

Svampa, M. (2018). "Social movements, political traditions and dimensions of collective action in Latin America", in: Gómez, S., Moore, C. and Múnera, L. (Eds.). Multiple knowledge and the social and political sciences. Bogotá: National University of Colombia.

Present an analysis of the current grammar of social struggles in Latin America through three major features; such as social movements, political-ideological matrices and collective action, which are closely linked.

The return of the notion of social movements is proposed and its replacement by that of protest; the existence of a plurality of narratives or sociopolitical matrices under the forms of coexistence, cooperation, competition and conflict is pointed out. An analysis is carried out on the historically constitutive dimensions of collective action in Latin America, particularly on the territorial, commoner, and assembly levels.

As social movements present their own construction styles and, in general, logics of political accumulation different from the other organizational fields, especially regarding the political-organizational field this organizational political gap is linked to the crisis of political representation that characterized the Latin American region, at which time social movements multiplied and their presence in the public space became general, through collective action. In the same sense, the relationship of the State with the social movements was transiting multiple and simultaneous routes, ranging from conflict, negotiation, incorporation, cooptation, criminalization, judicial acts and repression of their actions.

The studies of collective action and social movements present a paradox in Latin America. On the one hand, few academic changes have been affected by the influence of the dominant paradigms: Marxist, identity and the political, highlighting the typical epistemic dependence of our social sciences. On the other hand, there are few fields of study characterized by so much reflection, both specifically Latin American and interdisciplinary, where disciplines such as sociology, history, political science, political economy and geography are linked.

Reflection on social movements in Latin America privileges a series of theoretical issues and debates, which are both inseparably political. Questions are raised not only about the heterogeneous nature of social movements, or the characteristics of the multi-organizational field, but also the unifying potential of certain struggles, the possibilities of political articulation and the role of the various political-ideological traditions. Furthermore, Latin American scholars are concerned with the current roles of action; where one works from interrogating the different figures of democracy, and how it operates in the changing framework of dependency.