



## **The Politics of Crime in Mexico: Democratic Governance in a Security Trap**

**JOHN BAILEY**

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What kind of democracy will emerge in Mexico when the current levels of violence are brought under control? Will democratic reformers gain strength in the new equilibrium between government and criminal organizations? Or will corruption tilt the balance toward criminal interests? In the context of these questions, John Bailey explores the “security trap” in which Mexico is currently caught—where the dynamics of crime, violence, and corruption conspire to override efforts to put the country on a path toward democratic governance.

**John Bailey** is emeritus professor of government and foreign service at Georgetown University. His most recent books include *Public Security and Police Reform in the Americas* and *Transnational Crime and Public Security: Challenges for Mexico and the United States*.

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