Presentation title:

Insecurity from State actors: certification and professionalization of police corporations in Mexico

Speaker: Alberto Diaz-Cayeros (Stanford University, USA)

Co-authors: Stephanie Gimenez-Stahlberg (Independent consultant, USA), Beatriz Magaloni (Stanford University, Mexico/USA)

In a first contribution, we present findings of a study of police professionalization and vetting of police forces in Mexico. While much public policy discussion has focused on the recruitment and training of a sufficient number of police elements within police forces, this research highlights the complexity involved in a federal regime, where policing is carried out by municipal, state and federal corporations. It reports on the findings of a qualitative and quantitative study of the incomplete certification process and the roadblocks that explain the difficulty in creating effective and accountable police forces in Mexico.