

# US Wall Could End Species: Sarukhán

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Biologist José Sarukhán Kermez, the Tyler 2017 Prize, criticized the project of the United States wall because, in addition to limiting the passage of people, it blocks the free movement of the fauna of the zone, reason why for some populations could mean the extinction .

After receiving the award for his work in favor of biodiversity, the scientist broke the protocol at the ceremony and used to criticize the policy of US President Donald Trump and specifically the wall he intends to raise on the Mexican border.

He said that such action is a threat to collaborative science and biodiversity in that region, because species such as jaguars "will not be able to move freely in their original territories and if this wall of nonsense is built would lead to genetic isolation."

Moreover, given the attitude of the new US administration to ignore the existence of phenomena such as climate change, the ecologist called on citizens "not to remain silent when people in positions of power ignore overwhelming scientific evidence."

The former Rector of the UNAM recognized the important influence of science in the formation of economic opportunities and the advance of democracy in the United States, but also noted how that influence has always been at the mercy of policy makers.

"People in positions of power have written and ruled out laws and regulations for a long time, but none of us has the power to rewrite the laws of nature that govern the process of life and its evolution on this planet. Option," he said.

The general coordinator of the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (Conabio) acknowledged that "life will certainly not disappear, no matter how much we ignore the evidence of what we are doing and how many public policies we adopt without meaning."

I will assure you that all life will evolve and be restored in new forms and conditions, as it is for eons, however the

conditions for human life will be below what most consider as worthy.

He reiterated that the consumption of the world's renewable productivity has increased so ruthlessly "that we are consuming the legacy of future generations."

As a result, the loss of ecosystems that make possible the environmental services we "receive and the intangible benefits that have enriched us" is irreversible.

Therefore, he urged the scientists to avoid being in the silence and to watch over the biodiversity to which he owes so much.