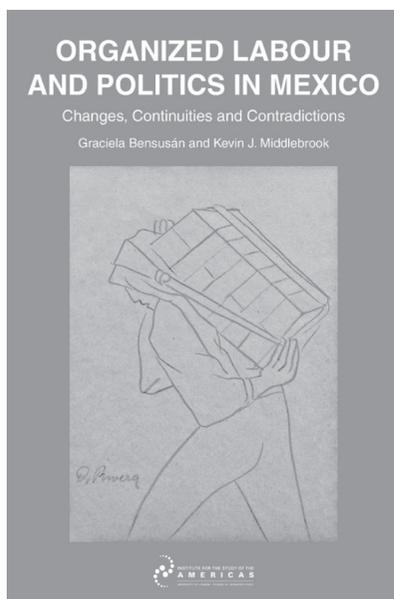


## ORGANIZED LABOUR AND POLITICS IN MEXICO

### Changes, Continuities and Contradictions

By Graciela Bensusán and Kevin J. Middlebrook

This book examines the changes, continuities and contradictions characterizing labour politics in Mexico since the 1980s. As a consequence of market-liberalizing reforms and historic shifts in government policy toward organized labour, the labour movement has declined substantially in size, bargaining strength and political influence. Electoral democratization has expanded individual workers' choices at the ballot box and increased political pluralism in the labour movement. Some unions have also bolstered their power resources by forging transnational alliances with counterparts in Canada and the United States.



On the whole, however, democratization has had remarkably little impact on the state-labour relations regime institutionalized following the Mexican Revolution of 1910–20. This legal regime both underpins the position of unrepresentative union leaders and grants government officials highly discretionary control over the formation of unions, the election of union leaders and unions' actions. The combination of weakened labour organizations, unaccountable union leaders and strong government controls fundamentally constrains workers' capacity to defend their interests. This state of affairs — and especially the failure to enact progressive labour law reform since democratic regime change in 2000 — limits democracy and imposes heavy costs on both unionized workers and Mexican society as a whole.

By engaging debates concerning organized labour's role in democratization, and by demonstrating the essential compatibility between market-focused economic policies and state-labour practices rooted in Mexico's authoritarian past, this book contributes to a broader assessment of organized labour's role in contemporary Latin America.

Graciela Bensusán is Research Professor at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco in Mexico City and Research Professor (part-time) at the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales-México.

Kevin J. Middlebrook is Professor of Politics at the Institute for the Study of the Americas (School of Advanced Study), University of London.

Book launch to be held at the  
Institute for the Study of the Americas,  
1 June 2012  
<http://americas.sas.ac.uk>

CAMBRIDGE

## Outstanding Scholarship from Cambridge

### *Cambridge Latin American Studies*

#### **The British Textile Trade in South America in the Nineteenth Century**

Manuel Llorca-Jaña

\$99.00: Hb: 978-1-107-02129-7: 408 pp.

#### **Warfare and Shamanism in Amazonia**

Carlos Fausto

\$99.00: Hb: 978-1-107-02006-1: 368 pp.

#### **From Colony to Nationhood in Mexico**

Laying the Foundations, 1560–1840

Sean F. McEnroe

\$95.00: Hb: 978-1-107-00630-0: 264 pp.

#### **The Economic History of the Caribbean since the Napoleonic Wars**

Victor Bulmer-Thomas

\$120.00: Hb: 978-0-521-19889-9: 720 pp.

\$44.99: Pb: 978-0-521-14560-2

#### **Mexican American Colonization during the Nineteenth Century**

A History of the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands

José Angel Hernández

\$90.00: Hb: 978-1-107-01239-4: 280 pp.

\$29.99: Pb: 978-1-107-66624-5

#### **The Old Regime and the Haitian Revolution**

Malick W. Ghachem

\$99.00: Hb: 978-0-521-83680-7: 364 pp.

\$26.99: Pb: 978-0-521-54531-0

#### **The Rise of Ethnic Politics in Latin America**

Raúl L. Madrid

\$95.00: Hb: 978-0-521-19559-1: 256 pp.

\$28.99: Pb: 978-0-521-15325-6

#### **Popular Movements in Autocracies**

Religion, Repression, and Indigenous Collective Action in Mexico

Guillermo Trejo

*Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics*

\$99.00: Hb: 978-0-521-19772-4: 280 pp.

#### **State-Building and Tax Regimes in Central America**

Aaron Schneider

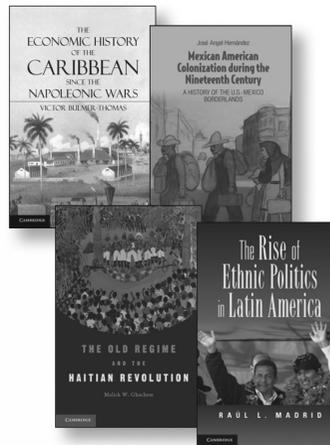
\$90.00: Hb: 978-1-107-01909-6: 260 pp.

#### **Bartolomé de las Casas**

A Biography

Lawrence A. Clayton

\$75.00: Hb: 978-1-107-00121-3: 502 pp.



Prices subject to change.

[www.cambridge.org/us](http://www.cambridge.org/us)



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

## NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

### Editorial Policy

The *Journal of Latin American Studies* is published four times a year, in February, May, August and November. Its editorial offices are located at the Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London. The editorial board comprises area studies specialists based in the United Kingdom from all the principal social science disciplines, including history.

The *Journal* aims to publish recent research in the field of Latin American studies in economics, geography, politics, international relations, sociology, social anthropology and history. Articles on literature and the arts are not normally included, but the editors are pleased to consider contributions in the field of intellectual and cultural history. Articles with an interdisciplinary approach are particularly welcome.

### Manuscript Submission

Articles submitted to the *Journal* should be original contributions. They should not be under consideration by another journal, nor have been published or be awaiting publication elsewhere. Translations of articles that have already been published will not be accepted. If an author is publishing a closely related article elsewhere, this fact should be stated in a cover note to the editors. Authors of articles published in the *Journal* assign copyright to Cambridge University Press (with certain rights reserved) and will receive a copyright assignment form for signature on acceptance of their paper.

Articles should be between 10,000 and 12,000 words, including footnotes, tables etc. The *Journal* is published in English, but articles may also be submitted in Spanish or Portuguese for peer review; if accepted for publication, the responsibility for translating articles rests with the author. The *Journal's* preference is that manuscripts should be submitted electronically as a Word document, with double spacing throughout and margins of at least one inch all round. All pages must be numbered consecutively. In order to ensure the anonymity of the reviewing process, care should be taken to ensure that any references which might identify the author are removed from the text. The title page should be separate from the main body of the text and include the author's name, academic post and institutional affiliation, the title of the article, and brief acknowledgements. An abstract of no more than 100 words, together with a list of keywords, should appear at the beginning of the article.

The *Journal* publishes commissioned book reviews in each issue. Not all books received can be reviewed, and editorial policy gives preference to reviews of books regarded as being of major importance for the disciplines covered by the *Journal*. Unsolicited reviews cannot be considered.

Contributors are responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce any material for which they do not own copyright, to be used in both print and electronic media, and for ensuring that the appropriate acknowledgements are included in their manuscript.

All editorial correspondence should be addressed to The Editors, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU, UK, or sent to [jl@sas.ac.uk](mailto:jl@sas.ac.uk).

### Proofs

Proofs of accepted articles will be sent to authors as pdf files for checking and correction of typesetting errors. Typographical or factual errors only may be changed at proof stage. The publisher reserves the right to charge authors for correction of non-typographical errors.

### Offprints

Contributors will receive a pdf file of their article.

This issue has been printed on FSC-certified paper and cover board. FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit organisation established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests. Please see [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org) for information.

### CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, United Kingdom

32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

C/Orense, 4, Planta 13 28020 Madrid, Spain

Lower Ground Floor, Nautica Building, The Water Club,

Beach Road, Granger Bay, 8005 Cape Town, South Africa

Printed at the University Press, Cambridge, UK.



# Journal of Latin American Studies

volume 44 : part 2 : May 2012

## Articles

- 235 Nerds and Barbarians: Race and Class Encounters through Affirmative Action in a Brazilian University

**André Cicalo**

- 261 'Fifty Years in Five' and What's in It for Us? Development Promotion, Populism, Industrial Workers and *Carestia* in 1950s Brazil

**Rafael R. Ioris**

- 285 Industrial Exports and Peronist Economic Policies in Post-War Argentina

**Claudio Belini**

- 319 Addressing an Ambivalent Relationship: Policing and the Urban Poor in Mexico City

**Markus-Michael Müller**

- 347 Impact Evaluation of Chile Solidario: Lessons and Policy Recommendations

**Oswaldo Larrañaga, Dante Contreras and Jaime Ruiz-Tagle**

- 373 **Book Reviews**

- 429 **Books Received**

## Cambridge Journals Online

For further information about this journal  
please go to the journal website at:  
[journals.cambridge.org/las](http://journals.cambridge.org/las)



MIX  
Paper from  
responsible sources  
FSC® C018127

**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS