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Mexican Cartels Operating Throughout the Western Hemisphere

By ***Robert Bunker***

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Elyssa Pachico, "[Mexico Cartels Operate in 16 Countries: Report.](#)" *Insight Crime*. 19 September 2012:

Mexico's drug cartels now have a foothold in 16 countries in the Western Hemisphere, according to the Mexican Attorney General's Office, suggesting that these criminal networks have diversified their areas of operation in order to minimize risks.

Spanish source: Silvia Otero y José Guaderrama, "[Sin freno, expansion del narco en AI.](#)" *El Universal*. Lunes 17 de septiembre de 2012:

MÉXICO, DF (El Universal).- En México, la disputa por el control de los territorios se libra entre ocho cárteles de la droga que operan en todo el país y que consolidaron sus proyectos de expansión y se convirtieron en grupos organizados transnacionales, con presencia y alianzas con grupos criminales locales desde Canadá a Brasil, hasta sumar 16 países del hemisferio.

About the Author



Robert Bunker

Dr. Robert J. Bunker is an Adjunct Research Professor, Strategic Studies Institute, US Army War College and Adjunct Faculty, Division of Politics and Economics, Claremont Graduate University. He holds university degrees in political science, government, social science, anthropology-geography, behavioral science, and history and has undertaken hundreds of hours of counterterrorism training. Past professional associations include Distinguished Visiting Professor and Minerva Chair at the Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College; Futurist in Residence, Training and Development Division, Behavioral Science Unit, Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy, Quantico, VA; Staff Member (Consultant), Counter-OPFOR Program, National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center-West; and Adjunct Faculty, National Security Studies M.A. Program and Political Science Department, California State University, San Bernardino, CA. Dr. Bunker has hundreds of publications including *Studies in Gangs and Cartels*, with John Sullivan (Routledge, 2013), *Red Teams and Counterterrorism Training*, with Stephen Sloan (University of Oklahoma, 2011), and edited works, including *Global Criminal and Sovereign Free Economies and the Demise of the Western Democracies: Dark Renaissance* (Routledge, 2014), co-edited with Pamela Ligouri Bunker; *Criminal Insurgencies in Mexico and the Americas: The Gangs and Cartels Wage War* (Routledge, 2012); *Narcos Over the Border: Gangs, Cartels and Mercenaries* (Routledge, 2011); *Criminal-States and Criminal-Soldiers* (Routledge, 2008); *Networks, Terrorism and Global Insurgency* (Routledge, 2005); and *Non-State Threats and Future Wars* (Routledge, 2002).

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