

ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

PICARELLA, Lucía

DEMOCRACY, PUBLIC OPINION AND FOREIGN POLITICS IN SPAIN

Revista Enfoques, 15, December 2011, pp. 21-42

This article analyses the delicate connection existing between domestic and foreign policy on the one hand and public opinion, on the other, through an excursus of main events which have taken place in Spain from the time of Franco to the second legislature of Zapatero. Through historical and political reconstruction, using supporting data, reflection has been formulated on a system that has undergone deep transformations. Such changes have placed Spain within the same league as other European powers on a relatively short period, enabling the country to attain the status of a regional power. Yet, the question remains as to whether Spanish public opinion has always accepted the foreign policy choices its leaders have taken.

Keywords: Spain, foreign politics, public opinion

KARAKAYA, Ahmet

THE BACHELET'S GOVERNMENT FINISHED WITHOUT A QUOTA LAW

Revista Enfoques, 15, December 2011, pp. 43-52

This paper presents a comparison between women's political representation in the legislative power in Chile and Latina America. The formulation of some of the reasons –economic, cultural and institutional– for this low level of political representation of women in legislative offices in Chile is followed by an analysis of the quota law that appears to be a solution to overcome institutional reasons for this scarce representation.

Keywords: Quota law, women's political participation

VALDEZ ZEPEDA, Andrés; Huerta Franco, Delia A. y Aguilar Aldrete, Arturo
MUSIC IN THE CAMPAIGNS AND EFFECT ON VOTERS' BEHAVIOR. THE CASE FOR
BARACK OBAMA PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN
Revista Enfoques, 15, December 2011, pp. 53-73

The paper addresses the role that music plays in electoral campaigns in general, particular emphasis is placed on Barack Obama's presidential campaign in 2008. The paper also presents the use of musical accompaniment as part of the strategies of candidates and political parties and at the same time analyzes their strategies and the effect of music on the behaviour of voters. The paper concludes that music is used as a strategy of persuasion aimed at voters due to its ability to generate different psychological reactions in people, so as to influence their voting, to modify their cognitive state or their emotional mood.

Keywords: music, campaign effects, behaviour of the voter, Obama, USA, 2008.

GARAY VERA, Cristián
THE TERRITORIAL CHILEAN IMAGINATION AND THE APOTHEOSIS OF THE CHILEAN
NAVY 1888-1940. ANOTHER LOOK TO THE "NATURAL" LIMITS
Revista Enfoques, 15, December 2011, pp. 75-95

This article deals with Chilean territorial consolidation within placed within the framework of a cultural history, seen through the "political imaginery" of Chilean élite. Using a literary rhetoric they visualised Chile as an unfinished project. Taking the republican period as reference, the author holds that the notions of Nationhood made by poets and chroniclers from the colonial period were used as benchmarks, and that the relation between the literature and the politics did not die out. The notion is one of popular nationalism, in a style as exposed by Benedict Anderson (1983), who creates imaginery and mostly uses the Chilean Armada as flagship of this imagery. This is a republican nation-building exercise that looses ground on consolidating sovereignty in its outer frontiers and once the capacity of the Navy gives way to new technological means, such as airpower. For the author the notion of boxed-in Chile, enclosed within four large territorial landmarks (the mountains, ocean, desert and southern channels) was not "natural" and undertaken from the Central Valley as a way to provide meaning.

Keywords: nationalism, territory, sovereignty

RAMÍREZ-ALUJAS, Álvaro V.
OPEN GOVERNMENT AND MODERNIZATION OF PUBLIC MANAGEMENT: CURRENT
TRENDS AND THE (INEVITABLE) WAY AHEAD. SEMINAL REFLECTIONS
Revista Enfoques, 15, December 2011, pp. 99-125

The concept of Open Government is not a new one. It was used for the first time in British politics in the late 1970's and at its inception it was related with a

number of issues about government secrecy and efforts to “open windows” for the public sector to be under public scrutiny in order to reduce bureaucratic opacity. In present politics, it has emerged as a new linchpin in efforts to improve government capacity and modernize public administration based on the principles of transparency and openness, participation and collaboration. Therefore, and given the relative scarcity of research and applied studies on the subject, this article presents a summary and a historical analysis of the evolution of the concept in its political and technological dimensions, and then contextualizes their links to the components that have served as a platform to become a new paradigm (or model) that promises to strengthen democratic systems and improve governance.

Keywords: open government, public management, network state, transparency, participation, collaboration

AMPUERO VILLAGRÁN, Hernán

MAKING ADO ABOUT NOTHING? THE EXECUTIVE AND THE INFORMATION DUE TO CONGRESS

Revista Enfoques, 15, December 2011, pp. 127-138

Since 1925 and for over eighty years now, analysts and politicians in Chile have engaged in vigorous debate over the nature and effects of the Government’s obligation in providing information to Congress—in particular to the Chamber of Deputies—, the latter being constitutionally empowered to oversee the Executive. Recent parliamentary sessions on a new bill had intended to finish off the long-standing debate but apparently had the opposite effect of opening up fresh arguments. In a strong presidential system like the one in Chile, the outcome could actually make the Executive even stronger.

Keywords: executive-congress relation, executive oversight, organic congressional constitutional law n° 19.819, parliamentary function, transparency law

IBARRA, Luis

MORE AND BETTER STRUGGLES IN URUGUAY. PUBLIC POLICIES AND WORKERS AUTONOMY

Revista Enfoques, 15, December 2011, pp. 139-149

The regulation of wages was at the center of a growing number of labor disputes in Uruguay. The article analyzes changes in government policy as a response to institutional tensions and charts how struggles have fared. The paper shows the way in which conflicts have led to outcomes that not only contradict the government’s guidelines but also express a tendency among workers toward political autonomy.

Keywords: collective bargaining, conflicts, left-wing government, trade unions, wages

MANCINI, Marisol

POLITICAL REGIMES, STATE ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES AT THE SUBNATIONAL LEVEL. THE CASE OF SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO, ARGENTINA
Revista Enfoques, 15, December 2011, pp. 151-176

This paper attempts to analyze the implementation of public policies linked to political regimes. The matter will be studied in relation to the political-institutional context of a sub-national unit of government, in the understanding that this influences the very performance of policies. The subject is analyzed through a case study, the implementation of a public health policy, the Maternal and Child Health Program “Plan Nacer”, in an Argentinean province -Santiago del Estero - between 2005 and 2008. The hypothesis stated is that the exercise of state power in Santiago del Estero limited both bureaucratic changes as well as the results to be achieved in terms of their impact on the administration of public policies.

Keywords: sub-national political regimes, policies implementation, bureaucratic interactions

MANCHA GARCÍA, Francisco Javier

PARTICIPATION OR THE SUM OF INDIVIDUAL EFFORT: WHAT IS LOCAL AND HOW TO IMBUE OF THE DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT
Revista Enfoques, 15, diciembre 2011, pp. 177-191

Much has been said and written in Mexico in reference to civic participation being considered as a bulwark to local development and of how international organizations (both government and non government), not forgetting local governments, have used this concept for their own ends. However, scarce results have been seen in the improvement of living conditions for poor Mexican communities. The aim of this article is to showcase what the issues have been, their so-called solutions and the reason why these social programs have been applied. The case has often been to use citizens for “citizen participation” exercises, which have only been used to continue conserving spaces of local power, preventing that the initiative itself detonate true changes within excluded local communities.

Keywords: participations, citizen, development, clientelism, power