

As Mexican Officials Soften on Trump, Mexican Media Hardens



Mexico City, May 7 (RHC)-- Mexican officials have begun to sing a different song about presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump. As there is now the possibility that he could win in November, members of the Mexican government have taken a softer tone towards the controversial Trump.

Mexican Secretary of the Economy Ildefonso Guajardo told The Hill "it's not very convenient for foreign officials" to comment on U.S. elections. He says that since Mexico has become a topic of discussion in the campaign, it would be good to reinforce trade and political partnerships.

For the majority of Trump's campaign, he has unleashed slurs and insults at the Mexican people. This is how he began his bid, referring to them as "rapist" and "criminals," although he assumed some of them were good, at his announcement.

One of the pillars of his platform is the construction of a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, to keep out "illegal immigrants." The Mexican government usually refrains from commenting on the U.S. presidential election, but politicians took exception to the crude remarks made about their people.

Mexico's secretaries of Finance and Foreign Affairs previously called Trump "ignorant." In March, President Enrique Peña Nieto compared Trump's rhetoric to Mussolini and Hitler. And in April, Guajardo himself said Mexico would always be the United State's largest trading partner, unless "Trump wins the election."

Trump has begun a noticeable shift in his rhetoric, in what many analysts say is an attempt to appear more "presidential."

Mexican media has taken the opposite stance. La Jornada, a paper that noted intellectual Noam Chomsky once said was "maybe the only real independent newspaper in the hemisphere," has hardened their line on Trump. They published an editorial on May 4 that refers to Trump as a "dangerous clown." La Jornada says that the success of both Trump and Democratic contender Bernie Sanders reveal the discontent felt by the U.S. populace, especially regarding economic neo-liberalism.

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