

# SRE

SECRETARÍA DE RELACIONES  
EXTERIORES



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Exp.- SRE01S.07/2019/002

Washington, D.C., November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**The Honorable Josh Hawley**

United States Senator  
State of Missouri

Senator Hawley:

In the wake of the tragic loss of lives during the heinous assault that took place against the binational Mormon community of LeBaron in Mexico, my government categorically rejects your recent mischaracterization on Mexico not actively combating transnational organized crime and suggesting to impose sanctions on Mexican officials.

One of the top priorities of President López Obrador is to promote security with a new approach, not seeking a violent confrontation with organized crime groups, a strategy that failed in previous administrations leading to unprecedented escalation of violence.

In the context of our bilateral legal framework, Mexico reiterates its willingness to work with the United States in strengthening the cooperation to combat transnational criminal organizations and guarantee the safety and security of all our citizens.

Close cooperation with the United States remains a pillar of Mexican policy and pursuant to this, our authorities are open to working together with the FBI in their investigation of these barbarous crimes. I want to reiterate that President Lopez Obrador has repeatedly signaled his commitment to strengthening the well-established partnership between our law enforcement and national security agencies and their U.S. counterparts.

In the spirit of said partnership, should you so wish, I would be more than willing to brief you on the particulars of this case as well as on the wider issue of security cooperation.

*I hope to be able to discuss these matters with you personally, including how to reduce drug demand in the US.*

Sincerely,

Martha Bárcena  
Ambassador of Mexico