# CUBA, MEXICO, VENEZUELA CASES

Rich Edwards
Professor of Communication Studies
Baylor University

Harm: Immoral policy (harms the Cuban people); Perpetuates human rights abuses

Inherency: Helms-Burton Act

Solvency:

Doug Bandow, (Sr. Fellow, Cato Institute), TIME TO END THE CUBAN EMBARGO, Dec. 11, 2012.

Retrieved Jan. 30, 2012 from

http://www.cato.org/publications/commentary/tim e-end-cuba-embargo. Lifting sanctions would be a victory not for Fidel Castro, but for the power of free people to spread liberty. As Griswold argued, "commercial engagement is the best way to encourage more open societies abroad."



## Lift the Cuban Economic Embargo

Harm: Hunger among the Cuban people

Inherency: Strange OFAC ruling on agricultural sales to Cuba

Solvency: Allow banking transactions for food

Roger Johnson, (President, National Farmers Union), HEARING TO REVIEW U.S. AGRICULTURAL SALES TO CUBA, House Hearing, Mar. 11, 2010, 12. If direct banking transfers were permitted between the U.S. and Cuba for the purchase of American-made products by Cuba, notable positive impacts on both countries'

economies would be possible, creating a win-win

situation. Current U.S. policy is designed to use

food as a weapon, and it has failed.

#### HEARING TO REVIEW U.S. AGRICULTURAL SALES TO CUBA

#### HEARING

SEFORE THE

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

MARCH 11, 2010

Serial No. 111-44



Printed for the use of the Committee on Agriculture agriculture.house.gov

## Agricultural Trade With Cuba

Harm: Oil spill in the North Cuba Basin

Inherency: Embargo bans U.S. oil company

involvement

#### Solvency:

Sally Shelton-Colby, (Diplomat in Residence, School of International Service, American U.), THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION, May 21, 2012, 21. The U.S. clearly has an interest in a BP-like accident not happening, Florida and all the Gulf States, but the rest of the country, more broadly. However, given the embargo, the sanctions, the U.S. could not respond quickly if, in fact, there were to be a manmade disaster. So, we're recommending that the U.S. government take steps to suspend those sanctions which prohibit the U.S. from coming to the prompt assistance of Cuba and, frankly, of ourselves.



#### BACKGROUNDER

No. 2717 | AUGUST 13, 2012

Offshore Drilling: Increase Access, Reduce the Risk, and Stop Hurting American Companies

Hans A. von Spakovsky and Nicolas D. Loris

#### Abstract

Given the challenges still facing the U.S. economy, the government needs to move aside and let private industry do what private industry does best: create jobs and increase our oil supply to help lower the price at the pump. And yet the Obama Administration remains committed to strangling America's economic revival by doing everything in its power to prevent companies that obtain offshore leases from actually drilling and producing oil-a fact evidenced by a new lawsuit just filed in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims by an independent U.S. oil and gas company. Congress should act now to open access and reduce the onerous regulatory risk that characterizes U.S. offshore drilling policy. Such reform would provide companies the certainty they need to expand job creation and increase America's energy supply.

This paper, in its entirety, can be found at http://report.heritage.org/bg2717

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as an attempt to aid or hinder the passage of any bill

O il companies are not only eager to drill off America's coasts—they are enthusiastic about creating jobs and bringing more oil to the world (and the American) market, which, in turn, will help lower gas prices.

Indeed, for evidence of oil companies' appetite for economic growth, one need look no further than the Department of the Interior's recent \$1.7 billion lease sale in the central Gulf of Mexico.

But while this sale was a positive development for American energy production, the Obama Administration is doing everything in its power to prevent companies that obtain offshore leases from actually drilling and producing oil—a fact evidenced by a new lawsuit recently filed in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims by an independent U.S. oil and gas company.

#### Preparing for Growth

By March 2010, ATP Oil & Gas Corporation had obtained oil leases and necessary permits to drill in the Gulf of Mexico. In fact, after installing state-of-the art drilling and processing equipment, ATP was poised to double its oil production.

This massive increase in production was made possible, in part, by

#### TALKING POINTS

- Oil companies are not only eager to drill off America's coasts—they are enthusiastic about creating jobs and bringing more oil to the world (and the American) market, which, in turn, will help lower gas prices.
- The Obama Administration is doing everything in its power to prevent companies that obtain offshore leases from actually drilling and producing oil—a fact evidenced by a new lawsuit just filed in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims by an independent U.S. oil and gas company.
- Congress should act now to open access and reduce the onerous regulatory risk that characterizes U.S. offshore drilling policy.
- Such reform would provide companies the certainty they need to expand job creation and increase America's energy supply.

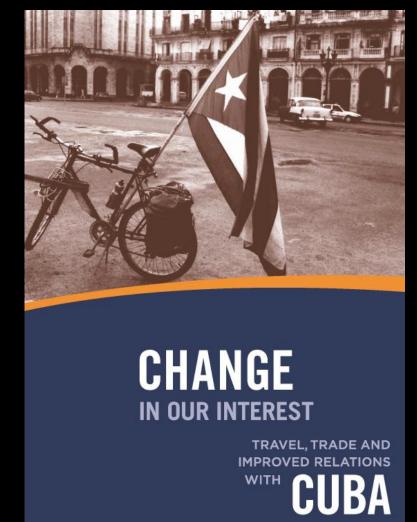
### Oil in the North Cuba Basin

Harm: Right to travel

Inherency: Travel ban for ordinary U.S. citizens

Solvency:

Jarrett Barrios, (Founder of the Humanitarian Organization, ACCESSO & CEO, American Red Cross, Eastern Massachusetts), CONNECTICUT PUBLIC INTEREST LAW JOURNAL, Fall 2011, 27. There are ample reasons why the President should open up travel to Cuba: it supports the individual right to travel of U.S. citizens; it rejects the ethically questionable and controversial strategy of resource denial to advance foreign policy objectives; efforts to isolate Cuba have retarded efforts to grow civil society on the island; a majority of Cuban Americans now support such repeal; and it is not fair policy to promote in the present political context.



### **Tourist Travel to Cuba**

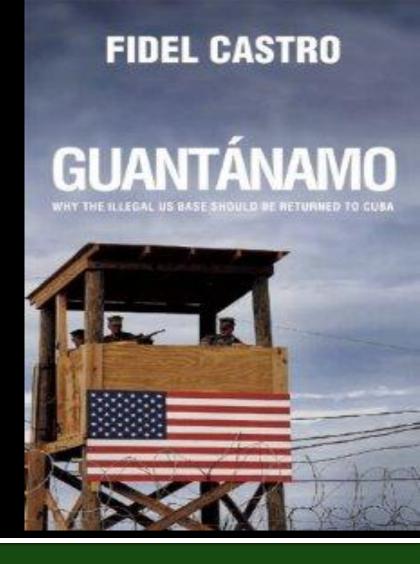
Harm: Imperialism at its worse

Inherency: Congress blocking base

closing

Solvency:

David Perez, (J.D., Yale Law School), HARVARD LATINO LAW REVIEW, Spr. 2010, 213. Closing Guantanamo Bay would have reverberating effects, not just in Cuba and Latin America, but also throughout the world. Guantanamo Bay has come to "represent the image of an intolerant, abusive, unjust America." Its "very existence undermines America's ability to carry forth a message of principled optimism and hope."



## Return Guantanamo Bay

Harm: Needless deaths among Cuban people

Inherency: Strange OFAC ruling

Solvency:

Amnesty International, THE US EMBARGO AGAINST CUBA: ITS IMPACT ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS, 2009, 15. Although the easing of exports of agricultural products has a positive impact in addressing food shortages and contributes towards the realization of the right to food for Cubans, the export of medicines and medical equipment continues to be severely limited and has a detrimental impact on the progressive realization of the right to the highest attainable standard of health.

#### Report: U.S. sanctions put Cubans' health at risk

September 2, 2009 -- Updated 1517 GMT (2317 HKT)

#### STORY HIGHLIGH

- Amnesty report say
- HIV/AIDS patients

Embargo has a "sv

Next Article in Health

By Mark Tutton For CNN



LONDON, England (CNN) - The U.S. trade embargo on Cuba is endangering the health of millions by limiting Cubans' access to medicines and medical technology, human rights group Amnesty International alleged Wednesday.



Amnesty International says the U.S. trade embargo is limiting Cubans' access to medical technology.

An Amnesty report examines the effects of the sanctions, which have been in place since 1962. Amnesty International Secretary-General Irene Khan called the U.S. embargo immoral and said it should be lifted.

"It's preventing millions of Cubans from benefiting from vital medicines and medical equipment essential for their health," Khan said.

The embargo restricts the export of medicines and medical equipment from the U.S. and from any U.S.-owned company abroad.

Amnesty also called on President Obama to not renew the Trading with the Enemy Act, which is due for renewal on September 14. The Act has been reviewed by U.S. presidents on an annual basis since 1978. Amnesty said that while not renewing

the Act would not in itself end the embargo against Cuba, it would send a clear message that the U.S. is adopting a new policy toward Cuba.

## Enable Sale of Medical Supplies

Harm: Cuban Adjustment Act is a Racist policy

Inherency: Wet Foot/Dry Foot is U.S. policy

Solvency: Repeal the CAA

Joyce Hughes, (Prof., Law, Northwestern U. School of Law), ST. THOMAS LAW REVIEW, Spr. 2011, 215-216. Some academics have charged that the CAA promotes racial inequality and a racist immigration policy. "They assert that the only significant difference between Haitian and Cuban refugees is that Cubans tend to be white, while Haitians tend to be black," and that the policy of welcoming Cubans while rejecting Haitians, who are fleeing equally miserable - if not worse - conditions, is unjustifiable.

#### Cuba Denounces U.S. Cuban Adjustment Act at the UN

Posted on May 20, 2011

Cuba Denounces U.S. Cuban Adjustment Act at the UN

United Nations, May 19 (Prensa Latina) – Cuba denounced the so-called US Cuban Adjustment Act at the United Nations Thursday, saying that it constitutes an abominable disdain for human life because it stimulates illegal movement of people from Cuba to US national territory.

Cuba said it is a unique regulation in the world, offering privileges to Cubans arriving in the US coasts illegally, while citizens from other countries do not receive any privileges of that kind.

The repudiation of the Cuban Adjustment Act was presented by Cuban representative to the UN Rodolfo Benitez, who talked Thursday in a session of the UN General Assembly dedicated to migration and development.

"In all parts of the world, there will always be people risking their lives to migrate illegally, but the stimulation to do so will never be justified," said Benitez, who also criticized the brain drain as an ever more profound despoiling of human resources.

He said that developed countries do this and at the same time make poor migrants face racism, persecution, abuse and discrimination, closing doors for them, but if they are scientists, for instance, they are invited to migrate.

## Repeal the Cuban Adjustment Act

Harm: Human rights abuses and absence of democracy in Cuba

Inherency: Embargo limits Cuba's Internet access Solvency:

David Perez, (J.D., Yale Law School), HARVARD LATINO LAW REVIEW, Spr. 2010, 233. By entirely eliminating the communications plank of the economic sanctions, the U.S. will have removed a serious barrier to constructive academic and cultural exchanges. Many of these exchanges involve ordinary Cubans who would otherwise be left rudderless without communications equipment to link with their American counterparts. By encouraging nonpolitical contact between Cuban academics, cultural elites, and even athletes, the U.S. could circumvent the totalitarian strictures set up by the Cuban regime to isolate its own people.



U.S.-Cuba Relations
at BROOKINGS

Issue Brief No. 3 July 2010

### Bridging Cuba's Communication Divide: How U.S. Policy Can Help

Theodore J. Piccone, Christopher Sabatini and Carlos Saladrigas

#### Introduction

Throughout history, the free flow of information has been a powerful agent of liberation and economic development. For authoritarian regimes, the dilemma has been to find the right balance between these forces, usually by manipulating information through propaganda and controls on the media, rather than outright banning it.

Cuba is not exempt from these challenges. The Castro regime clearly needs to expand information and communication technologies (ICT) to spur fundamental reform of its economy, but deeply fears the political impact of widespread access to ICT. How it pursues that balance can be greatly facilitated, or exacerbated, by U.S. policy towards Cuba.

We know there is a strong correlation between access to ICT and economic growth and development. Conversely, the large investments required for ICT infrastructure will only take place when there is a revenue model to support the investment and provide investors with market-based rates of return. In the case of Cuba, this became clear with cellular phones. As little as five years ago, there were just a few thousand mobile phones in Cuba, almost all of them in the hands of government officials, foreigners and members of the elite. Since 2008, when President Raul Castro announced the lifting of the ban on cell phones, the number of cell phones is rapidly approaching one million. The reason is simple-cell phone revenues have become an important source of hard currency. The economic model outweighed political concerns.

It is unreasonable to hope for the development of other ICTs, such as the internet and social media, without economic models to make them work. Thus, the challenge for U.S. policymakers consists not only in effecting targeted reforms to its 50-year old embargo, but in broadly lifting all restrictions that hinder the development of an economic model capable of sustaining the requisite investments in ICT in Cuba, and the corresponding consumer demand for the services. A piecemeal approach will simply not do the job.

Laying this knowledge and infrastructure foundation is essential for the long-term economic prospects of the Cuban people. Getting there requires three steps: 1) more explicit and flexible U.S. regulations governing the export and investments in ICT infrastructure in Cuba; 2) more flexible U.S. regulations to allow for the development of an ICT consumer market in Cuba; and 3) the development of distance-learning programs on the technology, experiences and applications of ICT to economic and humanitarian activity.

#### Background

On April 13, 2009, President Obama took the first step in what many hoped would be a steady stream of initiatives to unlock the door to U.S.-Cuban relations, frozen for 50 years by intransigence on both sides of the Florida straits. Among the modest measures announced, the White House said it wanted to "promote contacts between Cuban-Americans and their relatives in Cuba" and "increase the flow of information to the Cuban people" by authorizing U.S. telecommunications companies to provide certain

U.S.-CUBA RELATIONS AT BROOKING

### Sale of Telecommunication Gear

Harm: Human rights abuses and absence of democracy in Cuba

Inherency: Embargo prevents assistance to entrepreneurs

Solvency: Jorge Mas Santos, (Dir. Cuban American National Foundation), A NEW COURSE FOR U.S.-CUBA POLICY: ADVANCING PEOPLE-DRIVEN CHANGE, 2012, 8. Permitting Cuban-Americans and others, under license, to send cash, building materials, agricultural implements and provide services to independent, private entrepreneurs not affiliated with the regime for the establishment of micro-enterprises, such as artisans and family-owned small businesses, and the building and repair of private family residences affected by last season's hurricanes would have an indelible and immediate impact on the growth of Cuba's independent economic sector and civil society as a whole.

#### CUBA STUDY GR�UP

Supporting Small Business in Cuba: Recommendations for Private and Public Sector Leaders

Apoyo a la Pequeña Empresa en Cuba: Recomendaciones para Líderes del Sector Privado y Público APRIL 2011

in callaboration with





## Microfinance Assistance to Cuban Entrepreneurs

Harm: Defection of baseball players dangerous Inherency: Rooney Rule treats Cuban players unfairly Solvency:

Rachel Solomon, (J.D. Candidate, Hofstra U. School of Law), JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND LAW, 2011, 178-179. The current MLB rules, which encourages Cuban baseball players to defect, is flawed and there are many plausible plans to remedy them. In September of 1995, a year before the enactment of the Helms-Burton Act, U.S. Representative Jose E. Serrano, introduced House Bill 2311, "A Bill to Waive Certain Prohibitions With Respect to Nationals of Cuba Coming to the United States to Play Organized Baseball." This bill, now called the "Baseball Diplomacy Act," creates an exception to the embargo, allowing Cubans to enter America on a visa to play baseball.



## Replace the Kuhn Directive

Harm: Militarization of the drug war kills tens of thousands in Mexico

Inherency: Congress pushes Nieto to continue militarization of the drug war

Solvency: David Shirk, (Prof., Political Science & Dir., Trans-Border Institute at the University of San Diego), THE DRUG WAR IN MEXICO, 2011, 24-25. In its provision of aid, the United States should put greater emphasis on soft economic and educational assistance in addition to hard security assistance. The U.S. Congress should fully fund the Obama administration's request for \$66 million in economic and development assistance for FY2012—more than doubling the amount provided in FY2010.

#### MERIDA PART TWO: INSURGENCY AND TERRORISM IN MEXICO

#### JOINT HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

#### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AND THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT, INVESTIGATIONS, AND MANAGEMENT OF THE

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

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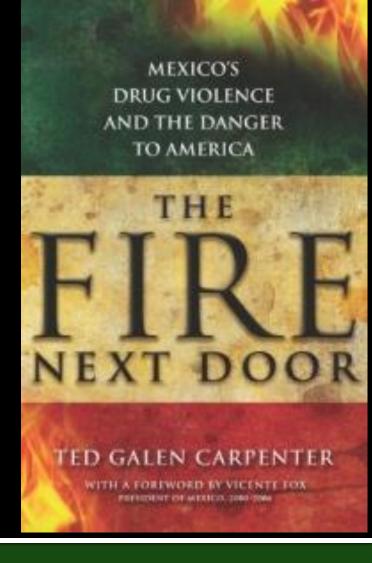
WASHINGTON: 2011

### De-militarize the Merida Initiative

Harm: Tens of thousands of drug cartel deaths in Mexico

Inherency: U.S. commitment to failed drug war Solvency:

Ted Galen Carpenter, (Sr. Fellow, Cato Institute), THE FIRE NEXT DOOR: MEXICO'S DRUG VIOLENCE AND THE DANGER TO AMERICA, 2012, 264. The most effective way to deal with the murderous traffickers is to greatly reduce the "Croesus-like" fortunes available to the cartels. And the only realistic way to do that is to bite the bullet and end the policy of drug prohibition—preferably in whole—but at least in part, starting with the legalization of marijuana.



## Legalize Marijuana

Harm: Tens of thousands of drug cartel deaths Inherency: Lax U.S. laws allow assault weapons Solvency: Eric Olson, (Sr. Associate, Mexico Institute, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars), A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY: **COUNTERNARCOTICS AND CITIZEN SECURITY** IN THE AMERICAS, Senate Hearing, Mar. 31, 2011, 59. The U.S. Government has a historic opportunity to assist the Government of Mexico to reduce the violence and weaken transnational criminal organizations operating from Mexico. Helping curb access to large quantities of sophisticated firearms and ammunition and thus their ability to carry out atrocities against civilians and overpower Mexican authorities is one critical way the U.S. Government can address this serious threat to Mexico and increasingly to the United

States.

#### Mexico eyes U.S. gun policies, hopes for shift

By Catherine E. Shoichet, CNN updated 5:39 AM EST, Wed January 16, 2013



Thousands of confiscated firearms are destroyed last year in the border city of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico

#### STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Mexico blames brutal drug violence on guns trafficked from the United States
- Ambassador: The Second Amendment was not intended to arm foreign criminals
- He says indignation after the Connecticut school shooting

(CNN) -- Mexicans are watching closely as U.S. President Barack Obama prepares to announce his administration's proposals to stem gun violence.

The country's top diplomat in the United States says the tragic Connecticut school shooting may have "opened a window of opportunity" for Obama to fix a problem that has long plagued both sides of the border.

## Stop Flow of Assault Weapons to Mexico

Harm: Poverty among Mexican farmers
Inherency: Free trade undermines fair trade
Solvency:

Shima Baradaran, (Prof., Law, Brigham Young U.), COLUMBIA HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW, Fall 2011, 40. Fair trade is not a charity or an aid organization, but is a product certification scheme that considers all of the costs of production--direct and indirect--rather than just market conditions to determine how much to compensate workers and producers. In this way, fair trade is able to address the root causes of poverty by connecting actors all along the trading chain, rather than focusing on stricter compliance from isolated actors.

#### SMALL FARMERS. BIG CHANGE.

A green and more just food system starts with small farmers.







« Small Farmers Greening the Planet: Piura Mountains Reforestation Project wins the ProClimate Challenge Peru's Vice President Inaugurates a Coffee Processing Plant in Canchaque »

Mexican Small Farmer Fair Trade Producers Speak Out: "... we can only move forward with authentic fair trade..."

December 15, 2011 by Phyllis Robinson

On December 7th, Francisco VanDerhoff Boersma, co-founder of the first fair trade certifying body, Max Havelaar, and the renowned small farmer co-operative in Mexico, UCIRI (Union of Indigenous Communities of the Region of Isthmus) submitted the following extremely important proclamation from the Mexican Coordinator of Small Fair Trade Producers as a comment on our earlier blog post, "Who Owns Fair Trade?" Due to its importance, I've taken the liberty to have it translated from Spanish and am posting it here. The proclamation expresses the sentiments we hear from Fair Trade small farmer organizations throughout the Global South. I hope you'll take the time to read the views expressed here.

## Promote Fair Trade in Mexico

Harm: Tens of thousands of drug cartel deaths Inherency: Lax U.S. money laundering laws Solvency: Clare Seelke, (Specialist in Latin American Affairs, Congressional Research Service), THE MERIDA INITIATIVE, 2010, 16. Interrupting the flow of money from drug sales in the United States to Mexico, estimated to range from \$15 billion to \$25 billion annually, may be one of the most effective ways to disrupt the activities of the Mexican DTOs. A portion of this money is used to buy weapons in the United States to arm the DTOs and their drug enforcers. Other drug proceeds are used to corrupt law enforcement and public officials enabling the DTOs to continue to operate with impunity.

### Money Laundering Fuels Drug Cartels Affecting Border Security



FOLLOW: Mexico, Border Security, Latino Politics, Money Laundering, Money Laundering Border Security, Border Patrol, Cartel Money Laundering, Drug Money, Immigration Reform, Immigration Reform News, Mexican Border, Mexican Drug Cartels, Rug Cartels, Latino Voices News

Former Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard said recent conversations over border security are missing a critical element: money laundering.

Goddard, who's a Democrat, said money laundering is fueling the Mexican drug cartels' operations, yet the issue is overshadowed by calls for more fences, boots on the ground and technology along the United States-Mexico border.

## Stop Laundering of Mexican Drug Cartel Money

Harm: Poverty

Inherency: Unfair guestworker program

Solvency: Bill Hing, (Prof., Law, U. of San Francisco School of Law), ETHICAL BORDERS: NAFTA, GLOBALIZATION, AND MEXICAN MIGRATION, 2010, 157. Instead of short-term "guest-worker" visas similar to those proposed for several years by President Bush, labor shortages should be filled with workers with full rights, a path to permanent residence, and, if they choose, citizenship. Congress has arbitrarily set the number of employmentbased admissions for permanent visas at 140,000 annually. This number falls far short of satisfying the actual need for visas based on the U.S. demand for labor and family reunification.

### **WPPOLITICS**

Dispute over guest-worker program puts immigration talks at risk of delay

By David Nakamura, March 28, 2013

A worsening dispute over a new guest-worker program has emerged as the most serious obstacle to a bipartisan deal on immigration, threatening to delay the unveiling of a Senate bill early next month.

The impasse has prompted a bitter <u>round of</u> <u>name-calling</u> between labor and business groups, which accuse each other of imperiling comprehensive immigration reform.

The Obama administration has remained on the sidelines as the standoff has worsened, calculating that the president would risk alienating Republican senators crucial to the process. Obama said this week that the issue is "resolvable."

## Provide a Fair Guestworker Program for Immigrants

Harm: Poverty in Mexico

Inherency: Collective remittances are not tax deductible now

Solvency: Martin Chavez, (J.D. Candidate), NEW YORK UNIVERSITY JOURNAL OF LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC POLICY, 2011, 584. Governments and economists are enthusiastic about personal remittances because they have been shown to alleviate poverty in developing countries. In one widely cited study, researchers found that a "10% increase in per capita official international remittances will lead, on average, to a 3.5% decline in the share of people living in poverty." A similar World Bank study found that remittances have decreased "extreme poverty" by more than 35% in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and El Salvador, and have cut "moderate poverty" by an average of 19%.

#### REMITTANCES AND THE CHARITABLE DEDUCTION: A NEW APPROACH TO ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT IN MEXICO

#### Martin Chavez\*

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## Promote the Sending of Collective Remittances

Harm: Right of access to water

Inherency: IBWC is dysfunctional now

Solvency: Reform the IBWC

Robert McCarthy, (Former General Counsel, International Boundary and Water Commission), UNIVERSITY OF DENVER WATER LAW REVIEW, Spr. 2011, 253. Pollution in the Tijuana River is so excessive that many beaches have been closed to swimming, and there have been alarming reports of a rising incidence of infant brain anencephaly near Tijuana and San Diego. The IBWC's perceived mismanagement of the sewage problem was summarized this way twenty years ago: Through the years, mounting criticisms of IBWC suggest that it is nonresponsive and perhaps even counterproductive in solving problems.

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ARTICLE: EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY, ADAPTIVE TREATY INTERPRETATION, AND THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, U.S. --MEXICO

Spring, 2011

University of Denver Water Law Review

14 U. Denv. Water L. Rev. 197

#### Author

ROBERT J. MCCARTHY \*

#### Excerpt

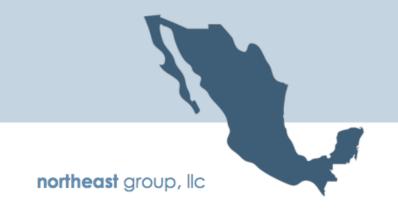
INTRODUCTION

A. AN ANACHRONISTIC AGENCY

## Reform the International Border Water Commission

Harm: Energy crisis/global warming
Inherency: Lack of smart grid holds back
wind power

Solvency: Duncan Wood, (Dir., Mexico Institute at Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars), NEW IDEAS FOR A NEW ERA: POLICY OPTIONS FOR THE NEXT STAGE IN U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONS, Jan. 2013, 43. The potential for wind power in the states of Baja California and Tamaulipas is huge, although it is currently held back by crossborder transmission challenges.



#### Mexico Smart Grid: Market Forecast (2011 – 2020)

Smart metering (AMI)
Distribution automation
Wide area measurement
Home energy management

October 2011 | www.northeast-group.com

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## Cross-Border Smart Electrical Grid

Harm: Democracy undermined

Inherency: U.S. funds opposition groups

Solvency: Daniel Hellinger, (Prof., Political Science, Webster U.), GLOBAL SECURITY WATCH: VENEZUELA, 2012, 168. To make progress beyond this gesture, the United States needs to recalibrate policy not just toward Venezuela but also toward the entire Latin American region. Decoupling support for democracy and human rights from insistence on a neoliberal model would be the foundation for such a recalibration. Furthermore; the United States must accept significant hemispheric changes that have been major goals of Venezuela's petro-diplomacy but have broader support throughout the region.



## Stop Funding Opposition Groups in Venezuela