

**Damonte, G. (2014). *The Peruvian extractive model: discourses, policies and the reproduction of social inequalities* In: Göbel, B and Ulloa, A. *Mining Extractivism in Colombia and Latin America*. Bogotá: Universidad Nacional de Colombia.**

To establish how the dominant group has naturalized social and economic inequalities, in addition to having limited the impact of the discontent and socio-environmental protests that have multiplied in Peru.

It covers the characteristics of the extractive model; the economic and cultural inequalities in the extractive model in Peru; the analysis of entrapment and institutional opportunities for change; and the conclusions.

In the context of the neoliberal regime in Peru, a powerful discourse of economic development with an extractivist base has been produced and established, which has been incorporated not only by the elites, but also by emerging, mainly urban, sectors. In this aspect, the state-institutional variable is fundamental for the perpetuation or generation of alternatives to the model.

The Peruvian extractive model has been developed and sustained by the powerful discourse where narratives of neoliberal development are intertwined with extractive development. In this neoliberal discourse, the need for a subsidiary function of the State is pointed out as a condition for the adequate articulation of the country to the global market, in the context of globalization. This has been supported both by the policies of foreign capital traction, and by the predominance of the multinational private sector in the mining sector.

The discursive integration of development, growth and extraction has been decisive in expanding the necessary political consensus towards the consolidation of the neoliberal model. This narrative has been the basis of the political alliance between the economic and political elites with the emerging urban sectors, which constitute a significant proportion of the population. The first ones support the model because they have multiple interests in the extractive sector, while the latter do so because they have managed to improve their economic level and outlook thanks to growth in recent decades.

The discourse has also managed to constrain the space of critical groups, which are unable to build alternative development narratives despite the significant social discontent that the model produces. A common response is that the weakness in the party's representative institutionality is the result, at least in part, of the country's turbulent past, where economic crises and internal warfare created conditions for an authoritarian regime to come to power and for neoliberal reforms to be implemented. In this sense, the deployment of the individualistic discourse of entrepreneurship and economic success has been vital to generate a neoliberal culture.