

# MEXICO'S GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

## Federal Republic

Just like most of the countries that make up the AP Comparative course, Mexico's government structure is modeled after the US to some degree. Mexico has a bicameral legislative branch; an executive named President, and a Supreme Court with lower inferior courts. Mexico follows the tenets of Federalism, and as in the US, political parties get in the way, but it is even a bigger problem south of the border. It is not just efficient decision making that suffers as occurs in American between the Democrats and the GOP once they take office. The system in Mexico has been called "The Perfect Dictatorship" because of the strength of a single political party. Since the beginning of its 1917 Constitution, the PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party) has dominated Mexico's politics, losing the presidency only twice in the last 100 years. The PRI has also promoted rampant corruption. The old adage of "you scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours" definitely applies. For many years, tradition allowed the outgoing president to pick the party's next nominee, and since there was only one viable political party, he was thus picking the next winner for the presidency. There has been some reforms in the last couple of decades that have improved the situation, but one party still dominates the overall process.

# Government

