Member States to achieve advances in the effective implementation of the recommendations established in the final document of UNGASS 2016.

13th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP13 CBD)

From December 2nd to 17th, Mexico hosted the 13th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP13 CBD), in which the adoption of the Cancun Declaration on Biodiversity, promoted by our country, was achieved. The Declaration seeks to integrate biodiversity into public policies, legislation and regulations in all economic sectors, particularly agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism.

Human Rights

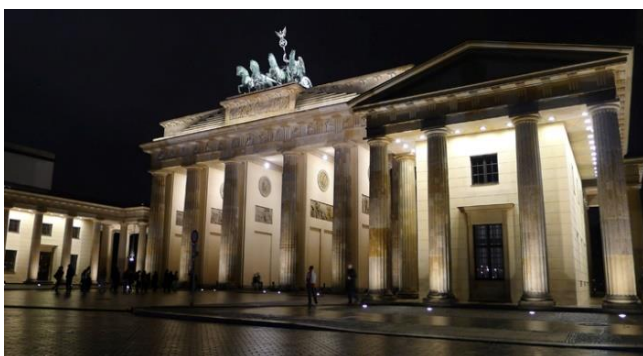
During 2016, Mexico strengthened in the field of human rights its relations with both the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR). With respect to UNHCHR, a progressive implementation of the recommendations resulting from the UNHCHR's visit to Mexico in 2015 was achieved. In addition, several meetings were held with the UNHCHR representatives in Mexico, who reiterated the need to strengthen actions in this area. Mexico also participated as a pioneer in the Global Alliance to End Violence Against Children, supported by UNICEF. In compliance with its international obligations, the Government of Mexico submitted its 9th Regular Report to the Committee of Experts, which follows up on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

On May 17th, 2016, during the commemoration of the National Day Against Homophobia, Mexico joined the United Nations LGBT Core Group. The United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution on the report of the Human Rights Council (HRC) of the United Nations, confirming the adoption of the HRC's resolution on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, adopted in June 2016. The adoption of the resolution in the HRC and its subsequent ratification by the UN General Assembly constitutes a historic step forward in establishing, for the first time in history, an independent United Nations expert for non-discrimination and non-violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The resolution of the HRC was presented by a group of countries, including Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile and Uruguay, within the framework of the 32nd regular period of session of the Council.

Call for Participation

Call for young delegates of Mexico at the Y20 Summit 2017 in Germany



The Y20 Summit is a meeting organized as part of the activities of the German Presidency of the G20 during 2017. In order to promote the participation in the discussions of the Group of Twenty (G20) on global issues and the international economy, the call seeks a group of young people for the Mexican delegation in this Summit. The role of the delegates will be to present the vision of young people in their country; exchange opinions with delegates from

other countries; contribute to the public policy recommendations that will be made available to the G20 Leaders; earn greater understanding and recognition for the work of the Y20 and the G20 in general; and follow up on the recommendations and action plans resulting from the Y20 Summit.

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION -> <http://bit.ly/2jcdhXq>

Tourism

Mexico becomes 9th most visited tourism destination worldwide



Of every 100 Mexican Pesos that are spent in the tourism sector, between 85 and 88 percent come from national tourism. The President of Mexico, Enrique Peña Nieto, presented the Study of Mexico's Tourism Policy, prepared by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In the last four years, Mexico has grown significantly in this sector. "We have received a greater number of tourists. We improved from number 15 to number 9 in the ranking of the world's most

popular destinations, and to the second in our hemisphere only after the United States of America", stated the President. The OECD study emphasizes that the dynamism of tourism in Mexico does not only nor mainly depend on foreign visitors, but on domestic tourism. Currently, more than 7 million formal and informal jobs exist in the tourism sector. In 2015, more than 32 million international tourists visited Mexico, generating an income of 15 billion dollars. The Government of Mexico has promoted policies to strengthen domestic tourism. In the framework of the initiative "*Viajemos Todos por México*", launched last year with the participation of the private sector, the number of domestic tourists grew 8.4 percent in the low season. This program promotes the optimal use of unoccupied space, offers better prices and boosts domestic tourism in the low season. The OECD study "also reminds us that in 2017, Global Year of Sustainable Tourism, we must pay special attention to developing a tourism sector with a lower environmental impact."

Read more information and numbers of the Mexican tourism sector [HERE >>>](#)

Mexico participated in the Holiday-Fair Vienna



On January 12th, Minister Hermann Aschentrupp Toledo, as Charge d'affaires of the Embassy, cut the red ribbon to formally inaugurate, together with Patricia Eversbusch, Director of the Office of the Tourism Promotion Council of Mexico in Berlin, the Mexican stall at the *Ferien-Messe* (Holiday-Fair) Vienna 2017, which takes place annually at the International Convention and Exhibition Centre in Vienna. It is the most important tourist promotion event in Austria. About 850 exhibitors from over 80 countries participated this year.

The event was attended by approximately 150,000 visitors from Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary, Poland and Russia (experts of the sector and general public). The stall of Mexico in the main hall of the venue received approximately 6,000 visitors.

New App for tourists in Mexico “Tourist Map of Mexico”



The Ministry of Tourism of Mexico (Sectur) presented the new mobile application “Tourist Map of Mexico”, which will help to position Mexico as a world-class tourism destination and replace the printed tourist guide by a digital one. With this spirit, the Minister of Tourism, Enrique de la Madrid Cordero, explained that the potential for promotion and distribution of tourist information will be enhanced, because national and international visitors will be able to look up tourist information on computers with Internet access from any geographical point in Mexico. With this App, you will be provided with specific and useful information about the main highlights and tourist services in the sector, as well as about

the natural, cultural and archaeological sites in the country. You can also find information on providers of tourist services, such as hotels, restaurants, theatres, craft houses and art galleries, as well as the location of embassies and consulates. In addition, this application has a function to localize highlights and tourist services within a perimeter of 5 kilometres from the tourist's location. The “Tourist Map of Mexico” uses Google Maps as geographic platform and includes the option of Google searches, as well as the function “Route Planner” from a point of origin to a specific destination. This app is available for smartphones and tablet devices with iOS and Android systems. It can be downloaded from the Apple Store and Google Play Stores, without any cost, in Spanish, English and French.

Economy

Strawberries, a valuable product of exportation



In Mexico, strawberries started being cultivated in the state of Guanajuato with plants imported from Lyon, France. The strawberry (*Fragaria vesca* L.) belongs to the Rosacea family and is highly appreciated for its pleasant aroma and appetite stimulating effect. Did you know that there are more than a thousand varieties of this fruit? Just to mention a few: Camarosa, Tudla, Oso Grande, Cartuno, Carisma, Tioga, Fresno, Pico de

Pajaro, Talisman, Parker, Fern, Chandler and Douglas.

Endemic to the temperate regions around the world, strawberries are used for the preparation of cakes, mousses, soufflés, puddings, jams, cakes, yogurts, ice cream, drinks, juices and shakes. They are also delicious bathed in chocolate and served with cream or liquor. The consumption of strawberries helps against stress, constipation, obesity, inflammation, caries and mouth odour. The fruit is also an excellent remedy to prevent the premature aging and diseases of the skin, especially acne. Mexico is the third largest strawberry producer in the world, with an annual production of over 392,000 tons. The states of Michoacán, Baja California and Guanajuato are the main producers of this fruit, which occupies more than ten thousand hectares for its cultivation throughout our country.

Agreement for Economic Strengthening and the Protection of Family Economy



The President of Mexico presented in January the “*Agreement for Economic Strengthening and the Protection of Family Economy*”. One of the Agreement's purposes is to protect family economy by means of the following concrete actions:

1. Maintaining price stability of the market basket

- The price group will line up the different governmental instruments in order to limit the impact of the price increase of gasoline and other goods and services.

- Decree to create a duty-quota for market basket products in case that unjustified increases are detected.
- Strengthen the Government's pharmaceutical policy to maintain the fast distribution of generic drugs, which are less expensive but have the same quality.
- Reactivation and strengthening of subsidiary programmes for diesel in the agricultural and marine sectors.
- Maintain the special treatment of diesel consumption of formal enterprises in the transport sector in order to avoid increased costs of these services.
- Constant monitoring by the Office for Consumer Protection and the Energy Regulatory Commission in order to avoid unjustified price increases or misuse at gas stations.

2. Modernizing public transport and facilitating urban mobility

- Strategy to modernize the infrastructure of massive public transport by expanding the Federal Subsidiary Programme for Massive Transport from 5 to 50 cities.
- The Ministry of the Environment will enhance the implementation of the programme to switch public transport vehicles to natural gas.

3. Social benefits package to protect the family economy through social security

The public social insurance company will present a social benefits package to protect the family economy, which includes more childcare services, expansion of preschool services without any

additional cost, improvement of sports and recreational grounds, as well as low and fair costs at social security institutions.

4. Competitive credits and financial inclusion

Strengthen the financial and technology sector to reduce the costs of credits and other financial services with the aid of innovative and electronic financial services offers, which will be beneficial for the entire population, especially for citizens with insufficient capital.

5. Labour inclusion

Promote the education and integration of beneficiaries of the PROSPERA programme in enterprises of the energy sector, as well as beneficiaries who received their grammar and high school certificate in the framework of the Special Certification Programme with the productive sectors through the National Productivity Council.

6. Information campaign and facilitation of retirement pensions retrieval

Consulting and assistance for elderly persons, since more than 3 million Mexicans over 65 years have a retirement account and do not retrieve their deposits. Most of them do not know that their retirement account exists. The public institutions in charge of social benefits will launch an information campaign to help account holders who would like to retrieve their deposits. There are 50 billion Mexican Pesos available for holders of retirement accounts.

News from Mexico

These are the main objectives of Mexico's negotiations with the USA



President Enrique Peña Nieto informed the Mexican Diplomatic Corps of the main objectives of Mexico's negotiations with the USA.

The new chapter of the bilateral relationship with the USA must include the following goals:

1. Protection of migrants:

Ensuring that the Mexican migrants' human rights are respected and that undocumented immigrants receive a humane treatment during their orderly and coordinated deportation.

2. Free trade:

- Seek a free trade agreement that gives certainty, promotes productive integration and strengthens North America's competitiveness.
- Defend and ensure commerce and national and foreign investments.
- Guarantee that Mexico continues being a safe investment destination.
- Clear rules in favour of the capital flow.
- Protect workplaces, create new job opportunities and improve salaries.
- Maintain the principles of free trade and productive integration.
- Include new sectors, such as telecommunications and energy.

3. Capital flow:

Ensure the free flow of transfers realized by our fellow citizens living in the USA.

4. Stop illegal flows:

Limit illegal arms trafficking and smuggling.

5. Effective borders:

Increase investments in infrastructure and technology to make our borders safer, more modern and effective. This would facilitate even more the bilateral commerce and reduce waiting periods at border-crossing checkpoints.