

Itineraries for the Study of Citizenship of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America

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Abstract:

This article presents a comprehensive, systematic and critical analysis of what can be considered as the basic premises of the contemporary studies of citizenship regarding Indigenous peoples in Latin America. These premises are: The concept of citizenship, the definition of the collective subject (Indigenous peoples), the Indigenous mobilizations of the late Twentieth Century, the legal-normative framework of Indigenous rights, and the gap in the implementation of these rights in Latin America. Although informed by such disciplines as history and law, the approach gives centrality to political dimension. This permits to emphasize the contingent character of the citizenship status as well as the relevance of the juridical as an institutional factor in terms of the collective particularities of Indigenous people. It also brings out the superiority of the participatory dimension in the context of the increasing extractive projects that seriously affect Indigenous people in Latin America. The article uses figurative itineraries to systematize the analytical axes of specialized literature related to the subject under exploration with the purpose of making a contribution to research on citizenship of the Indigenous people in Latin America.

Key words: Citizenship, Indigenous Peoples, Latin America, Collective Rights, Participation.

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