

Drugs, Security, and Tariffs in Mexico

*Co sponsored with Faculty of Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities,
Canadian International Council, UNBC Department of Ecosystem Science and Management,
UNBC Department of Political Science, and UNBC Wildlife Club*

February 28, 2025

Dr. Vanda Felbab-Brown will lay out the collapse of security in Mexico over the past six years and the expansion of power of Mexican criminal groups. Mexican cartels are controlling ever larger portions of Mexico's territory, people, legal economies (not just illegal ones), and institutions, exerting ever larger power over Mexico's elections as well as expanding internationally across Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Canada. She will discuss how the Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador administration enabled this power expansion through its hugs-not-bullets approach to criminality in Mexico, despite the significant growth of militarization of all public policy in Mexico. She will then lay out the security strategy of the current Mexican government led by President Claudia Sheinbaum and the various plans of the Trump administrations, including the threats of a 25% tariff on Mexico, the designation of Mexican cartels as terrorist organizations, and U.S. unilateral military actions into Mexico as well as implication for the upcoming review of USMCA.



Dr. Vanda Felbab-Brown

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Brookings Institution

When: Friday, February 28 from 12 PM to 1:30 PM
Where: In person (Room 7-152) and by Zoom

Presented by:

Global Friday

UNBC UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Indigenous
Studies, Social Sciences
and Humanities