

Bill Gates: Tec produces world-class engineers



Using [Tec de Monterrey](#) as an example, **Bill Gates**, philanthropist and founder of [Microsoft](#), suggested that **Mexico** should **focus on education** as the **key** to its future **development**.

*“Undoubtedly, **education** is the **first step** towards developing a country. Mexico has places like **Tecnológico de Monterrey**, which produces **world-class engineers**”,* said Gates in an interview with journalist **Andrés Oppenheimer**.

Gates said this when asked directly what **advice** he would give to **President Andrés Manuel López Obrador** on how to make Mexico grow if he had the opportunity.

The co-founder of the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#) believes that **education should be prioritized** over oil extraction.

*“The educational system in Mexico is very weak. Having a **good educational system** is **much more important** than getting oil out of the ground.”*

<https://twitter.com/oppenheimera/status/1366121826062127107> **“Mexico can have a very bright future.”**

Gates said that although hydrocarbons are very important to the country’s economy, **education** can provide Mexico with a **bright future**.

“A good educational system allows you to have informed citizens, with full lives. Education represents more than money.

*“Mexico can have a **very bright future** without oil, because **its main resource is its people.**”*

*“Mexico has places like **Tecnológico de Monterrey**, which produces world-class engineers.”*

He said that countries will have to move away from the **expectation** of making **money** through the sale of **oil** or **natural gas**.

*“It will be an **environmental challenge** for Russia, for Nigeria, for Mexico,”* said Gates.

The [interview](#) with the journalist from **CNN en Español** took place on February 14, shortly after Gates published the book **“How to Avoid a Climate Disaster”**, in which he explains the importance of using **renewable energy** sources.



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Rethinking society

In August 2020, [Gates had a virtual chat](#) with **José Antonio Fernández**, chairman of the **Tec de Monterrey** Board of Directors.

In the “**Rethinking Society**” conversation, Fernández highlighted that Gates had shown himself to be “a true visionary” by predicting for quite some time that the world needed to prepare for a possible pandemic.

*“We have to identify **where the risks are**. There are some, like **pandemics** or **climate change**, where we don’t know exactly how bad they can get or when they might happen. That is why we have to **invest in the future**,”* said Gates.

During the talk, which was watched by around 14,000 members of the Tec community, he also reiterated the importance of education for a better future.

*“**It’s a great moment for progress and education**. In a couple of years, we’ll have passed through this and we’ll use all this innovation to rebuild something better in areas such as **medicines** and **online education**,”* he shared.

Here’s Gates’ conversation with the Tec Community:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=961410937687231>

Gates, now **65**, founded technology company **Microsoft** in **1975**. He is believed to be one of the richest men in the world, according to **Forbes**.

Through the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**, he has worked on various projects in recent years, such as the eradication of polio and the search for **vaccines** against **malaria** or **HIV**.

He is also leader of the [Breakthrough Energy](#) initiative, focusing on the commercialization of **clean energy** and technologies related to the **environment**.

For Juan Pablo Murra, Rector of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies at the Tec, it was important that **students** had the opportunity to **ask Gates** for **his advice to them** about facing global challenges.

“He spoke to our young people about supporting or joining institutions, governments, or philanthropic causes that have a long-term vision,” the rector shared on his social media.

YOU’LL DEFINITELY WANT TO READ THIS TOO:

<https://tec.mx/en/news/national/institution/great-era-progress-and-education-bill-gates-tec>