

Mexican President's Relationship With TV Station Deepens



Mexico City, February 28 (teleSUR-RHC)-- Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto named Arely Gomez as his choice for the post of attorney general on Friday, in a move that raised eyebrows due to Gomez's connection with media giant Televisa.

If confirmed by the Senate, Gomez would replace Jesus Murillo Karam, who stepped down after facing months of criticism over his handling of the case of the 43 forcibly disappeared students.

Gomez happens to be the sister of the vice-president of news at Televisa. It was Televisa who broke the news that Murillo was stepping down and was to be replaced by Gomez.

The links between Televisa, the largest media company in the Spanish-speaking world, and Enrique Peña Nieto are well established. Documents unearth by British newspaper The Guardian backed claims that Televisa provided favorable coverage for Peña Nieto in the lead up to presidential elections for a fee. In that case, however, Mexico's Federal Electoral Court cleared Televisa of any wrong doing.

Nonetheless, Televisa was the target of protests due to what was widely perceived as biased coverage. Leaked diplomatic reports also expressed concern over the fact that Peña Nieto was benefiting from favorable coverage. One report stated, "It is widely accepted, for example, that the television monopoly Televisa backs the governor and provides him with an extraordinary amount of airtime and other kinds of coverage."

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