**Listening Exercise 113**

News interview (2 minutes 56 seconds)

**¡Otro reto! ☺**

Guidelines:

A. Read the background and review the questions

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

C. Attempt to answer the questions.

D. Refer to the answers and vocabulary to clarify doubts and uncertainties



**Telón de Fondo**. An interview with Mexico’s Assistant Foreign Secretary for Multilateral Relations about an upcoming United Nations special session on drugs.

**Questions**

1. What will Mexico’s position be at the UN special session on drugs?
   1. Mexico’s Congress will decide
   2. The Ministry of Foreign Relations establishes
   3. The Secretary of Government will set Mexico’s position
   4. Public opinion will determine policy stance
2. What does Mexico hope to communicate about the drug problem to the international community?
   1. The United States is the largest consumer of drugs
   2. South American countries are responsible for cocaine trafficking
   3. Asia produces the majority of precursor chemicals
   4. The drug problem is worldwide and not confined to Mexico
3. What will help to relieve the pressure on Mexico over narcotrafficking?
   1. Drug use in Mexico is declining
   2. Mexico has had measureable success reducing violent crime and homicides
   3. Cooperation with U.S. authorities has increased
   4. Mexico condemns European and American consumers of illegal drugs
4. Which does NOT pertain to Mexico’s drug policy?
   1. Addresses the wider social-economic impact of drugs
   2. Prioritizes interdiction of drugs from Central America
   3. Focuses on prevention
   4. Reafirms the need for a global alliance against drugs
5. What is a point that Mexico will emphasize in the debate on drugs?
   1. U.S. is principal international offender
   2. Release of Mexican nationals in foreign countries jailed for drugs
   3. Decriminalize drugs and treat as a public health problem
   4. Halt extradition of convicted drug traffickers

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| Se definirá en base a las consultas que está haciendo públicas, los foros públicos que está haciendo, la Secretaria de Gobernación es la secretaria de gobernación la que está encargada de definir eh… con precisión cuál será la posición que México sostendrá en esta asamblea especial tan importante. | It will be defined based on the consultations that it is making public, the public forums that it is doing, the Secretary of the Interior is the Secretary of the Interior that is in charge of defining eh ... precisely what will be the position that Mexico will hold in this special assembly so important. |
| Y yo creo que siempre es valioso que un consenso mundial reafirme que esto no es un problema de México. Este no es un problema exclusivamente ni de México ni de América Latina, es un problema verdaderamente mundial. Por eso, se le llama “el problema mundial de las drogas” porque eh… pues no hay ningún país que no esté de una u otra manera involucrado ya sea porque se producen drogas porque se trafican drogas o se consumen drogas ilícitamente. | And I believe that it is always valuable for a global consensus to reaffirm that this is not a problem for Mexico. This is not a problem exclusively neither of Mexico nor of Latin America, it is a truly global problem. For this reason, it is called "the world drug problem" because uh ... well, there is no country that is not in one way or another involved, either because drugs are produced because drugs are trafficked or drugs are consumed illicitly. |
| Yo no creo que México tenga un señalamiento internacional. Creo que México eh… enfrentamos un problema. Creo que se está enfrentando con mucha decisión de parte del gobierno, del presidente. Creo que la Secretaria de Gobernación ha desenseñado desde hace 3 años toda una serie de acciones, una estrategia general de seguridad pública, que está teniendo éxitos y resultados muy concretos, se han disminuido en forma permanente la tasa de homicidios, la tasa de secuestros, de robos con violencia. Esto está la cifra ahí, y esto sí se reconoce. | I do not believe that Mexico has an international signal. I think Mexico huh ... we face a problem. I think he is facing a lot of decision on the part of the government, the president. I believe that the Ministry of the Interior has unlearned a series of actions for 3 years, a general public security strategy, which is having very concrete successes and results, the homicide rate, the kidnapping rate, have been permanently reduced, of robberies with violence. This is the figure there, and this is recognized. |
| Las dependencias del, eh, gobierno federal que tienen experiencia y una relación eh… directa con el problema ya sea el, aparte de, producción, tráfico y sobre todo, eh… consumo de drogas. las políticas de drogas se tienen que marcar en un contexto más amplio, el contexto socioeconómico más amplio. Dos: las políticas de drogas deberían hacer más énfasis en la prevención. No es, no sólo eh, la tensión sino… pero también en la prevención. Y la tercera es: se reafirma la alianza global que debe haber contra el crimen organizado en el mundo. | The agencies of the, uh, federal government that have experience and a uh ... direct relationship with the problem, be it, apart from, production, trafficking and above all, uh ... drug use. drug policies have to be set in the broader context, the broader socioeconomic context. Two: drug policies should place more emphasis on prevention. It is not, not only eh, the tension but… but also in the prevention. And the third is: the global alliance that should exist against organized crime in the world is reaffirmed. |
| También pensamos en México no está criminalizado el consumo. Pero si pensamos que, de esto, debía ser de nivel global, o sea, ir a ser la discriminación del consumo y considerar lo más como un problema de salud pública, y no como un problema criminal el consumo de drogas. | We also think that consumption is not criminalized in Mexico. But if we think that, from this, it should be global, that is, it would be the discrimination of consumption and consider drug use as a public health problem, and not as a criminal problem. |

**Vocabulary**

Secretaría de Gobernación Secretary of Government (Interior Secretary, executive branch)

Consenso consensus

Señalamiento mark, singeled out

Seguridad pública public safety, law enforcement

Enmarcar to frame