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Mexico: The Social Democratic Alternative Party (Partido Alternativa Socialdemócrata, PAS) in the State of Nuevo León, including elections that may have been held within the party in 2006 or 2007
Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa

According to Mexico's Federal Electoral Institution (Instituto Federal Electoral, IFE), the Social Democratic and Peasant Alternative Party (Partido Alternativa Socialdemócrata y Campesina, PASC) was registered as a political party on 14 July 2005 (Mexico 21 Aug. 2009). Moreover, the IFE indicates that the General Council (Consejo General) twice authorized changes in name for the party: it officially became the Social Democratic Alternative Party (Partido Alternativa Socialdemócrata, PAS) on 21 June 2007, and then the Social Democratic Party (Partido Socialdemócrata, PSD) on 29 September 2008 (ibid.). On 21 August 2009, the Social Democratic Party officially lost its status as a registered political party (Mexico 31 Aug. 2009, 2; *Diario de Yucatán* 20 July 2009).

According to an article published in *Chronique des Amériques*, the State of Nuevo León and some other Mexican states held elections on 2 July 2006, at the same time as the national elections (Flores Andrade July 2006, 3; Mexico n.d.). In the State of Nuevo León, the objective of the elections was to elect members of parliament and mayors (Flores Andrade July 2006, 4; Nuevo León 2006a). Information on the participation of the PAS in those elections could not be found among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate.

According to the website of the Information Agency (Agencia informativa) at the University of Monterrey (Universidad de Monterrey, UDEM), in 2006, the PASC leadership in the State of Nuevo León was assumed by Sabino Loredo Esquivel (UDEM 2006). Moreover, the website of the Electoral Commission of the State of Nuevo León (Comisión Estatal Electoral de Nuevo León, CEE-NL) indicates that Juan Manuel Gamboa Domínguez was the representative of the political party before the Commission on 2 July 2006 and that Enrique Zárate Saavedra acted as its alternate member (Nuevo León 2006b).

Further information on the leadership of the PAS in Nuevo León or on the internal elections that were reportedly held in 2006 or 2007 could not be found among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate.

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection. Please find below the list of sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

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Additional Sources Consulted

Internet sites, including: Mexico - Gobierno del Estado de Nuevo León, Mexico - Secretaría de Gobernación, Partido Socialdemócrata de Nuevo León.

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