Abstracts

El Bosco, El Jardín de las Delicias (fragmento)
DOSSIER

TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN MEXICO:
THE LOSS OF SILENCE IN THE RHETORIC

Ariadna Estévez López

SUMMARY. Using Michel Foucault’s genealogical method, this paper argues that human rights consciousness first appeared in Mexico as the result of an eclectic combination of two political tendencies: transition to democracy and liberation theology. In this way of thinking, civil and political rights were considered to have the same importance as economic, social, and cultural rights. However, human rights cause lost ground as it became subordinated to the transition-to-democracy cause, and human rights issues related to socio-economic inequality were put on the back burner. As the economic situation worsened, NGOs are finally addressing economic and social problems, but have not been able to revert the effects of years of neglect.

KEY WORDS: Human rights, discourse, democracy, human rights organizations, genealogy.

MULTICULTURALISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS: TO LIMIT, TOLERATE, OR FOSTER THAT WHICH IS DIFFERENT

María del Rosario Guerra González

SUMMARY. The process of globalization has taken place along with a strengthening of identities. This article features a defense of the rights of the person. These rights are ethical achievements to be defended inside liberal societies, and also in traditional cultures. Three theoretical positions are posed: the first is to impose liberal ideals to societies that are not liberal; the second is to accept the lifestyle of each group whenever
it respect human rights; the third is not only to accept diversity, but also to encourage it. The state has to protect minority cultures through special policies, but they can’t favor minorities in which there aren’t basic equality or basic rights.

**Key words:** Autonomy, traditional culture, ethics, human development, freedom.

**Ethics for the future? Human rights and responsibilities of the current generation toward future generations**

Sergio Cecchetto

**Summary.** Among the third generation of human rights, the appeal for a diachronic solidarity between the human community and the extra-human natural world, and for a synchronistic one between the community of living human beings and hypothetical members of future human generations, has a significant place. This paper analyzes from a critical perspective the reasons for and against this proposal of duties and inter-generational ethical obligations in the context of a techno-scientific civilization, with the aim of grounding the current generation’s responsibility regarding the elaboration of a global ethics that could face the demands of future generations.

**Key words:** Bioethics, human rights, inter-generational rights, responsibility, future.

**A foundational premise to be for everybody**

José Ángel Saiz Aranguren

**Summary.** The main idea expressed by Fernando Savater in his works in ethics on the subject of human rights is that, when we confront the
question of to whom do we refer when we speak of human rights, to concrete, physical persons or to “collective persons,” that is to say corporations, the response is obvious: we are speaking of individual persons, because collective persons don’t exist.

**Key words:** Human right, democracy, freedom, political project, autonomy.

**ARTÍCULOS**

**MULTICULTURALISM AND INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION: BETWEEN NEOINDIGENISM AND AUTONOMY**

Alejandro Cerda

**Summary.** This article analyzes government policies and the alternatives developed by a sector of the indigenous population in intercultural education, considered to be one of the fundamental aspects to understand multiculturalism. The author argues that current governmental initiatives in intercultural education, even if they consider the historic demands of indigenous people, they take said demands with a reduced vision of their implications. The alternative approaches to this governmental version of intercultural education, as this article shows, though they may tend toward the possibility of thinking about multiculturalism and interculturalism from different reference points, now face the challenge of updating their proposals to avoid getting coopted by *neoindigenist* discourses of governmental policies and institutions.

**Key words:** Multiculturality, intercultural education, indigenism, indigenous autonomy, zapatismo.
DISCRIMINATION AND ANTI-IMMIGRANT ACTIVISM. THE MINUTEMAN PROJECT

José Antonio Trujeque Díaz

SUMMARY. In 2005, some American groups such as Minuteman Project became famous for carrying out actions to halt illegal immigration from the southern border. Our central idea is that their political and media success have three major causes: 1) a new doctrine about U.S. National Security; 2) the re-emergence of an American “patriot” ideology whose central point is border defense, and 3) the combination of these two elements with a secular issue on the U.S.-Mexican border: anti-Mexican discrimination.

KEY WORDS: Migration, anti-immigration american groups, Mexico-US border, US–Mexico affairs.

THE VIRTUES OF THE REPUBLIC: THE BENEFITS OF THE NARRATIVE REPUBLIC

Eduardo Mattio

SUMMARY. The republican political project has been the occasion of a renewed interest in contemporary political theory, as a preferred alternative to the undesired consequences of some applications of liberalism. In this paper I explore the contrasts between the two traditions as a jumping-off point to analyze Charles Taylor’s and Quentin Skinner’s understanding of republicanism. Moving beyond their differences, I show that both thinkers share the idea that republican citizenship does not conflict with those liberal values that are still worthy of being defended. Finally, I provide some thoughts on the desirability of rehabilitating the republican narrative in the Latin American context.

KEY WORDS: Republicanism, liberalism, citizenship, self-government, civic virtue.
THE CONCEPT OF THE ACTOR.
REFLECTIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

Ester García Sánchez

SUMMARY. The concept of actor is widely employed in social sciences as well as in politicians’ and journalists’ discourses. That is why the lack of definitions is so striking. We assume that this concept must be defined in operational terms in order to orient both theoretical analysis and empirical research. By examining the academic debates on this subject, we propose a definition of the term that serves to determine when an individual or a group of individuals can be considered as actors. Based on this, we make a distinction between two main types of actors — nominal actors and collective actors. Since actions and/or decisions are at the core of the concept, we conclude by focusing on those factors that have an impact upon actors’ actions and decisions.

KEY WORDS: Agency, collective actors, nominal actors, decisions, Political Science.

HETEROGENEITY, UNPRODUCTIVENESS, AND LEISURE

Guillermo Pereyra

SUMMARY. Globalization is very complex in socio-economic terms, with forms of cooperative organization that include a lot of unemployed people, poor people and “new poor people”. In other words, we are faced with a socio-economic heterogeneity that cannot easily be processed by the present institutions. In this context a paradox emerges: although the notions of productivity and social cooperation continue being fundamental in the organization of contemporary socio-economic institutions, their dislocation is increasingly visible as a result of the increase of unemployment and leisure time, that is to say, of unproductiveness. This essay investigates this paradox focusing the relations that Marxist
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and Liberal theories establish between social cooperation, productivity and leisure.

Key words: Social cooperation, distributive justice, heterogeneity, unproductiveness, leisure.