

Mexico's President Meets with Missing Students' Families, Pledges Results



Mexico City, October 31 (RHC-Xinhua) -- Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto said on Thursday that he has met the families of 43 students who went missing in late September and pledged to get results in the case.

During the meeting, parents demanded authorities modify their line of investigation, which has focused on locating mass graves in and around the town where the abductions occurred, and digging up the bodies buried there. To date, more than 30 bodies have been recovered from more than 20 graves.

"They were taken alive and we want them back alive" has turned into a grim rallying cry adopted not just by the parents, but also national and international civic and human rights organizations that have taken up the students' cause.

The meeting ended with Peña Nieto and the families of the victims signing a 10-point document outlining government action in the case, including expanding the search and rescue efforts, recognizing the students as victims and not delinquents, as officials originally indicated, and providing medical attention for students injured in the attack.

The students, from a rural teachers college, went missing on Sept. 26 following a clash with police linked with drug gang members in the city of Iguala, which along with Acapulco is located in Mexico's violence-torn southern state of Guerrero.

The disappearance of the students has shocked Mexico and sparked nationwide demonstrations.

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