

# *Mexican Leftist Leader Resigns over Party Credibility*

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Mexico City, November 26 (teleSUR-RHC)-- Mexican left-wing politician, Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, has resigned from the party he founded, due to recent scandals involving some of its members, the Ayotzinapa case, and major differences with PRD president.

Cardenas resigned from his Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) hours after a meeting with party leader Carlos Navarrete Tuesday.

Cardenas called for Navarrete's resignation, saying this was a necessary step in order to regain the party's credibility. The moral authority of the party has been damaged, according to Cardenas, partly due to the case of the 43 Ayotzinapa students, who went missing two months ago in Guerrero state, where PRD ran the local government.

PRD member Jose Luis Abarca was mayor of the town of Iguala, where the students were attacked on September 26th. Abarca allegedly ordered local police, in cahoots with a local gang, to attack the buses the Ayotzinapa students were traveling in.

Adding to the PRD's woes, Guerrero state's PRD governor, Angel Aguirre, was forced to resign over the case. The PRD also sided with President Enrique Peña Nieto's PRI party in its push for structural reforms that were fast-tracked through Congress, including the highly controversial energy reform.

Cardenas said the party was going through a profound crisis, one that could ultimately lead to the disappearance of the leftist political institution.

"Faced with the dilemma ... of sharing the responsibility for short-sighted decisions, made opportunistically or complacently, without self-criticism, I preferred to run the risk of receiving criticism ... deciding according to the principles that have guided me and served me in my public and private life," Cardenas wrote in a resignation letter, published in *El Universal*.



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