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<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2016/09/28/who-would-be-trumps-ambassador-to-mexico/>

**Who would be Trump’s ambassador to Mexico?**

Don’t laugh — it’s a serious question.

Who would fill the hardest position in a Trump administration? Not Twitter stenographer. Not presidential hairdresser. We’re talking about the man or woman who is going to get Mexico to pay for The Wall.

Career diplomats have typically filled the post of U.S. ambassador to Mexico since the 1990s. The current ambassador, Roberta Jacobson, was just confirmed in April, but could find her tenure cut short if Trump wins the White House.

[[Former Mexican president: Trump’s debate performance should alarm world leaders](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2016/09/27/former-mexican-president-trumps-debate-performance-should-alarm-world-leaders/)]

Both diplomats and establishment Republicans are going to be hesitant to take that role. Carlos Gutierrez, President George W. Bush’s second Commerce secretary? He endorsed Hillary Clinton. Rosario Marin, Bush’s Treasurer from 2001 to 2003? She also endorsed Clinton. Hector Barreto, chairman of the Latino Coalition and former head of the Small Business Administration? He called Trump’s negligible support from Hispanics a “[catastrophe in the making](http://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/republican-latinos-opting-out-rnc-convention-or-going-less-backing-n601041).”

A few names are popping up in conversations among Hispanic GOP activists. One is former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who defended Trump after he questioned Judge Gonzalo Curiel’s impartiality in presiding over a suit involving Trump University. Another lesser known but intriguing possibility is Al Zapanta, CEO of the U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce.

Zapanta, a Purple Heart recipient during the Vietnam War, apparently had no fear while giving Trump an earful on NAFTA and Hispanic patriotism at a closed-door meeting in New York on August 20. And most importantly, according to people in the room, Trump seemed to listen.

[[Inside Mexico’s bizarre decision to invite Trump](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/the-behind-the-scenes-skirmishing-that-resulted-in-mexicos-invitation-to-trump/2016/09/02/2a02037a-1288-4c4c-9877-135f098e7905_story.html)]

“I was like, ‘Damn, Al,'” said Jacob Monty, a former member of Trump’s Hispanic Advisory Council. “He came in with these issues at the end — told Trump NAFTA is a job creator in Texas, that not all Hispanics are recent arrivals. He would be someone to listen to on these issues.”

The final name getting chatter is — again, don’t laugh — Rudy Giuliani, who met alongside Trump with Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto.

“He knows Mexico City and its security challenges from after 9/11,” Monty said. “And let’s face it, Trump’s positions sound better from him.”

We’ll take your word for it.