Mexico

Ernesto Zedillo President of Mexico

Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Léon obtained a doctorate in economics from Yale University after studying at the Mexican National Polytechnic Institute's Advanced School of Economics and in Bradford, England.

Before his career in government, Mr. Zedillo taught economics at the College of Mexico. In 1978, he participated in economic research and analysis of the balance of payments at the Bank of Mexico. In 1982, he was named the bank's assistant manager for economic research.

In 1986, Mr. Zedillo became under-secretary for planning and budgetary control at the Secretariat of Programming and Budgeting. During the administration of President Carlos Salinas, he was Secretary of Programming and Budgeting and Secretary of Public Education.

A member of the Institutional Revolutionary Party for more than 20 years, Mr. Zedillo was named its presidential candidate in March 1994. In December 1994, he became President.

Mr. Zedillo is married to Nilda Patricia Velasco. They have five children.