

Alternative integration and development strategies in Latin America

Emine Tahsin, Phd

Assistant Professor

Istanbul University, Faculty of Economics, Istanbul, Turkey

eminetahsin@gmail.com/tahsin@istanbul.edu.tr

My paper aim to investigate reactions against neoliberal policies in case of integration and development strategies emerging in Latin America on the basis of political economy.

As it is known in Latin America alternative attempts to neoliberal agenda and Washington Consensus coincidence with the rise of leftist governments that also lead to redefinition and restructuring of integration and cooperation experiences (such as ALBA, UNASUR, CELAC and MERCOSUR) and redefinition of development strategies.

As it is known Latin America is one of the specific region that the inequalities have increased during the neoliberal era and as a consequence alternative policies opposed to Washington Consensus and neoliberal policies have been discussed widely. “Neostructuralism”, “neodevelopmentalism”, “development within”, “endogenous development” are among the main concepts that have been defined as alternatives to neoliberal agenda. Addition to these considering the social exclusion and the level of poverty, pro-poor policies have been on the agenda of the governments.

Given that the paper will try to discuss the dimensions of alternatives, the possibilities, limits and contradictions within the international economy and neoliberal era and also consider the possible effects of the crisis to these initiatives.

What is going on in real terms under these initiatives? What are the main possible contributions of these initiatives to the development process? What are the limits and contradictions of these integration experiences considering the development process? What are the possible effects of the crisis to these experiences and how these initiatives react against crisis would be the main questions that would tried to be answered.

