

BIOGRAPHY

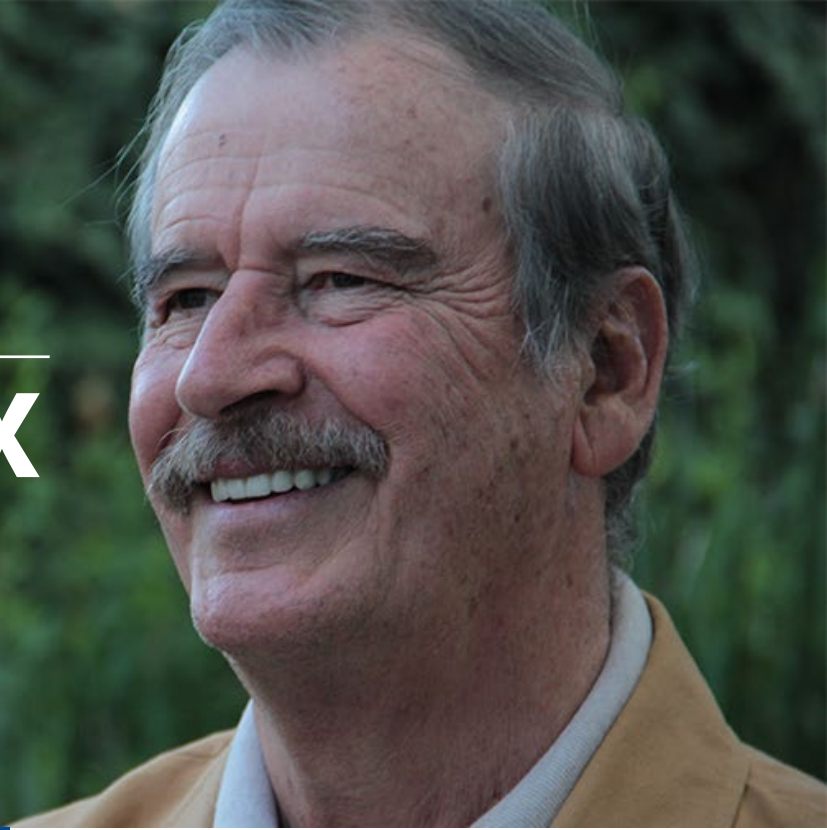
VICENTE FOX QUESADA

Vicente Fox, originally from México City, was born on **July 2, 1942**. He is the second of nine children of the marriage of José Luis Fox, a farmer by trade, and Doña Mercedes Quesada.

As a child, he moved, along with his family, to Rancho San Cristóbal in the municipality of San Francisco del Rincón, in the state of Guanajuato, where he had the opportunity to live with the children of the ejidatarios, share his childhood with them and, according to his own words,

“get to know firsthand one of the evils that can be avoided in our country: poverty.”

Vicente Fox is a kind, respectful, simple and honest person who, through his life on the ranch, has known how to gauge the loyalty of the people and appreciate the great potential that México has to be a great winner.



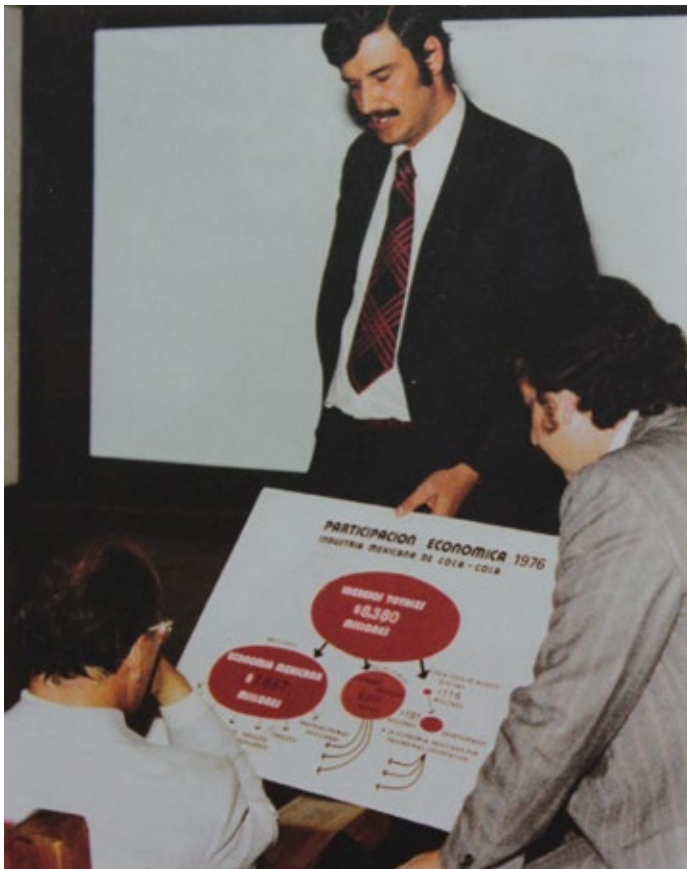
“I know the value of opportunities. I grew up on a common land with the children of peasants and the only difference with my childhood friends are the opportunities that I did have,” he has said at various stages of his life.



He studied Business Administration at the Universidad Iberoamericana, México City campus. From this time, Vicente Fox remembers that his provincial, “rancher” appearance, contrasted with that of his companions.

He completed the Senior Management Diploma, taught by professors at the Harvard Business School.

In 1964 he joined the **Coca-Cola** de México company as a route supervisor. Aboard a delivery truck he had the opportunity to see the most remote places in the country. Due to his performance, he reached the position of president of the company for México and Latin America, being **the youngest manager of the company**.



With the experience acquired, he decided to return to Guanajuato and actively participate in the business, political, social and educational fields, to improve that reality.

As a businessman or as a politician, Vicente Fox Quesada has always sought the common good and equal opportunities.

As a loving father, along with his four adopted children, Ana Cristina, Vicente, Paulina and Rodrigo, he has shared the joy of home and work.

He was President and Founder of the Casa Cuna Amigo Daniel Board of Trustees, an institution where many children receive attention and affection; President of the Loyola Board of Trustees, promoter of the Universidad Iberoamericana, León campus, as well as from the Lux Institute, an educational center where thousands of Guanajuato residents have been trained.

He has served as Counselor of the Mexican-American Chamber of Commerce and as Director of the Fox Group, whose companies - dedicated to the agricultural, livestock and agro-industrial sectors, as well as the production of footwear and cowboy boots for export - generate diverse sources of work.



He joined the **National Action Party (PAN)** in the **1980s**, motivated by Manuel J. Clouthier, whom he has called his political father.

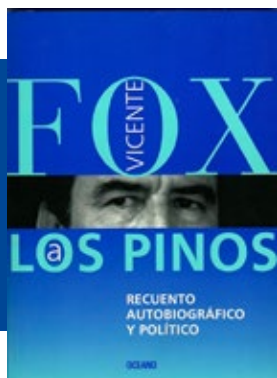
1988 He was elected federal representative for the Third District of León, Guanajuato. In Congress he paid special attention to agricultural issues. At this time, he also wrote in various national and state newspapers.

1991 He competed in the elections for governor of the state of Guanajuato

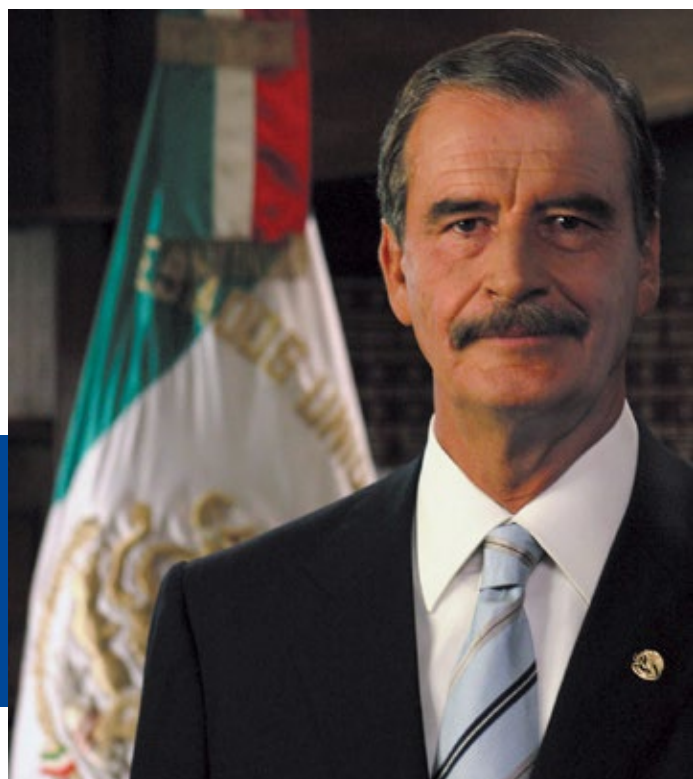
1995 He again participated in the extraordinary election for governor, where he was elected by a significant majority.



During his administration, Vicente Fox gave clear accounts, both in the state's finances and in his personal assets. **He managed to make Guanajuato the fifth most important economy in México.** Due to the good results of his government, he was elected candidate for the Presidency of the Republic as standard bearer of the Alliance for Change (PAN-PVEM), for the **2000** elections.



The autobiographical book "Vicente Fox a Los Pinos" (Mexico, Océano, 2000) summarizes his political thinking and his immense passion for Mexico.



On July 2, Vicente Fox won the elections and, that same day, he committed to

"...integrate a plural, honest and capable government. A government that incorporates the best citizens of this country."

His election marked the end of a period of more than 70 years in which all of México's presidents were members of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). **He was the first president of the democratic transition to emerge from the ranks of the opposition.**

On December 1 of that same year, the President of all Mexicans, Vicente Fox Quesada, in his Message to the Nation, obliged himself to *"continue building a generous country."*

2001 One year after having won the presidential elections, on July 2nd, an important event took place at the official residence of Los Pinos: the civil wedding of Mr. Vicente Fox Quesada, President of the United Mexican States, with Mrs. Marta Sahagún Jiménez, who in this way celebrated three very relevant events: the president's 59th birthday, the first anniversary of the democratic change in México and his marriage.

Today, México is a different country. Mr. Vicente Fox carried out tireless work day after day, to fulfill what he stated in his inauguration speech:

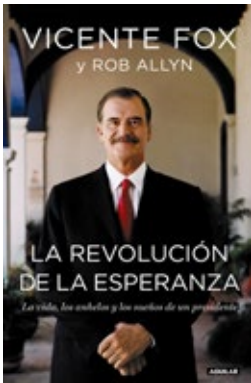
"I am – and will – obliged to continue the efforts of this great nation. To work with passion for those who gave us our homeland, for those who built the México we have today and for those who dreamed of a different, successful and triumphant México."

The most positive legacy in the field of macroeconomics consisted of inflation reduced to a minimum, proximity to budget balance, exchange rate strength of the peso, efficient management of external debt, historically low country risk level and international reserves at the maximum, as well historic, in the order of 73,000 million dollars.



Never in our history have we acted with so much energy through a comprehensive strategy to combat poverty, promote equity and ensure opportunities. The “Oportunidades” strategy allowed social development programs to reach families in the most remote communities and regions like never before.

Thanks to the recognition of the WB, IDB and ECLAC, “opportunities” was replicated in more than 30 countries.



After his presidential term (2000-2006), for the first time in the history of México, a former president decides to remain in the public eye after his term and reveal his experiences as Head of State without censorship. In his book **“The Revolution of Hope”** (México, Aguilar, 2007)

Vicente Fox describes the path that led him to the presidential chair, the history of his family, the root and foundation of the values that motivate his actions, and the wide range of events that led to his conversion from businessman to statesman.

He currently lives on the ranch that his grandfather acquired a century ago. **The bicentennial former Hacienda San Cristóbal is now home to the Study Center, Library and Museum** that bears its name, better known as **Centro Fox**, a place of ideas and thought, as well as the **Fundación Vamos México**, dedicated to combating poverty. chaired by his wife Marta Sahagún.



Today, both continue fighting for México and to contribute their grain of sand, to improve and overcome the shameful reality that is still suffered every day in different areas of our country and Latin America.

Today, Vicente Fox continues riding like Don Quixote to achieve new goals. And he has the conviction that whoever stops doing, stops growing and begins to die, that whoever not keep moving is overtaken by the hangover and by opponents.

During the path he continues to travel, Vicente Fox has received several recognitions for his work and also the following Honoris Causa titles in America and Europe:

- **Doctor Honoris Causa from the Be-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel,** March 2002.
- **Degree of Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, Emory University,** May 11 2009.
- **Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Loyola Marymount University,** Los Angeles, California, May 2009.
- **Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws by International School of Law of IMADEC University,** Vienna, Austria, 2011.
- **Degree Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa by Faculty of Laws of University of Pacific,** Stockton, California, May 2011.
- **DHonoris Causa Doctor from the Technological University of Santiago (UTESA),** Santiago de Caballeros, Dominican Republic, February 2011.

Es miembro del **Club de Madrid**, una organización independiente y sin ánimo de lucro compuesta por 81 ex jefes de Estado y de gobiernos democráticos.

Si hay un camino que guía el sendero de la vida de Vicente Fox, ese camino es, sin duda, el de la consolidación de la democracia y el liderazgo en México y Latinoamérica.