

# *Mexico Rejects U.S. Financial Assistance Under Review by Trump*

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Mexico City, February 25 (RHC)-- Mexico says it does not need financial aid from the United States, after U.S. President Donald Trump requested a review of Washington's assistance to Mexico City over the last five years.

A large part of the U.S. financial assistance to Mexico comes through the Mérida Initiative, a security cooperation agreement between the U.S. and Mexico aimed at eliminating the threats of drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and money laundering. It is also said to pursue furthering respect for human rights and the rule of law.

Mexican Interior Minister Miguel Angel Osorio Chong said on Friday that when the Americans "realize what's left of Mérida, they will understand that it's not even that significant."

The U.S. president had earlier called on Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto to pay for the border wall, a provocative move that sparked a rift between the two countries.

On Thursday, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly, who

visited Mexico City, were given a cool reception by Mexican authorities.

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