Pollsters Missing in Michoacan, Mexico

Lincoln (Nebraska, USA), August 3, 2011. The World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR) has learned that interviewers employed by the Mexican polling firms Consulta-Mitofsky and Parametria disappeared in the western state of Michoacan, Mexico, while conducting public opinion polls on 30-31 July. Fortunately, interviewers reappeared three days later.

Conducting fieldwork has become an increasingly complicated activity in Mexican states where certain territories are controlled by drug cartels. WAPOR expresses its professional solidarity with the aforementioned polling firms and exhorts the Mexican authorities to investigate these disappearances thoroughly. WAPOR rejects any impediments to the conducting of polls, particularly those that endanger the personal safety and professional integrity of polling personnel.

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