

# *Mexican Ruling Party on Defensive Over Inarritu's Oscar Comments*

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Mexico City, February 24 (RHC-teleSUR) -- In response to critical comments made on Sunday night at the Oscar awards ceremony by Mexican director, Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) published a sharp congratulations on Monday morning on its Twitter account. Later, the country's PRI president Enrique Pena Nieto responded to the acclaimed director's message.

When accepting the Oscar trophy for best film for the highly acclaimed movie Birdman, Inarritu told the crowd: "I want to dedicate this award to my fellow Mexicans, the ones who live in Mexico ... I pray that we can find and build the government that we deserve."

The response given by the PRI party, which returned to power in 2012 with Pena Nieto after a 12 year hiatus from a 71 year long stint, was: "Rather than just deserving it, it's a fact that we're building a better government. Congratulations #GonzalezInarritu."

Later on Monday at a literature awards ceremony in Mexico, Peña Nieto publically congratulated Inarritu for the Oscar wins, however he outlined that the work of his administration makes it possible for directors and cultural producers to be successful.

Innarritu's critical comments allude to the wide scale public dissatisfaction towards the government of Peña Nieto, which has seen the rise of political and economic crises.

Over the past five months Mexico has been shaken by the September forced disappearance of the 43 Ayotzinapa students, presidential corruption scandals, growing organized crime, violence and mass street protests.

There has also been a dramatic drop in international oil prices, forcing Mexico - a major oil producing nation - to dramatically cut public and social spending.

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