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Finn, V.J.

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Author: Finn, V.J.

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Migrant Rights, Voting, and Resocialization

By Victoria Finn

Propositions

1. Chile was a world pioneer in immigrant enfranchisement in 1925 and since the rights are still intact as of 2021, it demonstrates the durability of constitutional law of voting rights, despite extreme fluctuations in political regime types and in governments' ideology between left- and right-leaning.
2. The expansion of immigrant voting rights in Chile's 1980 Constitution, and applied in 1988, both occurred under an authoritarian military regime. This shows that democracy is not a necessary condition for granting or implementing immigrant voting rights.
3. Following the lifelong openness perspective, and countering the resistance theory, international migrants also continue to learn throughout life. Political learning occurs in at least four places and spaces: the origin country, the residence country, the transnational space in between them, and the intersecting and independent migratory system.
4. Framing migrants' political engagement as a binary of 'here' or 'there' implies a trade-off or a zero-sum game, but many migrants face not two, but *four* options: to vote only in the residence country, only in the origin country, in both countries, or in neither country. Recognizing four migrant voting types better reflects migrants' electoral decision-making outcomes and the categories apply to migrants with dual voting rights in any country.
5. Differentiating between 'the people' as protagonists and 'the elite' as antagonists, populism has recently spread in both Europe and Latin America. As such, populism has notably spurred different reactions, new political parties and party politics, and debates in society and in political science.
6. While states have commonly outsourced politics and policies over international borders, political parties have only more recently started activities, such as campaigning, abroad. Their reasons for doing so, the techniques applied, and their success are emerging topics in political science, law, and international relations.

7. Waves of social movements and protests—from anti-corruption to inequality issues to lobbying for better education—spread across Latin America, particularly in 2020–2021. Groups of youth and young adults were especially active, raising questions and avenues of research, since these groups are normally somewhat disconnected from politics.
8. While the terms ‘participation’ and ‘integration’ can be simultaneously present and reinforce each another, the opposite is untrue: a lack of participation is not synonymous to a lack of integration. This argument applies to any non-dominant group within a country or region, which political scientists should recognize while analyzing participation in traditional and non-traditional forms of political engagement.
9. Advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data have pushed businesses toward digital transformation, revamping approaches to how people work. Applied successfully means people could work more effectively, in turn allowing them more leisure time, increasing overall wellbeing.
10. Bitcoin and cryptocurrencies, while still on small scales as compared to ‘traditional’ currencies, have nonetheless challenged the long-standing status quo of how societies understand and use money in transactions and within existent banking systems.