Principios y evolución del estado de bienestar: Comparaciones internacionales

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Overview

- What are welfare regimes?
- Political explanations of welfare regimes
- Variations found in the developed world
- Variations found in Latin America
- Globalization and welfare retrenchment in the developed and developing world
- Discussion and/or questions
What are welfare regimes?

- Welfare provision by the state, family, and market
- Difference between welfare state and welfare regime
- Focus on social insurance
- What is social “insurance”? 
What are welfare regimes?

- Five social insurance programs
  - Disability and old-age pensions
  - Health insurance
  - Worker’s compensation insurance
  - Unemployment insurance
  - Family allowances
What are welfare regimes?

- Measuring welfare regimes
  - De-commodification
  - Stratification
  - Private vs. public provision
  - De-familialization
Political explanations of welfare regimes

- Economic development
- International diffusion
- The role of the state
- The role of organized labor
- The role of business
- The importance of policy feedback
Variations in the developed world

- First social insurance in Germany
- Associated with economic development, political democracy, and labor mobilization
- Due to policy feedback, welfare regimes grow and change slowly
- Post-WWII variation reflects origins of welfare regimes
Variations in the developed world

Three ideal types (characteristics)
- Social democratic
- Christian democratic
- Liberal
Variations in the developed world

- Social democratic
  - Role of encompassing organized labor and coalition with agricultural interests

- Christian democratic
  - Absolutism, authoritarianism, control of labor, catholic doctrine

- Liberal
  - Fragmented labor, liberal values
Variations in Latin America

- 19 of largest 21 countries have national legislation for 3 of 5 social insurance programs
- The adoption of social insurance in Latin America
  - Mexico, Brazil, and Southern Cone
  - Rest of South America
  - Central America
Variations in Latin America

- Characteristics (especially before 1980s)
  - High stratification
  - Little redistribution
  - Little or no coverage for rural or informal workers
  - Large state bureaucracies

- What “type” of welfare regimes?
Variations in Latin America

- Explaining variations in Latin America
  - Economic development
  - International diffusion
  - The role of the state
  - The role of labor
  - The role of business
Globalization & welfare retrenchment

- What is “globalization”?
  - Trade liberalization
  - Financial liberalization
    - Increased FDI
    - Increased portfolio investment

- What is “welfare retrenchment”? 
Globalization & welfare retrenchment

- Does economic globalization cause welfare retrenchment?
  - The efficiency hypothesis
  - The compensation hypothesis

- The evidence from the developed world
Globalization & welfare retrenchment

- The evidence from Latin America
  - Spending in the 1980s and 1990s
  - Pension privatization
  - Health care privatization
  - Welfare regime restructuring?
Globalization & welfare retrenchment

- Why is Latin America different?
  - How globalization is different
  - Underdeveloped institutions and policy feedback
  - The role of international diffusion and policy networks
  - The role of the state, labor, and business
Questions and discussion

- What “type” of welfare regime is appropriate for Latin America?
- What could be done to enhance efficiency while providing real protection and compensation against social risks?
- Other questions?