

Mexico. The 2021 mid-term election.

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Since its beginning, the Sars-Cov-2 pandemic has plunged Mexico into an unprecedented crisis, which is expressed- at the same time- in political, economic, social, and public health fields. The consequences of this situation have been harder than many people thought in 2019, and it supposes a huge challenge to the president Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador (AMLO) to achieve a balance between the fulfilling his campaign promises and the crisis management.

In this context, it is important to remark that Mexican economy had an 8.2% economic slowdown during 2020 and, despite optimistic forecasts for 2021, it is difficult to recover seize of the economy before the coronavirus appearance. Regarding public health crisis, this week, the country raised 200,000 deaths from Sars-Cov-2 pandemic, becoming the three largest country in the world in this indicator. For its part, in the political and social fields, AMLO's government has been forcing his rivals to a continue and undisguised struggle, taking the control over Mexican core institutions, polarizing the country between his supporters and detractors and, putting under pressure some of the judges that have blocked his proposal reforms.

Under this difficult situation anyone could think that AMLO's party, MORENA, will not win the next mid-term elections, which are to be celebrated in June 06. However, there are several reasons that allow us to consider the opposite. The first one is that- despite multiple crises and its effects- the popularity of AMLO is still over above 50% of all voters in Mexico. This fact is particularly important, among other reasons, because lots of president's supporters are not going to vote considering the singular candidate profile, but they will probably take their decisions thinking in the president figure.

Another significant reason that makes possible MORENA's win is the current division among the opposition parties, some of which are under a profound breakdown process since AMLO took office in 2018. In addition to this, it is evident that there is no clear leadership on the opposition field that can face the overexposure of Lopez Obrador neither the media nor the Mexican public agenda.

Finally, it is important to note that Mexican government is trying to balance its national accounts through an austerity policy focused on economic cuts. This policy has allow AMLO's Administration to manage the length and the magnitude of a possible fiscal deficit and, it has permitted spending part of public resources to directly finance the necessities of the poor people. This kind of measures helps AMLO in his intention to close toward the majority portion of voters, who are in D and E social stratum.

In conclusion, MORENA has the first option to win the mid-term elections. To achieve this, the current president uses all his power and apply and a populist strategy, with the goal to keep his political movement alive during the next years in Mexico. Today this desire is more a reality than a fantasy.