

# Why Trump Needs to Clean House in Central America

by Steven Hecht



Taxpayers are on the hook for \$750 million annually for five years to Central America, but under current circumstances, US foreign officials will squander the money.

The goal of this “Alliance for Prosperity” is to stabilize the Northern Triangle – Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras – and reduce the need for residents to illegally immigrate to the United States.

However, three successive Guatemalan administrations under [Alliance for Prosperity](#), the Obama administration has used the

funds as leverage to extend a corrupt [forum](#), “The Northern Triangle of Central America: Violence, Security, and Migration.” Considering the participants, especially former Guatemala Attorney General [Department of Homeland Security](#) arrested 530,250 illegal immigrants in fiscal year 2016, an increase of nearly 70,000 from 2015. According to the report, US Border Patrol arrests alone were up 23 percent year to year, and the majority of those arrested hail from Northern Triangle countries.

With a 530-mile border and many crossing points into Mexico, which offers a relatively unimpeded transit, Guatemala is the gateway to the United States for illegal immigrants from Central America and around the world, including the Middle East. Given almost no presence from the Guatemalan government in the nation’s rural areas, particularly those that border Mexico, the pathway to the United States is wide open.

Paz y Paz has been pivotal in this breakdown of the rule of law, and she acquired her position after the Obama administration pressured Guatemala’s highest court to illegally remove her predecessor. She then protected the violent collectivist groups descended from guerrillas and persecuted legitimate authority, [calling](#) Guatemala’s then-president to urge him to re-appoint her protégé.

The nominating commission, comprised mostly of the country’s law-school deans, provided six names to the president from which to choose the attorney general. They did not include Paz y Paz on their list, and that denied her the second term Clinton, Obama, and their collectivist allies wanted.

However, the Obama administration was not done yet.

With Paz y Paz no longer in control of criminal prosecution, the Obama administration obtained the funds for the Alliance for Prosperity and then used them as a [CICIG](#)). Obama's people then had a lever to intimidate government officials and threaten to imprison them. They have succeeded in putting political enemies in jail and allies into the three branches of government, all in the name of fighting corruption and impunity.

In carrying out Obama's collectivist agenda, the current US ambassador, Todd Robinson, has [Tricamex Initiative](#). Their goal is to engage the Trump Administration, and when they do, they should see across the table a US administration committed to helping establish the rule of law, so productive investment can then occur. For this the United States will need ambassadors who follow the rules and have the necessary knowledge and orientation to carry out stated policy goals, unlike Robinson.

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