

Roll, D. and Cruz, E. (2018). *The challenges of financing rules. In: Roll, D. (editor). Political reform now! Electoral organization, financing and parties. Bogotá: National University of Colombia. Pp. 137-163.*

It carries out an approach to the problems of political financing of electoral campaigns in the Colombian case.

It addresses the problems of political financing, the political financing system, types of political financing system, the political financing system in Colombia, political financing problems in Colombia and changes in financing contemplated in the agreement with the Farc-Ep.

The increase in campaign costs in recent decades has come to influence election mechanisms to the extent that, on the one hand, it affects the conditions that make it possible to define the orientations of the voters and, on the other hand, introduces inequities among the competitors. In this sense, the lack of norms or efficiency in the regulatory mechanisms can also lead to the incursion of illegal economic resources, a fact that conditions the actions of the political authorities, or the excessive influence of powerful economic groups of origin legal and illegal, in the orientation of public policy.

The main problems of political financing are related to the prevention of corruption, ensuring fair conditions for electoral competition and the independence of popularly elected authorities from the particular interests of powerful groups in society, legal or illegal. In this way, they play an important role in the validity of the elective mechanisms of the democratic political system and in the prevention of legitimacy.

The systems include mechanisms for the provision of resources to parties and campaigns; These can be state, private or mixed, direct or indirect. In addition, they include prohibitions on donations from legal entities, foreigners, social organizations, among others. In addition, ceilings are established for donations or campaign expenses, regulations for the use of the media and sanctions, among others.

Colombia has a mixed political financing system with regulations for the private financing of campaigns and parties, and an accountability system before the CNE. The provision of resources is mixed, where the State resources are disbursed after the electoral contest, in proportion to the valid votes, after exceeding a threshold established by the electoral authority and through a replenishment system.

The main problems of financing the system in Colombia can be highlighted: the violation of the electoral financing regulations; the difficulty for citizens to access the information derived from the financing of electoral campaigns, both at a technical and administrative level; the low technical capacity and the lack of resources of the electoral authorities to carry out an audit of the parties and the campaigns and, finally, the interaction between illegality and legality that characterizes electoral competition in Colombia.