TITLE OF THE PAPER

Violence and organized crime in Mexico

José Manuel Luque Rojas
President of the Mexican Association of Political Science

Abstract

Insecurity has become one of the most important concerns for citizens in Mexico. In recent years, rates of crime and victimization have increased substantively. Under these conditions, the public has changed the habits and routines for fear of any crime. The cost of insecurity in 2012 to the Treasury according to INEGI (ENVIPE) accounted for 215 billion pesos, i.e. 1.34% of GDP in 2014.

Perceptions of insecurity and violence are widespread, the survey directly related to the political and police corruption of public security forces and politicians of all parties. This paper analyses the origin of the problem of violence, its evolution in the form of intentional homicide, the structure of criminal organizations and security policies implemented by governments of Felipe Calderón and Enrique Peña Nieto.

Keywords: insecurity, violence, politicians and organized crime.

Introduction

Mexico currently has among its main problems besides economic stagnation that generated the increase in unemployment and poverty and extreme wealth in the last 15 years, the growing distrust of citizens in the institutions of the regime and the political system a problem that is even more serious violence.

Translated violence homicide offenses executions, forced disappearances of civilians carried out by law enforcement and criminals, property damage of various kinds, among which are: kidnapping, extortion, robbery, vehicle theft and fraud; and trafficking in humans and drugs. Mexico Security institutions have been unable to respond effectively to this problem in the last 20 years, however have worsened; crime rates and public perceptions of insecurity and victimization have increased significantly in this period. There is an obvious decline in the institutional capacities in Mexico to address us problem. The phenomenon can be described as very serious now, which motivates to ask: What are the causes, which have led to the deterioration of
the security of the people in Mexico? Why the public safety institutions have failed to reduce crime and consequently improve public perception of insecurity and victimization?

In this paper are some hypothesis that offer descriptions and explanations of the phenomenon, generated from the analysis of various studies published by academics, NGOs, Associations of citizens constituted lobbyists to the State with the aim of forcing them to rethink policies and institutions of public safety.

This paper refers only to one of the 23 organized crime classified by Edgardo Buscaglia (2014: 26-27), intentional homicide. The exhibition plan is composed of three sections, the first dealing with the problem description from the information generated by the theoretical literature and recent and historical studies showing the process followed by the phenomenon of public insecurity, criminal organizations, criminal indices and institutions as well as public safety policies in Mexico before and during the process of democratization still underway. In the second, published indexes of insecurity and violence in the XXI century are analysed, the evolution of the crimes of intentional homicide in Mexico in the presidency period of PAN and the new PRI presidency. This is from data generated by the various surveys of insecurity and victimization, also, by the one hand information generated by the public security institutions in Mexico and INEGI, and those generated by other independent agencies. In the third and last, the characteristics and structure of criminal organizations are analysed as well as the characterization of institutions and security policies, and the route of the reform proposals on the subject made by the governments of Felipe Calderón (2006 -2012) and Enrique Peña Nieto (2012-2018).

2. The problem of public insecurity in Mexico: theoretical and historical context.

In the words of Hobbes, violence is a very important resource available to humans in the state of nature, at this stage was constantly triggered by three causes: competition, mistrust and glory, motivating respectively the pursuit of profit, security and reputation. The perspective of profit pushed them through violence to take over the women, children and other livestock; distrust motivated violence to protect the intentions of others; and reputation a battles for any sign, message or disrespectful action against individuals, friends, professions or the country itself. (Hobbes,1651, 2005).

Therefore this author claimed that to live without a common artificial authority, that submit all individuals, ordinary life is a constant war of all against all. However, these actions of force in the state of nature had very definite purposes: administering justice from the perspective of each individual. Dysfunctional in terms of usefulness to the collective life of this kind of violence does not make it immoral or unjust per se, finally the notions of moral order, this is the definitions of good and evil, their born of community life, under the existence of an artificial power capable of regulating relations between members of the same. The essence of Leviathan is that it does exist,
according to Hobbes, a transfer or waiver of the right to practice individual violence to the new artificial power constituted by state bodies of holders of physical force (military and police) and legitimacy to perform violence in his own name (Hobbes) or collective (Locke) to ensure order, this is, the state.

This is the origin and essence of modern states. In its evolution, this common entity called state assumed other responsibilities, one a direct consequence of the monopoly of exercise of legitimate violence (Weber), others as needs for providing collective services, targeted for the smooth running of society efficiently (services public health, information, records of all kinds, currency and various regulations on economic, mainly) matter. These responsibilities of the modern state have evolved from the State exclusively dedicated to ensuring public order and war, to the "welfare state" and the modern "neoliberal state" in this process, many of the powers of the latter have been transferred individuals from different perspectives and approaches.

However, in this process, what has become clear to modern societies and individuals, is that the original attribution to ensure social peace and administer justice is not transferable beyond the various alternative forms of dispute resolution (Entelman, Remo, 2012) the power and duty of government is to ensure social peace, public order and security of the people. The State can fulfill well or poorly with other attributions, for example in social, economic security, and services, this is degree more or less of effectiveness of governance, which is judged in democratic states by citizens themselves in a modalities of accountability by O'Donnell and Morlino called "Vertical accountability" (O'Donnell, 2003, Morlino, 2005), this exercise of public oversight versus public power, at most, resulting in the change of party in government, while in non-democratic states may be factors authoritarian delegitimination and give rise to the beginning of a transition process, but when it comes to the inefficiency in the performance of the obligation to provide citizen or human security, when the problem of widespread violence and extreme continues over time, as in the Mexican case today, can lead not only to the fall government in elections as happened to National Action Party in the presidential elections of 2012, if not also to the erosion of public support for the institutions and the democracy rules and to put the country social and economic, stability at risk.

The "boom" of violence seen in Mexico in the last 10 years is the result of the actions of organized crime and institutionalized corruption of the political and security areas of the Mexican state. Criminal organizations are responsible for committing major crimes that cause widespread fear of the population that constitutes the core of the problem of insecurity and the widespread unrest in Mexican society with government and institutions primarily the regime and the political system. The crimes committed by organized crime are a list of 23 illicit among them: wilful killings and murder, drug trafficking in all its forms including pharmaceutics drugs, kidnapping, extortion, vehicles theft and auto parts, the fuel theft, piracy in all its forms, trafficking in all its forms, among others (Buscaglia, Edgardo, 2014). Of these crimes in Mexico, according to reports from the Federal Ministry of Public Security (SSPF) and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) are the highest incidences causing severe

Intentional homicides reported from 2001 showed a downward trend compared to the previous period of President Ernesto Zedillo, who during his administration the mean of intentional homicide was at 13,389 murders per year (80.332 throughout the six-year period). While the Fox administration averaged 10,029 homicides per year (60.171 during the presidency) expressing a slight blunting in 2006 (INEGI, 2014).

The year 2007 was the least violent of the Calderon administration, there were counted 10,249 homicides, just above the average of the Fox administration, to observe a substantial increase in the following years as a consequence of the declaration of "war of the Mexican state against drug trafficking and organized crime" in early 2007, resulted in a steady increase in the following years of this administration to account for 27,213 homicides in 2011, most of them as a result of fighting between the armed forces of the Mexican government with the various cartels and / or disputes over domain transfer routes drugs into the United States between rival or within these by the succession of leadership derivative of the arrest or abatements of cartel kingpins conducted by the campaigns of the war against drug trafficking crime. Mean while, there was a slight decrease in the homicides numbers of Felipe Calderon’s last presidency year, however his presidency term homicides numbers were extremely negative, since the average increase of murders from 2007 to 2012 was 15.93% per year and accumulated 121,613 reported killings, about 20,865 per year, a percentage increase of 108.04% over the average for the presidency of Vicente Fox.

The data in the current administration of President Enrique Peña Nieto are officially unknown, from 2013, the federal government does not publish figures of intentional murder, but the data collected by agencies and private consultants and researchers report a similar or greater tendency the indices of the previous administration. Part of the new strategy of "security" of the current government was to suspend the publication of homicides, INEGI, no longer publishes annual crime figures. According
to data reported by the investigator Leo Zuckerman, until November 2013 23.063 intentional homicides.

In 2014, the data are too imprecise to be considered in this work, for example, the newspaper “The excelsior” publishes on july-29-2014, a total of 55.325 murders between December 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014, that is, 19 months, which would give a monthly average of 2911.84 homicides and an annual projection of 34942.1 murders a year, an increase of 22.11 in relation to the more violent year of Felipe Calderon’s presidency. But is also the other side, Spanish CNN reported 11,835 cases of intentional homicides between January and September 2014. An estimated averaged that conclude the year with 15,780 cases of intentional murder, well below the average of the administration of President Calderón. The vagueness and difficulty of obtaining reliable figures, limit our study to 2013 and earlier.

**Homicide rates**

The above data show that crime rates measured for the crime of intentional homicide is high compared to the maximums allowed by international agencies. The United Nations on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) reports for 2012, the rate of intentional homicides as a global average is 6.9 per every hundred thousand inhabitants, while regionally, reports 17.0 for Africa, 15.4 for America, 3.1 for Asia, 3.5 Europe and 2.9 for Oceania. While Mexico averages between 2007 and 2013, were 18.14, almost three points higher than American continent, and just over one that Africa, the most violent region in the world. Disaggregated by age, at peak growth period of this crime can be observed.

![Figure 2: Rate of homicides per one hundred thousand inhabitants.](image)

The numbers speak for themselves; Mexico is one of the world’s most violent countries. Their rates of intentional homicide as shown exceed those of all regions of the world, and considering that this country is part of the OECD, comparisons on this segment Mexico ranks 33 of 34 countries comprising it, in terms of rate of homicides per 100,000 inhabitants only surpasses Brazil in 2014 recorded an index of 25.5 while Mexico recorded according to the OECD report, 23.4. While the UK and Japan reported the lowest rate with only 0.3.

The explanations of the causes of this phenomenon are neither unique nor simplistic; rather they are complex and involve many variables historical, political, social, economic and cultural. An approach to this more than explanatory, descriptive of the problem, goes by analysing in one hand, their origin and evolution, and secondly, the conditions that generate growth and development in recent years. To this I would make a couple of assumptions and then to empirically support them.

Hypothesis:

First: The problem of extreme violence and insecurity in Mexico is explained primarily by institutionalized corruption in the regime that emerged after the Mexican Revolution of 1910-1940, and entrenched during the term of hegemonic party system in place since the 1940 until 2000. Where it was tolerated and even sponsored the creation and consolidation of criminal groups for drug trafficking and other illicit business.

Second: That as a result of the democratization process, weakened or disappeared authoritarian state controls on organized crime groups, which led to the empowerment and strengthening of those criminal groups while diversified their criminal activities, they challenged the new democratic institutions, and these have been unable so far to create new mechanisms of control of organized crime.

Hypothesis Testing

Regarding the first, from the point of view of legal positivism, crime arises when the prohibitions (Ruggiero, Vincenzo, 2009) are created, in the case of crimes or offenses related to drugs, Congress of the United States introduced the prohibition, restriction and control of manufacturing opium smoking since 1914 through the Harrison Narcotic Act, then, for this requirement, Mexico also introduced a ban in 1920 for cultivation, trafficking and sale of marihuana (Cannabis) and for opium in 1926. The bans led to smuggling, drug trafficking business, with consequences that are known and suffer today have their origin in these years. The first Mexican drug traffickers were residents of Chinese origin, but also in the northern states of Mexico, criminal groups that now dominate the US and global market for illicit drugs were developed.

In Mexico, according to Luis Astorga, known evidence suggest that the drug business flourished thanks to the combination of historical circumstances and political events that generated the necessary and sufficient conditions for its genesis and development.
First, the impetus was given from inside the structures of regional power in producing or trafficking from the US Prohibition areas; Second, the monopoly of political power since the 1920s by the victorious revolutionary forces in Mexico; and third, lax ethical rules of some of its representatives and heirs of government in later decades. Acts which together facilitated business success (Astorga, Luis, Bailey and Goodson, 2000: 88).

At the conclusion of the call period of revolutionary warlordism, Mexican politics enters a phase of authoritarian institutionalization through constitutional strengthening of the position of President of the Republic, providing it with excessive powers: as Head of State and Government, of all the armed forces of the country, law enforcement, the highest authority in agricultural matters, arbiter of conflicts between capital and labour, absolute ruler of the airspace, ground and maritime, head of the civil and military bureaucracy, and further, absolute ruler of the hegemonic party, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) and its sectors: Confederations of Workers of Mexico (CTM) National Peasant (CNC) and the National Popular Organizations (CNOP), all subsidiaries of the PRI. Throughout the political party, the President exercised total control of the political class, and therefore the powers: legislative federal and local governments and conferences, and through these, the Judicial Power of the Federation and the States (Carpizo 1978; Córdova, 1979; Cosio Villegas, 1973). As the concentration of political power can be observed was absolute and the business problem of drugs and crime in general, passed by the decisions of the central government.

The government through the Attorney General’s Office (PGR) and the Federal Security Board (DFS) created specifically for research and control of drug trafficking and other illicit activities were legal and political powers to combat trafficking drug regulation and structural intermediation between traffickers and political power. Traffickers says Luis Astorga (op. Cit. 89) were historically subordinated to hegemonic political power, and only began to emancipate itself from such control when the hegemonic power structure began to deteriorate with the onset of the transition and democratization in the early 1980.

Documented evidence regarding the involvement of regional and national structures of political power in Mexico in the business operations of drug trafficking allow us to affirm that this phenomenon was engendered and fostered by the Mexican government. Astorga says in that trial since 1914 and until 1920 the governor of the territory of Baja California; Colonel Esteban Cantú granted concessions to exploit the opium trade in his dominions in return for large sums of money. For these concessions earned 45,000 dollars and a monthly income of 11,000, also legalized gambling and prostitution to generate revenue to his government. All this said as reported by customs authorities Angeles, California, registered in 1916. Cantu, says the report, confiscated the opium and then he sold it in the USA with the help of his phater in law (Cfr. General Records of the Department of State, Record Group 59, 812 114 Narcotic / 12-22. United States National Archives II, College Park, Md.). Maryland.)

In 1920, Cantu was displaced “Plan de Agua Prieta” triumphant revolutionaries and General Abelardo L. Rodriguez served as Governor, during his stay founded the Agua Caliente Casino in Tijuana that was frequented by the personalities as Babe Ruth,
Charles Chaplin Rita Hayworth and Al Capone, and the latter set, says Daniel Arreola and James R. Curtis (1993: 102), partnerships, right in the years of alcohol prohibition in the United States to make his fortune. Years later, reports by Dr. Bernardo Batiz, health delegate of the Baja California territory in 1931, said; US authorities had been informed of the "lamentable drug trafficking in the border region, sponsored or tolerated by the government of the territory Baja California ". (Archive of the Ministry of Health, Legal Section, Box 26, File 16, quoted by Astorga, op. Cit). The following year, 1932, Abelardo L. Rodriguez was named President of Mexico position he held until November 30, 1934.

In the 1940s in the United States was accused Salvatore Duhart, Mexican consul in Washington to make contact with Mexican customs for the opium trades, in accordance with Mickey Cohen and Alfred Macoy from the respectively gang led by Al Capone in Chicago and Luciano- Lansk. Operations also documented by the CIA in Virginia Hill with authorities at the highest level in Mexico (Cfr. Newspaper, Novedades, 14 / V / 1962).

In the 1950s Max Cossman, American dealer, under the name of Francisco Mora, often travelled to the cities of Mazatlán, Culiacán and Los Mochis to buy raw opium traffickers Sinaloa, He had partnered with Rodolfo Valdez alias "Gitano" Gun southern landowners of that state, and murderer of Sinaloa Governor Rodolfo T. Loaiza in February 1944. Cossman was arrested, imprisoned and sentenced in Mexico City in 1949 where he escaped. As additional data, "el Gitano" was released after the new Governor, Pablo Macias Valenzuela took office in January 1945, before been Secretary of War and Navy of the Government of the Republic (1940-1942), a position which commanded the actions against drug trafficking in coordination with DFS and PGR. He was accused of masterminding the death of his predecessor, but was acquitted at trial and later elected governor (Figueroa, Jose Maria, 1986).

In 1947, Harry Anslinger, head of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and US delegate this country before the commission of narcotics in the United Nations (UN)declared that Mexico was the country’s leading supplier of opium consumed in the United States and that senior officials of the Federal government and the states producing areas were related to the drug trade. (Cf.. Excelsior, 14 / XI / 1947). United States indicted Governor Macias Valenzuela to head the Sinaloa drug gang, called it "the dealer governor, and King of Opium", identified Culiacán (State Capital) as a base opium smugglers "and the municipality of Badiraguato as "seat of opium." (Astorga, Luis, 1996: 68-79). He completed its mandate and was later appointed head of the military region number 1 and the Military Field "Marte" in the Valley of Mexico in 1951 and 1952 respectively.

But not only the governors and officials of state governments in the north were accused of drug trafficking by the DEA and the State Department, but it also, were appointed leaders of the Federal Security Directorate (the political police of the regime to direct control of the President), of being involved in the drug business, also in an official report accused Carlos I. Serrano who was the PRI Senator and leader of the Senate and Director of the DFS, also Colonel Marcelino Inurreta and Manuel Magoral, second and third noted in the DFS hierarchy of directing the drug trafficking in Mexico City (Astorga, 2000: 104).
In subsequent decades, organized crime gangs continued to traffic drugs into the United States and the domestic market, operated under control, participation and oversight of the DFS and the PGR. In the 1960’s, the most visible figure of the Sinaloa cartel was Pedro Aviles, in 1970 and 1980, Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo, Ernesto Fonseca Carrillo (Nicknamed "Don Neto), Rafael Caro Quintero, Juan José Esparragoza Moreno (Nicknamed "el Azul"), Ismael Zambada García (Nicknamed "el Mayo") and Manuel Salcido Uzeta (Nicknamed "el Cochiloco"). The first, according Astorga, was the first leader of organized Mexico to contact and lock agreements with the Colombian cartels to smuggle cocaine to the US crime, Felix Gallardo, before becoming leader of the Sinaloa cartel, served as judicial police and family bodyguards governor of Sinaloa Leopoldo Sanchez Celis (1962-1968), the governor himself was best man of Felix Gallardo and he was for of the former governor son.

Felix Gallardo was captured and processed in 1989, and his organization disintegrated into several cartels that took over most of the country, and no government controls: the Sinaloa cartel was the subject of bloody disputes after his arrest, seizing the leadership Joaquin Guzman Loera Nicknamed “El Chapo" Ignacio Colonel Nicknamed "el Nacho", Juan José Esparragoza "el azul" and Ismael Zambada García "Mayo". Losers reportedly intermediation of former director of the DFS and Secretary of the Interior in the period of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari (1988-1994), migrated to new territories: Arellano Felix (Felix Gallardo’s nephews), founded the powerful Tijuana cartel; Hector Luis Palma Salazar Nicknamed "el Güero Palma" assumed leadership of the Guadalajara cartel to lead in time Rafael Caro Quintero; and Amado Carrillo Fuentes "El Señor de los Cielos," and his brothers Vicente "the viceroy" and Rodolfo Carrillo Fuentes, (nephews Ernesto Fonseca Carrillo "Don Neto") also founded the powerful cartel in Ciudad Juarez.

Regarding the second hypothesis, Mexico had a very high economic growth between 1940-1970, an annual average of over 6%. The population explosion in the country was shown as the main effect, according to the Census of Population and Housing 1940, Mexico had 19.6 million inhabitants, whereas 40 years after the census showed a population of 68.8 million, it tripled, but also educational levels were elevated and a middle class that was formed did not tolerate authoritarian excesses of the regime. Strikes cleaved workers labour union subsidiary PRI since the late 1950s (railroad workers and electricians), while doctors, teachers and students in the 1960s and 1970s, responses from government were repression translated into murders and disappearances of opposition leaders, trade unions, professionals and students. All of which leads to the beginning of the process of delegitimization of the regime that had its peak in 1973, when members of the guerrilla urban-folk called "Communist League September 23" kidnapped and assassinated President Financial Group and business more important in the country, the Monterrey businessman Eugenio Garza Sada president of the "Monterrey group".

Corporate dome accused the President Luis Echeverria Alvarez and government of creating the conditions for social and political instability that led to the guerrilla insurgency by the authoritarian regime controls, and starts a long conflict between them and the government that led to measures prosecutors big impact on employers, and these responders in the instrumentalization of right-wing National Action Party (PAN), to defend and attack the trenches of government.
Conflicts in the PAN by the business invasion thirst for power were swift and doctrinaire party, averse to it, caused no postulated candidate for president of the Republic in 1976, year of the departure of President Echeverría. The PRI postulated Jose Lopez Portillo y Pacheco, Finance Secretary of Echeverría, was the only candidate, the leftist opposition was illegal, was in the guerrillas in the north and center of the country (with the Communist League September 23) and in the south in the state of Guerrero, (with the insurgency led by professors Genaro Vazquez Rojas and Lucio Cabañas Barrientos, both killed by the government, by the way, both graduates of normal rural school "Raúl Isidro Burgos" Ayotzinapa). Naturally 100% of the valid votes in the presidential election of 1976 were for Lopez Portillo and the PRI, paradoxically became the illegitimate president of the authoritarian era, was the election unopposed who overcomes, at least formally.

The crisis forced the government of Lopez Portillo to make a liberalizing political reform that recognized the opposition left and open spaces "proportional" representation in Congress and state legislatures, so the Mexican transition starts in 1976-77. From the first election post reform, the PAN and in some regions, the left began to observe high levels of support and many of them competitive. The 1980s was growing opposition electoral despite authoritarian controls elections, the PRI and the government were forced to recognize opposition victories, mainly of PAN in state capitals and major cities. Allegations of fraud abounded founded in each electoral process of the decade, the country recorded the largest mobilizations for the democratization of the regime after 1986, when the Federal Government acknowledged machining a 'patriotic fraud "against the PAN and its candidate for governor of Chihuahua, Luis Hector Alvarez, who led a national march from Ciudad Juarez to Mexico City.

Post electoral protests spread and multiplied, with the famous "fall of vote counting system" of the Federal Election Commission, in the early hours of the historic day concluded presidential election of July 6, 1988, the opposition candidate Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas of the National Democratic Front did not recognize the official results released 21 days later by the National Electoral Commission in which the PRI officially declared winner Carlos Salinas de Gortari to 51% of the vote against 32% of Cárdenas. Thereafter, a new phase of democratization starts, it creates the following year the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE), six years later, by new reform its total independence from the government and political parties, total citizenization to 100% electoral authority.

The triumphs of the opposition and the exponential increase their legislators in the Congress of the Union, began to weaken government control over groups of organized crime in the previous period were managed by the Government through the DFS and PGR. At that stage the fight for control of the Sinaloa cartel in the late 1980s following the imprisonment of Felix Gallardo, who is given the first waves of uncontrolled killings in central western and north-western Mexico. Since 1989, the PAN opposition began to win elections at the level of states: Baja California in 1989, 1991 Guanajuato, Jalisco in 1993, and a dozen entities in the rest of the decade and in 2000, won the Presidency of the Republic Vicente Fox Quesada. Also the PRD, founded in 1989, won the country's capital in 1997, Zacatecas and southern Baja California in 1998,

The electoral democratization of the regime ended with the above mechanisms control of organized crime, and divided governments (Colomer, Joseph, 2007) emerged from the transition prevented the reconfiguration of public security institutions. Continued to operate the authoritarian, corrupt, deficient without controls, regimes and organized crime reversed the logic of control. Now, this controls the state.

John Bayley also summarizes this process: states that until the early 1980s, balance and control of criminal organizations was exercised from the authoritarian presidential government through the DFS and PGR, regulated drug trafficking and conflicts within criminal organizations controlling its expansion sponsoring and protecting the predominant existence of a single cartel.

From 1984-85, the government’s failure to maintain centralized drug trafficking led to the dissolution of the DFS itself, which provoked the search for balance was attempted by who served as leader of the Sinaloa cartel, Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo, creating the Guadalajara Cartel, whose first leader was the narco emblematic Rafael Caro Quintero, accused by the DEA the murder and torture of Enrique Camarena, one of its agents in Mexico, so he was arrested and imprisoned in 1985.

The period 1988-1997: the erosion of PRI hegemony coincides with the strengthening of the Juarez and the Gulf cartel, directed by Amado Carrillo Fuentes and Juan Garcia Abrego, respectively, the latter presumably protected by high government officials Carlos Salinas (1988-1994).

Between 1997-2002, PRI hegemony collapsed, alternation appears in 2000, Fox used the army to behead the drug cartels, and Joaquin Guzman Loera, who had been arrested in May 1994 will drain the prison to retake the leadership of the Sinaloa cartel, Meanwhile, Osiel Cardenas Guillen, Garcia Abrego’s successor in the Gulf Cartel hired special forces deserters from the Mexican army to serve as assassins of their organization, and constituted the "Zetas" as the armed wing of the cartel, while in Michoacan “Milenio Cartel” appears and takes over this territory, which causes conflicts exacerbation between rival organizations.

In January 2003, he was arrested Osiel Cardenas, leader of the “Gulf Cartel” and Joaquin Guzman "El Chapo" launched offensive against the cartel, while emerging criminal organization calling itself "La Familia Michoacana".

2006-2012: President Felipe Calderón declared war against drug trafficking and organized crime, with the aim of resuming control from the state, over criminal organizations, in their attempt, allocated 45,000 army officers to that purpose. Drug trafficking groups intensified their conflicts to define the prevalence or exclusive control of drug trafficking routes to the US and take over that market. At the same time, in this period, the "Zetas" break their ties with the Gulf Cartel and expanded rapidly in alliance with a breakaway faction of "Sinaloa Cartel": The Beltran Leyva who founded the "Cartel del Pacifico". This group, and the "Familia Michoacana" focused violence against civil society, state authorities and relevant political figures. In 2010 killed a PRI gubernatorial candidate in the state of Tamaulipas Rodolfo Torre Cantu, mayors and deputies, as well as state government officials and generate terror among the population caused by massacres and fires in a high concentration of people,
in the corridor of Baja California, Mexico to southern California, USA. Directed
between Ciudad Juárez and El Paso Texas, its armed wing called "the line" and is
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death of Amado Carrillo receives bestial attack by the Sinaloa and Gulf cartels.
Meanwhile the Gulf Cartel, located in the state of Tamaulipas, with operations in
many other states, was the main opponent of the group of Sinaloa for control of
smuggling routes into the US. Despite the arrest of his main historical leaders, Garcia
Abrego and Osiel Cardenas and the desertion of the Zetas, retains its relevance as

In the Beta level are located ancient powerful cartels that were decimated by
government repression, but retain firepower and sufficient organization to serve as
"toll booths" as called Bailey, among the most important are the cartels in Ciudad
Juárez, Tijuana, La Familia Michoacana and the South Pacific.

The Juárez Cartel, was powerful in decades nineteen eighties and nineties, after the
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extremely violent, head of criminal boom in Chihuahua in the period of Felipe
Calderón.

The Tijuana Cartel also operates as a tollbooth to retain control of the route traffic
in the corridor of Baja California, Mexico to southern California, USA. Directed by
Arellano Felix brothers were violently repressed by the government of the United States and Mexico in the 2000s, their remaining locked alliances with the Gulf Cartel and Sonora.

The Familia Michoacana, with operations in central-west, Mexico City and the United States are actively engaged in extortion and kidnapping, the government offensive from 2007 fractionated and weakened the organization it was divided to give rise to "Caballeros Templarios", government and defence groups from 2013 have considerably weakened the operation of this criminal group.

Finally Cartel del Pacifico Sur, one of the bands that survived capture and abatement of the Beltran Leyva in 2010, is the most established of all groups belonging to this leadership, spacious and violent operations of kidnapping and extortion, in Guerrero, Morelos, State of Mexico and the Federal district.

At the third level or Gamma groups, hundreds of local organized criminal gangs are classified with extensive firepower engaged in the retail distribution of drugs of all kinds, various forms of extortion and corporate crime. Some studies have reported the existence of at least 130 bands of this type; all derived from detachment of large cartels Alpha or Beta. Some authors (Yañez Romero, 2009; and Guerrero Gutierrez, 2011) claim that the boom of violence can be explained at this level of the structure of criminality, since these organizations range, control of the territories at city levels and towns where drugs and other legal and illegal goods offered by Alpha and Beta groups are distributed, and exert extreme violence to demonstrate their firepower and to win distribution contracts from them (Bailey, 2014: 166).

Conclusions

As it can be seen, the structure of criminal organizations in Mexico is complex, stratified but without organic links that result in government control of the phenomenon from the design of actions aimed at criminal groups of Alpha or Beta level, as has happened in the governments of Calderon and Peña. It should also be noted that the problem of crime in its various expressions: homicide, kidnapping, extortion, vehicle theft and auto parts, fuel theft, licit and illicit trafficking in goods, human trafficking and other in general, are a system by itself that could not be placed in their proper context, which hinders the design of plans and government programs to combat crime, in addition, there are structural limitations difficult to solve in the short and medium term: institutionalized corruption both the political regime and the police and the system of enforcement and administration of justice.

Some authors, among which Bailey (2014) and Buscaglia (2014), argue that the problem of crime in Mexico necessarily involves the reconfiguration of the institutions of the new Mexican State arising from the transition, on the one hand, and the attitude of civil society in addressing this problem, that is, a more energetic attitude and position of the business sector to exercise greater pressure on the government and politicians for changes in the design of state institutions and security, involving electoral reforms that remove the monopoly representation of political parties and
allow more active participation of civil society in political processes, punish the excesses in the use and abuse of money in campaigns, among others, in addition to fundamental changes in the police and judicial system, these changes must combine responsibilities at the political class and the government on the one hand and society civil in the other. That is, from top to bottom (system reforms criminal justice and police) and bottom-up (a more proactive civil society against crime, and a more strategic electorate to punish or reward the actions of the government and the parties) (Bailey, 2014: 240-265). In this perspective, Edgardo Buscaglia, proposed as escape routes to crime: reforms to fill power vacuums that the Mexican State has failed to organized crime gangs from the transition and what is required is to create a new system institutional controls to successfully confront crime, involving; economic, judicial control of corruption, patrimonial and social controls and a more efficient, and more active international cooperation (Buscaglia, E., 2014).

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