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**La migración afrodescendiente en el Norte de Chile, 2000-2015:
Identidad, estrategias de integración y mecanismos de
exclusión/inclusión de la sociedad receptora**
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Propositions

1. The degree of acceptance of foreign immigration in present-day Chile shows a visible geographical pattern. In Northern Chile the local population shows more tolerance towards immigrants than in rest of the country. This is mainly the result of the fact that this region has historically received many people coming from neighbouring Bolivia and Peru.
2. Many among the Afro-Latin American immigrants have consciously decide to adopt an integration strategy based in the abandonment of their ethnic identity and the rapid adoption of the customs, social practices and the way of speaking of Chile. This however has not been the result of a conscious acceptance of the local culture but corresponds to a strategy of survival.
3. The increasing presence of foreign immigrants in Chile have not resulted yet in a open discussion about the phenomenon within the public opinion. One of the main factors preventing that discussion is the extreme ideological divide existing in the country between rightwing and leftwing sectors. At the one hand, the Right is afraid of adopting an anti-immigrant discourse in order to avoid sharp accusations of xenophobia and racism from the Left. At the other, the Left openly welcome the presence of foreigners in the country as a way to stress its own progressiveness.
4. The majority of Chileans identify with Western European culture and have historically shown a certain ethnic disdain for people from other Latin American countries, due to their indigenous and African backgrounds. The achievement in the past thirty years of high levels of material prosperity in the country has led to a sense of economic superiority as well by which other Latin American countries and their inhabitants are looking down because their relative poverty.
5. Many foreign immigrants in Chile possesses a middle-class background, high educational levels and are disposed to accept relative low salaries. This has markedly facilitated their integration in the labour market, as Chilean society is extremely class-conscious and quite competitive in terms of educational credentials. This has resulted in the increasing replacement in the service economy of Chileans of popular background and low educational level by these foreigners having more social and cultural capital.
6. The dramatic diaspora of millions of Venezuelans towards other Latin American countries, as result of the profound socio-economic and political crisis affecting their country, have severely impacted the already weak sense of solidarity existing among Latin American countries. In several South American countries has emerged the popular demand to close the borders for Venezuelan immigrants.

7. The anti-immigrant policies applied by Donald Trump Mexico has placed Mexico in a difficult situation. The leftwing government of López Obrador has been forced to exert a very tough control of the country's southern borders in order to impede the access of Central American immigrants to Mexico. This was a condition sine qua non imposed by the Trump administration to the Mexican authorities in order to avoid the application of severe economic sanctions by the United States.
8. Immigration is forcing the Latin American countries to rewrite the long existing ideas about what are the main characteristics of the national identity. This task has not yet been properly assumed by local intellectuals who mostly avoid to talk and to write about this candent topic which often constitutes a kind of taboo.
9. The strong increase of regional immigration among countries in Central and South America will not only tension the relations among these nations. It will also result in a further weakening of the existing regional institutions in charge of promoting economic and political integration.
10. The Corona pandemic has led to a reinforcement of the active role of the state in the economic domain and in society as large. In the post-pandemic scenario, many neo-liberal principles will probably become obsolete as they will not any longer fit in the 'new normality' scenario.