

## **ABSTRACTS**

DAVID HELD and KEVIN YOUNG, *From the Global Financial Crisis to the Crisis of the Post-War Covenant.*

This article offers an analysis of the regulation of financial activities worldwide, considering both what works and what doesn't. While major successes in international financial regulation have been achieved, considerable deficiencies remain. These, however, are not exclusive to the financial sphere, but reveal disturbing similarities to the current regimes of both security regulation and environmental protection. The financial failings of global government, together with the renewed reform efforts, require a new framework in order to improve existing institutions and deal with specific problems, as well as for a more comprehensive reformulation of the current multilateral order.

**Keywords:** financial regulation, global governance, financial crises, international financial institutions, world order.

CÉSAR B. MARTÍNEZ ÁLVAREZ and HUMBERTO GARZA ELIZONDO, *Strategic Partnership between Russia and China from 2000 to 2011: Reaffirming Multipolarity, Regional Security and Economic Cooperation.*

Between 2000 and 2011, Russia and China bolstered their strategic partnership. Their principal motive is a shared lack of trust in the United States, since Washington's global strategy has fostered a growing sense of being under threat from both countries. Political convergence (on a bilateral level and in international organizations, especially the UN) and military collaboration have been the two most important manifestations of this reinforcement of China-Russia links. To this may be added cooperation on regional security matters (in Central Asia and the Pacific Rim countries)

and the notable increase in trade and financial transactions between the two nations.

**Keywords:** **strategic partnership, Russia-China, regional security, economic cooperation in Asia, energy trading.**

**SONJA WOLF, *Mexico's Drug War and The Mérida Initiative: Cornerstones in the Quest for Legitimacy.***

While the Mérida Initiative focuses on equipment and training to assist Mexico against organized crime, it neglects institution-building and anti-corruption activities. It constitutes an ineffective counterdrug measure, because it was largely conceived as a political response to Mexico's 2006 post-electoral conflict. The highly visible military operations served their original purpose of impacting public opinion and bolstering the President's Calderón's legitimacy, but they increased violence, fuelled human rights abuses, and failed to curb drug trafficking. While the Mexican authorities tout arrests and seizures, they do not effectively tackle police corruption, social exclusion, and money laundering, all of which are key to preventing traffickers from operating.

**Keywords:** **Mexico, Mérida Initiative, drug trafficking, violence, corruption.**

**FERNANDO RUDY HILLER, *Looking for the Fear Vote: the Media Construction of López Obrador as a Threat to Mexico during the 2006 Presidential Campaign.***

During the 2006 presidential campaign an image of candidate Andrés Manuel López Obrador was constructed as representing "a danger to Mexico". This article studies the semantic mechanisms employed in the attack ads paid by the Partido Acción Nacional (National Action Party, PAN) to forge an image of a politician whose government programs would generate huge debts and inescapably lead to economic crisis. These mechanisms attempt to link the image of López Obrador with a sense of fear, and aim to discourage the viewer from looking into the rational evidence to back up such an

image, and instead follow the instructions (“don’t vote for another crisis”) the advert offers to avert the danger.

**Keywords:** political advertising, political image, semantic mechanisms, rational evidence, fear among voters.

JOSEFINA FRANZONI LOBO, *Indigenous Political Culture in Two Municipalities with High and Low Migration and Different Forms of Government.*

This article presents research into political culture carried out in two rural, low-income municipalities with different forms of government. The aim was to learn about the influence these factors have both on types of political culture as well as on the nature of citizens' participation. The research availed of a quasi-experimental design, combining qualitative and quantitative research techniques to construct a typology of political culture based on Weber's sociological theory, together with the statistical technique of principal component analysis. The results indicate that in Indigenous municipalities there are different kinds of political culture depending on the form of government, the degree of involvement by political parties and migration levels.

**Keywords:** political culture, migration, forms of municipal government.

Traducción de GONZALO CELORIO MORAYTA