September 11
Ten Years On

Ten years have passed since the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. During this decade, terrorism has come to be considered the principal threat to international security, displacing the debates that placed the development agenda at the forefront of international priorities in the 1990s. All of the work undertaken by the international community, especially through the United Nations-led summits on issues such as the situation of women and children, the environment, human settlements, social development, and so on, leading up to the 2000 New York Millennium Summit, went ignored after the following year's events, when the security agenda, and especially the struggle against terrorism, took precedence over all these matters.

In recent years, however, the United States has realized that many other scourges besides terrorism can represent equal or greater threats to its security. Examples include natural phenomena like Hurricane Katrina, an epidemic like the AH1N1 flu virus, or even the 2008 financial crisis. In fact, in allocating so many human and material resources to the terrorist threat, other issues were not dealt with, which has only made the United States more vulnerable as it faces serious difficulties in projecting leadership and guiding the world along the path of security and prosperity.

In the following analyses, leading specialists discuss aspects of the consequences the events of September 11, 2001, have had for Mexico, the United States, and the world, 10 years on.