

ABSTRACTS

MICHELLE RATTON SANCHEZ BADIN and FABIO MOROSINI, *From South to South Commercial and Investment Relationships: Reflections on the Case of Brazil-Angola.*

This paper analyzes the main regulatory characteristics of the economic relations between Angola and Brazil, as an example of South to South relationships. In this analysis we identify specific aspects of the economic coordination between these countries, while noting the discourse on cooperation and the economic financing structures that impact on commercial and investment relationships.

Keywords: South-south, commerce, investment, cooperation, Brazil, Angola.

ANA CAROLINA GARRIGA, *Foreign Direct Investment in Mexico: A Comparison between Investment from the United States and the Rest of the world.*

Are there differences between the foreign direct investment (FDI) that Mexico receives from the United States and the rest of the world? This paper describes the FDI received by the country between 1999 and 2013, detailed according to origin. The flow of FDI to Mexico as a whole and to its component states is analyzed, and differences in temporal and spatial patterns of FDI are identified together with their determining factors. This analysis allows us to

better understand the FDI received by Mexico, identify regional vulnerabilities and inform decision-making geared towards promoting and retaining investment.

**Keywords: political economy,
foreign direct investment,
federal states,
Mexico,
the United States.**

ANA TERESA GUTIÉRREZ DEL CID, *The Keys to the Conflict between Russia and the West after Crimea and the Conflict with Ukraine.*

At the start of 2013 a process was observed indicating a wide-ranging geopolitical change in direction in Europe that began with the repositioning of Russia as a regional power, and with the weakening of the presence of the United States on the continent, having been immersed in military interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq since the early 2000s. In addition, Germany had moved closer to Russia. This new strategy on the part of Russia has changed the traditional Cold War geopolitics in Europe, moving it closer to Germany on the basis of German consumption of Russian energy, meaning that it is increasingly evident that the unipolar order of global power is giving way to a multi-polar order. This process, however, cannot take place without conflict, since the appearance of new international actors deprives the established powers of agency, which are accustomed to unconditional leadership. The events currently taking place in Ukraine are inscribed within this geopolitical standpoint.

**Keywords: geopolitics,
Russia, Ukraine,
energy resources,
Germany.**

MAURICIO LASCURAIN FERNÁNDEZ, *The Geostrategic Role of Central Asia.*

One of the most important geopolitical events at the end of the twentieth century was the appearance of five new nation-states in what Halford Mackinder described, in 1904, as the heartland or geographical hub of the world. Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Kirghizstan are the countries that make up Central Asia and that currently play an important role in global geopolitics and the global economy, above all because of their oil and gas reserves. However, given their importance in the region, they are experiencing a range of conflicts, including incomplete democratization processes, disputes over the use and exploitation of the Caspian Sea resources, ethnic problems, and a rise in Islamic fundamentalism, all of which impact on regional and international stability, in addition to an intense rivalry between global and regional powers for influence in the zone. This paper identifies the most significant conflicts in Central Asia and sketches out some of the possible scenarios for the region's future.

**Keywords: Central Asia,
geopolitics,
regional conflicts.**

CLARISA GIACCAGLIA, *Traditional, Emerging and Re-Emerging Powers: Ambiguous, yet Pragmatic Relationships.*

This paper reflects on the role that the emerging powers have developed in different spheres of global decision-making. Firstly, it describes the current international order, and conceptualizes the category of emerging power, as derived from that of middle power. Next, the paper focuses on three fields of global governance: commercial sphere (WTO), financial sphere (World Bank, FMI, G-20), and environmental sphere (summits on climate change). In this

way it aims to establish whether the role of the emerging powers has led to modifications in international forums for decision-making, and how the relationships between traditional, emerging and re-emerging powers have been reconfigured.

Keywords: **emerging power,**
international order,
middle powers,
multilateral spheres of negotiation,
BRICS.

ROSENDO BOLÍVAR MEZA, *National Regeneration Movement: Domestic Democracy and Oligarchical Tendencies.*

This paper aims to analyze the internal democracy and oligarchic tendencies of the National Regeneration Movement (Morena), with regard to aspects related to its internal operation in terms of the composition of power, decision making mechanisms, and forms of selection of the party leadership and of the candidates to occupy elected positions. This will be done in two ways. Firstly, from a formal and legal perspective, by analyzing its internal operation according to what the party sets out in its founding documents. Secondly, from a perspective of political reality, analyzing the party's political process during its process of establishment and the election of its national leadership, and the first selection of party cadres for elected positions for the 2015 electoral process.

Keywords: **internal democracy,**
National Regeneration Movement,
oligarchic tendencies.

Traducción de GONZALO CELORIO MORAYTA