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Reincarnation or Death of Neoliberalism?
The rise of market authoritarianism and its challenges for labour
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FLOWS AND COUNTERFLOWS, TWO PERIODS OF LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS

Argentinian and Brazilian cases

Theme: Building Movements against Neoliberalism and Neo--- nationalism

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During the last two decades existed two political moments in Latin America, the first characterized by political change with left and centre-left governments in some countries. This period began at 1999 and gradually finishing at 2013. The other period began at 2013 and has become consolidating throughout last years, where in these countries return the right and centre-right governments.

The discussion about the characterization in the first period is wide, in particular there exists in the bibliography two positions with different conclusions. On one hand, this period is termed as a continuity of neoliberalism with marginal social policies to stop the public disappointment, especially following the 1998 crisis. On the other hand, in the progressive governments was observed a brake on the neoliberalism's progress, in particular repositioning to the workers and the work as a priority of the public policies.

In this article we argue that, in the left and centre-left governments, there was improvements in labor and social policies that braked some aspects of the flexibilization, progressive wage policies and reactivation of the social dialogue with worker's organizations, with positive results in social and labour indicators. Nevertheless, monetarist macro policies, development economics model and labor structures (flexibility and precarious) were not changed.

In the second period, with the return of the right governments, we observe that social and labour indicators decay, together with radical policies against the worker and work rights in these countries.

In this context, this paper analyzes the labour policies and some labour indicators, in two countries which lived this changes, Brazil and Argentina. We will expose the main changes in wage policies and labour rights and what their outcome were. The objective is discuss the progress attained by the labour party in Brazil and kirchnerism in Argentina, especially, we will discuss about the limits and criticism that were made to this period in order to defend the need to comeback of the left governments with a balance on the limits.

In this work, we use an analytic-deductive method to study the two periods and simulation strategies to know what would happen if the progressive governments had continued, and we use the simulations to compare with the current setting.

With the results of the paper, we want offer a tool to defend the need to stop the progress of the neoliberalism and return to the regulating function of the state to mitigate the deterioration of the conditions for work and workers. The results in the first period were positive but insufficient to solve historical-structural problems in this countries, to do this, is necessary to involve social organizations and principally the unions, parties and movements which has the obligation to brake the neoliberalism.