

GREAT DECISIONS

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Topic 5: Political trends in Latin America

Acronyms and abbreviations

ALBA- Bolivarian Alliance of the Americas.

ALCA- Free Trade Agreement of the Americas.

APRA- American Popular Revolutionary Alliance.

ELN- National Liberation Army.

FMLN- Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front.

GDP- Gross Domestic Product.

NGO- Non-Governmental Organization.

OAS- Organization of American States.

PRI- Institutional Revolutionary Party.

PT- Workers' Party.

USMCA- United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

WTO- World Trade Organization.

Glossary

Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO)- President of Mexico since 2018.

Bolsa Família (Family Allowance)- Social welfare program of the government of Brazil.

Carabineros (Carabiners)- Chilean national police.

Casa de Nariño (Palace of Nariño)- Official home of the president of Colombia.

Dictatorship- A government with absolute authority in any sphere.

Hugo Chávez- President of Venezuela from 1999–2013.

The Kirchners- Husband and wife duo (Néstor and Cristina) who each served as president of Argentina in the early 2000s.

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva- President of Brazil from 2003–10, recently reelected president in October of 2022.

Mapuche- Group of indigenous inhabitants of southern Chile and Argentina.

M-19- Left-wing Colombian guerrilla movement.

Nicolás Maduro- President of Venezuela since 2013.

Populism- A political stance that emphasizes the idea of “the people” in juxtaposition against “the elite.”

Social Democracy- A socialist system of government achieved by democratic means.



Different kinds of “Lefts”

DICTATORSHIPS

Cuba, Nicaragua, Venezuela

SOCIAL DEMOCRACIES

Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia

POPULIST COUNTRIES

Argentina, Mexico, Peru