

Transparency and the Right To Information in Mexico



IFAI/Cuartoscuro

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The reforms on the issue of the right to information in Mexico are a major event that began in the last decade. Without a doubt, the process is being perfected and re-institutionalized; by no means is it complete. Rethinking this fundamental right is a joint task for civil society and the authorities. In the time it has been put into practice, a series of variables have emerged that were not initially foreseen, such as the lack of know-how about how to exercise this right, the resistance of many officials to handing over the most elementary information about their administrations, the uneven actions of the different states in performing their duty to provide information, and a series of elements examined in this section.

For this reason, we wanted to gather the experience of officials who deal day to day with the exercise of this right. Outstanding among them are the articles by former Federal Institute for Access to Public Governmental Information (IFAI) Commissioner Alonso Gómez-Robledo Verduzco and current IFAI Commissioner Ángel Trinidad Zaldívar, as well as Mexico City Commissioner Óscar Guerra Ford, who relate the current state of affairs of this right. We also present here the opinion of academics who have participated, either from academia or as part of civil society, in the institutionalization of this right in Mexico. As a result, the reader of these brief but substantial essays will be able to peruse the issue from different vantage points, ranging from the relationship the right to information has to environmental policy to its impact on elections.

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