

New societal issues - challenges to democracy

1. Democracy as an ideal

If there is one adjective which occupies the fore-front of international news such is the word "democratic".

cf. journals re center, 2 on 3 examples

From the examples seen, it comes out very clearly that the aspiration to democracy is imprinted on any event occurring either ~~on~~ in states with a totalitarian regime having succeeded a ~~less~~ more or less ^{serious} form of democracy + in states which have acquired recently their independence.



Such pluralism is at the ^{same} ~~same~~ ^{time} an ideal and a difficulty when restoration of democratic order is at stake. The pluralism can become the splitting in many different factions, thus rendering it impossible the necessary convergence to attain a viable platform. (Such is the problem Chile has been facing with the democratic forces divided in some 16 parties + with the huge difficulty of finding among them the agreed on program + the existence of a recognized leadership.

Pluralism is ^{only} compatible with a clear national identity. It is very difficult to put side-by-side pluralism + the beginning of a Nation-State. At that moment the project is independence, the program is to make it concrete at all levels of the functioning of the State and in all spheres of society.



Sometimes, there seems to be \neq factions which are easily taken for \neq paths. In fact, they are more a power confrontation between personalities fighting for the exercise of leadership. Some have been leaders of liberation movements (eg. Angola, Zimbabwe), others have been dominant figures in the fight for democracy (case of Tancredo Neves in Brazil). In those cases, pluralism is overlooked and the charismatic leader occupies

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