



## ***México, ¿a dónde vas?***

***Mexico before the elections - trade, politics and human rights***

*Monday, 4 June 2018, 13h15-16h15 (registration and light lunch at 12h30)*

**Venue:**

*Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, EU Office, Rue du Taciturne 38, 1000 Brussels*

In view of the new EU-Mexico agreement and the country's parliamentary and presidential elections in July, FES EU Office has invited a delegation of Mexican experts and decision-makers to Brussels to discuss the future EU-Mexico partnership.

In April 2018 the EU and Mexico announced an update of their Global Agreement signed two decades ago with the aim to achieve a deal "fit for the economic and political challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century". The new agreement might also send a message to Mexico's northern neighbour because the renegotiation of NAFTA initiated by the Trump administration in August 2017 still appears to be on a rather uncertain ground.

However, it remains questionable whether the agreement with the EU achieves sustainable economic growth also beneficial for the workers. With a competitiveness based on low wages and weak trade unions the country's position is not very favourable. In addition, profound investments and reforms in infrastructure, research and above all public security are missing. The country has been suffering from severe violence and weak prosecution of human rights violations. Precisely because of the worse security and human rights situation, the government of President Peña Nieto is under pressure and the fight against organised crime is widely considered as failed.

We would like to invite you to a roundtable with our guests who will share their insights on the country's political and economic challenges, the upcoming elections and their impact on the EU-Mexico relations.

English-Spanish interpretation will be provided.

## **Programme**

12h30      *Registration & light lunch*

13h15      *Welcoming remarks*

**Daniela Iller**

Policy Officer, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, EU Office

13h20

**Session One**

*"Mexican perspectives on international trade and labour rights protection"*

*Discussion with*

**Amalia García Medina**

Member of the National Council of the PRD, former Secretary of Labour and Employment in Mexico City

**Luis Foncerrada**

Director General of the Centre for Economic Studies of the Private Sector (CEESP)

**Margarita Darlene Rojas Olvera**

President of the Labour Conciliation and Arbitration Board of Mexico City (JLCA-CDMx)

15h00

**Session Two**

*"Mexico's political future in light of the presidential elections 2018"*

*Discussion with*

**Jorge Romero**

Professor of Political Science, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana

**Lourdes Morales**

Co-Founder and Director of "Red por la Rendición de Cuentas"

*The roundtable will be moderated by*

**Hans Mathieu**

Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Mexico