

EMERGING MARKETS FORUM: NAVIGATING IN A FAST AND TURBULENT WORLD



During June I talked about my trip to the World Economic Forum (WEF), where I had the opportunity to attend very interesting conferences and talk with very valuable personalities. However, on that same trip to Europe, I also attended another major, if lesser-known, event: the Emerging Markets Forum (EMF).

Initiated in 2005 by the leaders of the Centennial Group International, the Forum is dedicated to **fostering dialogue on economic, financial, and social issues in emerging economies**. Harinder Kohli is its president and Sylvie Naville its director. I found out about this event through the World Economic Forum, where I met Harinder.

Talks are always interesting, and this was no exception. A conference that caught my attention was on the impact of geopolitics on the world economy. They commented that there are two key factors that have emerged in the post-pandemic world: Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the efforts of central banks to contain inflation. On the other hand, we also **have the challenge of improving global governance, which implies strengthening multilateralism and respecting the law and international treaties**. This is essential if we want to face global challenges such as pandemics and global warming.

Today we are experiencing a major urgency: high food prices and world hunger. For this reason, the subject of agriculture and technology was also discussed, the latter being essential if we wish to successfully face this challenge. Let us remember that **in the sixties many thought that we would face the so-called "Malthusian Trap"**, which says that, while the population grows exponentially, the food supply does so arithmetically. However,

thanks to technological advances we managed to avoid the trap. Today, we must do it again.

A peculiar feature of the Emerging Markets Forum is the publication of a book, which talks about the state the world is in and, even more so, will be in. The latest edition, entitled *Envisioning 2060: Opportunities and Risks for Emerging Markets*, was recently published. It is a remarkable book, with a clear emphasis on the future of emerging markets (Mexico included), **where a general panorama is depicted of the future of the underdeveloped world.** However, it is also a meticulous book, as it discusses environmental challenges, the very welcome expansion of the middle classes, and the historic urbanization of the world, among many other topics.

Inspired by the publication of this book, we decided, during the 2012 presidential election, **to publish one for Mexico that spoke of the challenges facing our country and how to solve them:** *A Future for Everyone: Immediate Actions for Mexico*. The coordinators were Harinder Kohli and Claudio Loser and, although it was published a few years ago, I highly recommend its reading, since it is still a current book, written by brilliant minds, and designed for our future.

Events like the Emerging Markets Forum are of great importance, because they build avenues for discussion and reasonable debate, bring together highly knowledgeable people on a variety of topics, and have an impact on public policy in countries around the world. That is why it is always a pleasure to attend these forums and, even more so, to be a bridge between these meetings, our country and you.

