

## The Link, Politicians, Cartels

### Our Position: War Too Ugly, Stronger Enforcement Necessary

“The chances of Americans (specifically the U.S. government) revoking Mexican visas have increased significantly as of late 2025, driven by a stricter enforcement approach to immigration and security. The U.S. State Department reported revoking over 100,000 visas from foreign nationals in 2025, a 150% increase compared to 2024, which includes targeted actions against Mexican officials.

#### Key Factors and Context

- **Targeted Revocations (Politicians/Officials):** In October 2025, the U.S. revoked the visas of over 50 Mexican politicians and officials—many from the ruling Morena party—due to alleged, suspected connections to drug cartels.
- **General Visa Holders:** Revocations are not limited to officials. Thousands of visas are revoked due to security screenings, including encounters with U.S. law enforcement regarding criminal activity, such as DUIs, assault, or theft.
- **"Continuous Vetting":** The U.S. Department of State uses a "Continuous Vetting Center" to monitor foreign nationals on American soil, ensuring compliance with laws and allowing for the quick revocation of visas for those deemed a risk to public safety.
- **Reasons for Revocation:** Visas may be revoked if an individual is suspected of drug trafficking, visa overstay, corruption, spying, or aiding illegal immigration.
- **No Explanation Needed:** The U.S. is not required to provide reasons for revoking a visa, and such actions can happen at any time.

#### Current Landscape

While these revocations are part of a broader crackdown, immigration attorneys note that for the average traveler, a visa is generally safe as long as they follow the rules when entering the country.

- **Impact on Mexico-U.S. Relations:** These revocations have caused concern, with former U.S. ambassadors warning that the pressure could create "blowback" by making cooperation on security matters a high political cost for the Mexican government.
- **Visas and Criminal Investigations:** A visa revocation can indicate that the person in question is under criminal investigation by the United States, but this is not always the case.”