DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS FOCUSING ON THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

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KSC Research Series

ABSTRACT: This is a resource for links to documents on democracy-governance and human rights in the Dominican Republic.

Sources for the documents include donor assistance organizations such as USAID, the World Bank, United Nations and the IDB.

Articles from academic journals such as Latin American Politics and Society and from policy think-tanks such as International IDEA are also included.
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SUMMARY

Documentation on democracy and governance in the Dominican Republic is available but not in comparison to other countries in Latin America such as Mexico, Honduras or Brazil. Among donor agencies, documentation is most prevalent from the bilateral USAID with dates ranging from 1965-2012. USAID’s Justice Project, that concluded in 2012, was an effort to reform offices and practices among criminal justice institutions including criminal court offices, prosecutor offices and general judiciary branch administration. A sub-grant from this project also funded a fourth Community Justice House in the city of Santiago.¹

USAID has also spent significant resources on labor protections as a result of the CAFTA-DR trade integration movement.² Other documents of note include work on human trafficking³ and anti-corruption/rule of law.⁴ Historically, AID funded security sector reform and police-law enforcement projects as a way to counter perceived leftist, pro-communist mobilizations across the region.⁵

Multilateral donor agencies have also been active in the DR. The World Bank normally works in public administration and public sector reform and has done so here as well with the WB-led Participatory Anti-Corruption Initiative (IPAC), a novel way to improve the quality of public expenditures by making the budget execution more transparent and accessible. IPAC also integrates the procurement process with the financial management system by forming a single treasury account.⁶ The United Nations has also leveraged DR’s status of a leading remittance-receiving country with a program designed to takes such funds into account.⁷ Like the Bank and USAID, the UNDP funded past rule of law programming.⁸

Academic experts such as Catherine Conaghan, Rosario Espinal, Andrew Schrank and Mitchell Seligson, among others, have addressed the role that

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² See USAID strengthening labor justice for CAFTA-DR program: contract no. DFD-I-03-04-00175-00 -- quarterly report, October 1-December 31, 2010. 2010, for example.
⁷ Migration, Remittances and Gender-Responsive Local Development. 2011.
political regime transitions\textsuperscript{9}, election rules\textsuperscript{10} and political culture\textsuperscript{11} all play in democratization in the Dominican Republic, respectively.

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**USAID**

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\textsuperscript{9} See “Unlikely Transitions to Uncertain Regimes? Democracy without Compromise in the Dominican Republic and Ecuador” in *Journal of Latin American Studies* 22(3).


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SBU and available on CD


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WORLD BANK


IDB


INTERAMERICAN DIALOGUE

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(Spanish)


