**Listening Exercise 110**

Editorial, 2 minutes 24 seconds

¡Sigua adelante! ☺

Guidelines:

A. Review the questions

B. Play the audio twice in repetition (click on the icon)

C. Attempt to answer the questions.

F. Review the transcript to gauge comprehension

G. Listen to the audio a third and fourth time while simultaneously reading the audio transcript

H. Refer to the answers, vocabulary and translation to clarify doubts and uncertainties



**Questions**

1. What is the main idea discussed in the editorial?
   1. Organized crime
   2. Mexico’s National Security Strategy
   3. Inadequate police intelligence
   4. Military in domestic law enforcement
2. What can be inferred from the speaker’s reference to light and dark?
   1. Ineffective targeting of criminal leaders
   2. Untrustworthy state and local police
   3. Positives and negatives of security policy
   4. Civilian and military intelligence
3. Which best describes the speaker’s tone?
   1. Indignant
   2. Matter-of-fact
   3. Optimistic
   4. Discouraged
   5. Confident
4. How is policy characterized regarding its impact on organized crime groups?
   1. Counterproductive
   2. Ineffective
   3. Successful
   4. Undetermined
5. Name the resource area the speaker says must be more widely and efficiently used?
   1. Victim advocacy
   2. Military
   3. Federal police
   4. Intelligence
6. According to the speaker, what is an important area of organized crime activity that has not been addressed?
   1. Money laundering
   2. Human trafficking
   3. Illegal mining
   4. Arms trafficking

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| **Editorial: Claroscuros en seguridad** | Chiaroscuros in security |
| El balance de la estrategia de seguridad implementada por la administración saliente arroja claroscuros que deben ser adecuadamente valorados. De acuerdo con un diagnóstico efectuado por un grupo de ocho expertos en la material, es necesario reconocer importantes aciertos en cuanto a lo hecho hasta ahora, así como efectuar una revisión crítica de los desatinos en que se ha incurrido, esto con el objeto de trazar un camino más acertado en esta crucial labor. | Taking stock of the outgoing administration’s security strategy has positives and negatives that need to be appropriately examined. Using analysis already carried out by 8 security experts, there must be an understanding of what has been achieved to date, as well as a critical review of mistakes that have been made, with the purpose of laying out a clear way forward for this important work. |
| Se valora positivamente la decisión de atender el problema. Se había permitido que el fenómeno del crimen organizado creciera sin control. Esta era una circunstancia que tarde o temprano iba a terminar por afectarnos a todos. | Addressing the problem is seen as a positive decision. The phenomenon of organized crime had been permitted to grow unchecked. This was a fact that sooner or later would end up affecting all Mexicans. |
| Se reconoce también que una gran parte de los líderes de las organizaciones criminales fue detenida o abatida. Se buscó de manera pública y abierta estructurar un sistema nacional de seguridad nacional para coordinar esfuerzos entre el gobierno federal y los gobiernos estatales y municipales. La Procuraduría de Atención a las Víctimas es otro acierto. | It’s also recognized that many of the leaders of criminal organizations were arrested or killed. They sought to publicly and openly build a nationwide system of national security to coordinate efforts between the federal and state and local governments. The Office of Victim Services is another success. |
| Sin embargo, entre los negativos están que se actuó sin un diagnóstico serio al respecto del problema que se estaba enfrentando. Se confió en el uso de la fuerza pública como instrumento privilegiado, y se favoreció el descabezamiento de los grupos criminales por encima de otro tipo de medidas. Esta estrategia, además de las decenas de miles de muertes, resultó en un grave incremento de los delitos de alto impacto con serias consecuencias para la ciudadanía. Se mostró a veces falta de coordinación y en ocasiones, también, una franca lucha entre la Policía Federal, las estatales y las municipales, muchas de las cuales operan en condiciones materiales lamentables, y una parte de cuyos elementos se encuentra ligada a la criminalidad. | However, among the negatives is having acted without a serious diagnosis of the problem that they were facing. It relied on the use of security forces as a preferred tool, and favored decapitating criminal groups over other measures. This strategy, in addition to the tens of thousands of deaths, resulted in a major increase in high-impact crimes with serious consequences for citizens. It sometimes showed a lack of coordination and at times, also, an open struggle between the federal, state and municipal police, many of which operate in appalling material conditions, and some of whose elements are linked to crime. |
| Por ello se tuvo que echar mano del Ejército y se cometieron excesos. Hoy las Fuerzas Armadas no salen fortalecidas. Hizo falta un mayor y más eficiente trabajo de los servicios de inteligencia civil y militar para combatir al crimen no solamente con la fuerza. Entre otras cosas, no se atacó con el suficiente rigor al lavado de dinero. | Therefore it had to fall back on the Army and excesses were committed. Today the Armed Forces are not stronger. Better and more efficient work by civil and military intelligence services was lacking to not just fight crime with force. Among other things, it did not attack money laundering strongly enough. |
| Esto denota, en suma, un balance con claroscuros. El Nuevo gobierno debe valorar con precisión lo que se ha hecho correctamente y efectuar los ajustes necesarios para corregir los desaciertos cometidos. | This shows, in short, an assessment with gray areas. The new government must accurately assess what has been done right and make the necessary adjustments to correct shortcomings. |

**Vocabulary**

Arrojar to cast, throw

acierto success

desatino mistake

la fuerza pública law enforcement

franca frank, candid

ligada linked

echar mano de draw on

desacierto miscalculation

claroscuros chiaroscuro (italian art term referring to contrast of light and dark) shadows, light and dark, gray

Procuraduría de Atención a las Víctimas

Office of Victim’s Advocacy

**Summary of Main Points:**

* The outgoing administration’s security strategy has positives and negatives that need to be examined. Using analysis already carried out by 8 security experts, there must be an understanding of what has been achieved to date, as well as a critical review of mistakes that have been made to lay out a clear way forward.
* The administration’s decision to address the problem of an effective security strategy is a positive development. Organized crime has gotten out of control creating a situation that can adversely affect all Mexicans.
* Among positive achievements is the capture or killing of most of the leaders of organized crime. The government has carried out a publicly open effort to restructure national security and improve coordination between federal, state, and local law enforcement.
* On the negative side, the government acted without an accurate understanding of the problem. The use of force and high value targeting was over-emphasized. The result was tens of thousands of casualties and an increase in crime and insecurity for citizens. Law enforcement agencies do not work together and engage in in-fighting. Working conditions for many municipal police are deplorable and it is common to find police linked to organized crime.
* Incapable police forces require Army involvement to provide security. The Army has committed human rights abuses and is now weaker as an institution for its involvement. What has been missing is a greater and more efficient use of military and civilian intelligence to minimize the impact of the use of force. Money laundering has not been addressed.
* The new government needs to clearly understand what it has done right and what it needs to change to correct shortcomings.