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# Presidentialism And Democracy In Latin America

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Presidentialism and Democracy in Latin America  
Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics Book  
Launch: Participatory Innovation and  
Representative Democracy in Latin America  
Political Scientist David Altman on Democracy in  
Latin America Milan Svobik: Polarization and the  
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The Paradox of Democracy in Latin America  
Institutions on the Edge  
Routledge Handbook of Latin American Politics  
The Difficult Equation  
Presidentialism, Multiparty Systems, and  
Democracy  
Presidents, Parties, and Prime Ministers  
Dictators and Democrats  
Masses, Elites, and Regime Change

*Presidentialism  
And Democracy  
In Latin  
America*      *OMB No.  
9719416385852  
edited by*

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**GLOVER PERKINS**

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**PRESIDENTIALISM,  
PARLIAMENTARISM,  
AND DEMOCRACY**

Cambridge University  
Press

More than thirty years  
have passed since  
Latin America began  
the arduous task of  
transitioning from  
military-led rule to  
democracy. In this  
time, more countries  
have moved toward  
the institutional bases  
of democracy than at

any time in the  
region's history. Nearly  
all countries have held  
free, competitive  
elections and most  
have had peaceful  
alternations in power  
between opposing  
political forces. Despite  
these advances,  
however, Latin  
American countries  
continue to face  
serious domestic and  
international  
challenges to the  
consolidation of stable  
democratic  
governance. The  
challenges range from  
weak political  
institutions, corruption,

legacies of militarism, transnational crime, and globalization among others. In the second edition of *Latin American Democracy* contributors – both academics and practitioners, North Americans, Latin Americans, and Spaniards—explore and assess the state of democratic consolidation in Latin America by focusing on the specific issues and challenges confronting democratic governance in the region. This thoroughly updated revision provides new chapters on: the environment, decentralization, the economy, indigenous groups, and the role of China in the region.

**Ten Country Studies of Division and Resilience** JHU Press

This book tackles the

perennial debate about whether presidentialism is associated with democratic breakdown. We find evidence that presidentialism could contribute instabilities to a democratic system, though it does not directly follow that those instabilities will trigger a democratic breakdown.

*The Success of Presidentialism?*

Springer

Finally, given that studies of multiparty presidentialism outside Latin America are still rare, this study contributes to enlargement of the data set of multiparty presidential systems in the world.

**Legislative Politics in Latin America**

Oxford University Press

This book provides the first cross-regional

study of an increasingly important form of politics: coalitional presidentialism. Drawing on original research of minority presidents in the democratising and hybrid regimes of Armenia, Benin, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Kenya, Malawi, Russia, and Ukraine, it seeks to understand how presidents who lack single party legislative majorities build and manage cross-party support in legislative assemblies. It develops a framework for analysing this phenomenon, and blends data from MP surveys, detailed case studies, and wider legislative and political contexts, to analyse systematically the tools that presidents deploy to manage their

coalitions. The authors focus on five key legislative, cabinet, partisan, budget, and informal (exchange of favours) tools that are utilised by minority presidents. They contend that these constitute the 'toolbox' for coalition management, and argue that minority presidents will act with imperfect or incomplete information to deploy tools that provide the highest return of political support with the lowest expenditure of political capital. In developing this analysis, the book assembles a set of concepts, definitions, indicators, analytical frameworks, and propositions that establish the main parameters of coalitional presidentialism. In this

way, Coalitional Presidentialism in Comparative Perspective provides crucial insights into this mode of governance. Oxford Studies in Democratization is a series for scholars and students of comparative politics and related disciplines. Volumes concentrate on the comparative study of the democratization process that accompanied the decline and termination of the cold war. The geographical focus of the series is primarily Latin America, the Caribbean, Southern and Eastern Europe, and relevant experiences in Africa and Asia. The series editor is Laurence Whitehead, Senior

Research Fellow, Nuffield College, University of Oxford.

### **Making Presidentialism**

**Work** University of Pittsburgh Pre

This new textbook provides students with a comprehensive and accessible introduction to the presidents and presidential leadership in Latin America.

Unlike other texts, Presidents and Democracy in Latin America integrates both political analysis and major theoretical perspectives with extensive country-specific material. Part One examines the developments in recent years in Latin American presidentialism and identifies different characteristics of society and politics which have influenced Latin American

governments. The personalization of political life and of presidential government help to illustrate the character of Latin American politics, specifically on the type of political career of those who occupied the presidential office, the leadership style of these presidents and the type of government which they led. Part Two studies two presidents in each of six countries in the region which reflect the broad trends in the political and electoral life: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru. Each case study first provides the biographical background of the president; it outlines the political career of the president both

inside and outside of a party, including at the local level; the popularity of the president at the time of the presidential election is given, as well as the mode of selection of the candidates (selection by party leaders only, by party members or by a primary). The relation of the president with the government or ministers, especially if there is a coalition government, is detailed. This textbook will be essential reading for all students of Latin American Politics and is highly recommended for those studying executive politics, political leadership, and the state of democratic governance in Latin America. Checking the President

in a Multiparty System

Cambridge University Press

Richard Snyder's study offers an analysis of politics after neoliberalism.

### **FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS IN LATIN AMERICA**

Cambridge University Press

In 2009, Ignacio Walker—scholar, politician, and one of Latin America's leading public intellectuals—published *La Democracia en América Latina*. Now available in English, with a new prologue, and significantly revised and updated for an English-speaking audience, *Democracy in Latin America: Between Hope and Despair* contributes to the necessary and urgent task of

exploring both the possibilities and difficulties of establishing a stable democracy in Latin America. Walker argues that, throughout the past century, Latin American history has been marked by the search for responses or alternatives to the crisis of oligarchic rule and the struggle to replace the oligarchic order with a democratic one. After reviewing some of the principal theories of democracy based on an analysis of the interactions of political, economic, and social factors, Walker maintains that it is primarily the actors, institutions, and public policies—not structural determinants—that create progress or regression in Latin



American democracy. *Democracy, Dictatorship, and Term Limits* University of Michigan Press  
 In this pioneering study of democratization in Argentina, Leslie Anderson challenges Robert Putnam's thesis that democracy requires high levels of social capital. She demonstrates in *Democratization by Institutions* that formal institutions (e.g., the executive, the legislature, the courts) can serve not only as operational parts within democracy but as the driving force toward democracy. As Anderson astutely observes, the American founders debated the merits of the institutions they were creating. Examining how, and how well, Argentina's American-

style institutional structure functions, she considers the advantages and risks of the separation of powers, checks and balances, legislative policymaking, and strong presidential power. During the democratic transition, the Argentinian state has used institutions to address immediate policy challenges in ways responsive to citizens and thereby to provide a supportive environment in which social capital can develop. By highlighting the role that institutions can play in leading a nation out of authoritarianism, even when social capital is low, Anderson begins a new conversation about the possibilities of democratization. *Democratization by*

Institutions has much to say not only to Latin Americanists and scholars of democratization but also to those interested in the U.S.

constitutional structure and its application in other parts of the world.

### **Political Instability and Economic Vulnerability**

University of Toronto Press

This is the third of four volumes compiled in honor of Juan J. Linz and edited by H. E. Chehabi, Richard Gunther, Alfred Stepan, and Arturo Valenzuela. Each volume presents original research and theoretical essays by Linz's distinguished collaborators, students, teachers, and friends, as well as overviews of his enormous contributions to

Spanish and Latin American studies, comparative politics, and sociology. In Volume III, leading Latin American scholars evaluate Juan Linz's contribution to the study of Latin American politics, in particular his influence on studies dealing with authoritarianism, democratic breakdown, public opinion, regime transition, and the institutional conditions needed for stable democracy.

The Paradox of Democracy in Latin

America JHU Press

David J. Samuels and Matthew S. Shugart provide the first systematic analysis of how democratic constitutional design shapes party politics. Institutions on the Edge Univ of California Press

What explains variance in presidential power between countries? In *Presidential Power in Latin America*, Dan Berbezel provides a general, systematic theory for explaining presidential power in practice as opposed to presidential power in theory. Using expert survey data from Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) alongside interviews with high-level figures in politics, the judiciary, the public administration, NGOs, and academia in Argentina and Chile, Berbezel argues that constitutional presidential power (formal power) is a very poor predictor of presidential power in practice (informal power). Given the poor predictive value of formal rules, he provides an

explanation why hyperpresidentialism emerges in some countries but not in others. Berbezel attributes the root causes of hyperpresidentialism to three independent variables (weak state institutions, the size of the president's party in congress, and a history of economic crises) which together determine how likely it is that a president will be able to concentrate power. *Presidential Power in Latin America* will be of key interest to scholars and students of executive politics, Latin American politics and more broadly comparative politics.

**ROUTLEDGE  
HANDBOOK OF  
LATIN AMERICAN**

## POLITICS

Routledge Latin America has seen a great extension of democratic government over the past twenty years. However democratisation has proved problematic in a number of ways: many Latin American countries have seen little per capita growth; poverty has increased; and political crises have often recurred. The idea of the 'Washington consensus' - that democracy, free markets and prosperity would go together in the region - has so far failed. In the first part of the book, George Philip identifies the reasons why this should be so. The chapters are organised around relevant

historical and institutional factors, such as problems with law enforcement and political tensions inherent in some Latin American variants of presidentialism, authoritarian legacies and patrimonial bureaucracies, civil-military relations, market reform and international intervention. Globalization has exacerbated these difficulties, since it has aggravated the already acute problems of governance facing emerging democracies. The second part of the book explores these issues in relation to a series of case studies involving Peru, Mexico and Venezuela. This will be an ideal textbook for students taking courses in Latin American politics and

Latin American  
Studies.

**The Difficult  
Equation** Inter-  
American Development  
Bank

The Politics of Exile in  
Latin America provides  
a systematic analysis  
of exile as a  
mechanism of  
institutional exclusion  
and its historical  
development.

Presidentialism,  
Multiparty Systems,  
and Democracy

Harvard Univ David  
Rockefeller

The late twentieth  
century witnessed the  
birth of an impressive  
number of new  
democracies in Latin  
America. This wave of  
democratization since  
1978 has been by far  
the broadest and most  
durable in the history  
of Latin America, but  
many of the resulting  
democratic regimes

also suffer from  
profound deficiencies.  
What caused  
democratic regimes to  
emerge and survive?  
What are their main  
achievements and  
shortcomings? This  
volume offers an  
ambitious and  
comprehensive  
overview of the  
unprecedented  
advances as well as  
the setbacks in the  
post-1978 wave of  
democratization. It  
seeks to explain the  
sea change from a  
region dominated by  
authoritarian regimes  
to one in which openly  
authoritarian regimes  
are the rare exception,  
and it analyzes why  
some countries have  
achieved striking gains  
in democratization  
while others have  
experienced erosions.  
The book presents  
general theoretical

arguments about what causes and sustains democracy and analyses of nine compelling country cases.

### **Presidents, Parties, and Prime Ministers**

#### Polity

Latin America has been one of the critical areas in the study of comparative politics.

The region's experiments with installing and deepening democracy and promoting alternative modes of economic development have generated intriguing and enduring empirical puzzles. In turn, Latin America's challenges continue to spawn original and vital work on central questions in comparative politics: about the origins of democracy; about the relationship between

state and society; about the nature of citizenship; about the balance between state and market. The richness and diversity of the study of Latin American politics makes it hard to stay abreast of the developments in the many sub-literatures of the field. The Routledge Handbook of Latin American Politics offers an intellectually rigorous overview of the state of the field and a thoughtful guide to the direction of future scholarship. Kingstone and Yashar bring together the leading figures in the study of Latin America to present extensive empirical coverage, new original research, and a cutting-edge examination of the central areas of inquiry in the region.

## DICTATORS AND DEMOCRATS

Cambridge University  
Press

Documents the emergence of a pattern of political instability in Latin America. Traditional military coups have receded in the region, but elected presidents are still ousted from power as a result of recurrent crises. Aníbal Pérez-Liñán shows that presidential impeachment has become the main constitutional instrument employed by civilian elites to depose unpopular rulers. Based on detailed comparative research in five countries and extensive historical information, the book explains why crises without breakdown

have become the dominant form of instability in recent years and why some presidents are removed from office while others survive in power. The analysis emphasizes the erosion of presidential approval resulting from corruption and unpopular policies, the formation of hostile coalitions in Congress, and the role of investigative journalism. This book challenges classic assumptions in studies of presidentialism and provides important insights for the fields of political communication, democratization, political behaviour, and institutional analysis. Masses, Elites, and Regime Change U of Nebraska Press  
Ten leading scholars of

the region present original research to argue that theories of democratic consolidation or institutionalization are too often Euro- and ethno-centric; that simple appeals for greater participation are insufficient; and that recent critics of populism, patronage, and presidentialism fail to capture new opportunities for democracies in the region.

#### Advances and

Setbacks University of Notre Dame Press

While many comparative analysts see parliamentary government as essential for stable democracy, this volume argues that the American presidential system that separates and diffuses power can provide new

perspectives for those building democratic institutions in Latin America, Eastern Europe, and the new republics of the former Soviet Union. The authors recognize risks of rigidity, gridlock, and excessive centralization in presidential institutions. But they also emphasize the unexpected levels of legislative productivity during periods of divided government, the dramatic reversal of declining popularity by Presidents Reagan and Clinton, and the importance of direct appeals by presidents to the nation. After examining the American presidential system, the authors focus on the de-facto separation of powers in European parliaments and presidentialism in



France, Latin America, and Eastern Europe. Both trends in European parliamentary systems and the dramatic changes within French presidential institutions suggest that scholars should temper broad generalizations about presidential or parliamentary government.

### **Making Brazil Work**

Presidentialism and Democracy in Latin America

What becomes clear throughout is that there is a paradox at the heart of Latin America's democracies. Despite decades of struggle to replace authoritarian dictatorships with electoral democracies, solid economic growth (leading up to the global credit crisis), and increased efforts

by the state to extend the benefits of peace and prosperity to the poor, democracy - as a political system - is experiencing declining support, and support for authoritarianism is on the rise.

### **Political Institutions, Actors, and Arenas in Latin American Policymaking**

Cambridge University Press

"With a superb cast of contributors and a well-chosen sample of countries, *The Failure of Presidential Democracy* treats a central issue in the world today, as more and more countries try to construct durable democracies. It also reflects the new emphasis in political science on institutions, an area that has been sorely neglected in Latin American studies.

Indeed, the book fills a huge informational and analytical gap on institutional arrangements in Latin American political systems. This is a stimulating, thoughtful, and relevant book-well

suited to classroom use in courses on comparative politics and Latin American politics."-Paul W. Drake, University of California, San Diego. Complete Edition.

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