

ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

SOUSA BRAGA, María do Socorro, RODRIGUES-SILVEIRA, Rodrigo and BORGES, Tiago
ORGANIZATION, TERRITORY AND PARTY SYSTEM: TERRITORIAL DIFFUSION
OF PARTY ORGANIZATION AND ITS POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON THE STRUCTURE
OF THE PARTY SYSTEM IN BRAZIL
América Latina Hoy, 62, December 2012, pp. 15-45

What is the territorial pattern of Brazilian political parties? What kind of relation this spatiality present with the party system? In order to answer these questions, this articles focus on three main objectives. Firstly, it will investigate the systematic pattern of political organization and affiliation in Brazilian municipalities. Secondly, it will perform an exploratory analysis of the spatial distribution of the political parties' organization in Brazil. Third, it will produce some tentative hypotheses concerning the causal relations between party organization, party system structure, and electoral performance. Theoretically, this work will be based on the work of Panebianco (2005 [1988]), as well as it will employ extensively some more recent analyses such as those from Katz and Mair (1995) and Gunther and Diamond (2003). The methodology used will, most of all, perform an exploratory spatial data analysis (ESDA). The results reveal that there were a constant movement towards expansion of party affiliation in Brazilian territory and it is manifested through a structural difference between large (with national territorial coverage) and small parties (mostly regional) in terms of party organization.

Key words: Brazilian political parties, party territoriality, spatial analysis, party affiliation.

SCHERLIS, Gerardo

APPOINTMENTS AND PARTY ORGANIZATIONS: NETWORK GOVERNMENTAL PARTY
IN KIRCHNERISTA PERONISM

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This article contributes to the understanding of the organizational structures of peronism, Argentine dominant political force, on the basis of a study on partisan appointments. It presents the main findings of a research on the scope, the workings, the motivations, and the criteria of partisan appointments in the Argentine state, with particular attention to Néstor Kirchner administration (2003-2007). The more general argument contends that appointments became in this period a crucial tool to control the state apparatus while, at the same time, they made it possible to renovate Peronist partisan elites under the leadership of the president. The data, obtained from a large series of expert interviews, make it possible to offer a new theoretical framework for the understanding of party-government linkages in contemporary Argentine democracy.

Key words: appointments, Kirchner, peronism, government, network party, Argentina.

MICELI KERBAUY, María Teresa and ASUMPCÃO, Raiane

ORGANIZATIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY PARTY OF THE BRAZILIAN STATE
OF SÃO PAULO

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The article represents a theoretical and methodological approach to the analysis of organizational dynamics of political parties today, based on a study of the Party of Brazilian Social Democracy (PSDB) in the State of São Paulo (period between 1988 to 2006). It is hypothesized that the structure and the institutional rules of a particular party, or even their election results, are insufficient to explain the inner workings, such as the role of party organization in the electoral system. An approach that articulates the relationship patterns, election results and posts held in the party, identified the factors that explain the political capital that circulated within the party and ensured its organizational dynamics over the period analyzed.

Key words: political party, social network analysis, PSDB-SP, organizational dynamics, political capital.

PRATS, Mariana

CONTRADICTING FORECASTS: NEITHER INCLUSION NOR DECENTRALIZATION IS WORTHY!
CANDIDATES' SELECTION IN POLITICAL PARTIES IN ARGENTINA
América Latina Hoy, 62, December 2012, pp. 103-130

Studying parties as organizations, «enlighten inside» is an unfinished challenge in Latin America. It is pretended to contribute analysing candidate selection procedures in Argentina, a case which demonstrates that are not organizational decentralization neither more inclusion in *selectorates* the reasons for more competitive candidate selection procedures. We present two hypotheses: thinking democratization of candidate selection as inclusiveness is not enough, it is compulsory to consider the competition dimension; and decentralization implies more competitive parties only if their internal organization does not correspond directly to a formal territorial distribution of power and if they are institutionalized according to democratic principles. Both will be tested regarding lists conformation for 2011 elections, analysing differences in parties' actions and strategies in different districts depending on charges contested and levels of government; and this will be compared to the one made the previous election.

Key words: political parties, candidate selection, Argentina, decentralization, inclusiveness, competitiveness.

MARTÍN REYES, Javier

THE PARTY MEMBERS' COURT: JUDICIAL CONTROL OVER INTRAPARTY DISPUTES IN MEXICO
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Between 1997 and 2003, in a series of relevant cases, the Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch (ECFJB) increased its capacity to adjudicate intraparty disputes. This paper explains how the ECFJB, without a supporting legislation, was able to establish a direct and far reaching control over intraparty disputes such as the election of party leaders, the selection of candidates, or the punishment of party members. Following a strategic behavior approach, I will provide empirical evidence to prove that there was a negative correlation between the level of judicial control over the parties' internal life, on the one hand, and the vulnerability of the ECFJB from the legislature and party leaders, on the other.

Key words: judicial behavior, intraparty disputes, parties' internal affairs, electoral justice, ECFJB.

LEVINE, Daniel and MOLINA, José Enrique
 QUALITY OF DEMOCRACY IN VENEZUELA
América Latina Hoy, 62, December 2012, pp. 157-175

Discussions of democracy in contemporary Venezuela lack a settled definition of the subject, how to study it, or indeed of what counts as «democracy» in the first place. The regime has been described as everything from participatory democracy, hybrid, mixed, and personalist to populist, illiberal, or no longer democratic but rather competitive authoritarian. The goal of this article is to measure the quality of democracy in Venezuela, within the terms of a procedural concept of democracy as detailed in our earlier work. Empirical measurement of the quality of democracy on five dimensions (electoral choice, participation, responsiveness, accountability, sovereignty) reveals a low level overall and deep institutional weakness under a personalist leadership, with little change from 2005 to 2010. Future scenarios, after the 2012 presidential election result, include reinforcement of authoritarian trends, open militarization, liberalization and institutional strengthening, or long term volatility and polarized conflict. All scenarios are contingent on the health of President Chávez, who is a central unifying factor for his movement and regime.

Key words: Venezuela, quality of democracy, scenarios, Chávez, authoritarianism.

ARUGUETE, Natalia and AMADEO, Belén
 FRAMING CRIME: MORAL PANIC IN ARGENTINE NEWSPAPERS
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Carolina Píparo was shot a few minutes after withdrawing cash from a bank branch. This case outraged the public opinion because she was eight months pregnant at the moment of the assault. She had to undergo a caesarean section and her baby only survived one week. Through an exploratory and inductive research we will analyze how the Argentine newspapers presented the case. We aim at elaborating a content analysis code book that can be validated in future similar researches on the subject. We apply the Framing theory in order to detect the frames used in the news coverage and to observe if they are compatible with the idea of «moral panic» proposed by Stanley Cohen.

Key words: Framing, moral panic, lack of safety, mass media, Argentina.