

GERMAN-LANGUAGE STUDIES OF BRAZILIAN DEVELOPMENT

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BRASILIEN: ENTWICKLUNGSMODELL UND AUSSENPOLITIK. By WOLF GRABENDORFF AND MANFRED NITSCH. (Munich: Wilhelm-Fink, 1977. Pp. 303.)

INDUSTRIALISIERUNG IN BRASILIEN: ZUR POLITIK DER IMPORTSUBSTITUTION. By ADRIANO B. DO AMERAL. (Tuebingen and Basel: Horst Erdmann-Verlag für internationalen Kulturaustausch, Schriftenreihe des Instituts für Ibero-Amerika-Kunde, Band 28, 1977. Pp. 226.)

KLEINE UND MITTLERE INDUSTRIEUNTERNEHMEN IN BRASILIEN. By GÜNTER WIPPLINGER. (Tuebingen and Basel: Horst Erdmann-Verlag für internationalen Kulturaustausch, Schriftenreihe des Instituts für Ibero-Amerika-Kunde, Band 27, 1976. Pp. 143.)

In the period after 1968, Latin America gained much importance in the thoughts and minds of German youth. The prospect of revolution on that continent fascinated many students and young workers, and Latin American culture and music came to be admired and enjoyed by many young people in the Federal Republic of Germany. This interest in the Latin American continent has also been evident to a lesser extent in Switzerland and Austria. In the German Democratic Republic since the days of the Cuban Revolution, interest has increased in following events on a continent that has been neglected for too long in secondary and university curricula on our side of the Atlantic.

A number of political scientists and sociologists in the Federal Republic of Germany were among the first to adapt dependency theories to a uniform approach to international relations and the international system of stratification. From the perspective of research policy, Latin American studies in German-speaking countries had been supported by various institutions prior to the seventies. But after it became evident that both the German Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic had an expanding role to play in the international system, universities and research institutions consequently began to specialize in Latin American studies. The same can be said for Switzerland and, to a lesser extent, for Austria. As a result, Latin American research in German-speaking countries today can be considered among the best in Europe.

To highlight some of these trends, I will discuss three books that may also be of interest outside German-speaking countries. The first is the volume by Wolf Grabendorff and Manfred Nitsch on the Brazilian development model and its foreign policy. Brazil may be one of the few developing countries to receive more than its share of attention in recent years. Although Grabendorff and Nitsch tried to consider all the relevant literature coming from Brazil and also from English-speaking countries, their collection remains an introductory textbook for students seeking a short overview of the consequences of a classical model of periphery capitalism and industrialization. After such brilliant studies as those of Bacha, Fishlow, Langoni, Morley, and Singer (just to mention a few), little new can be added about the tendencies of Brazilian income distribution during the period of the sixties. In my opinion, Nitsch's essay concentrates on the already overdone issue of income distribution and its change during this decade and employs no econometric techniques whatever to support his hypotheses.

Grabendorff's essay on Brazilian foreign policy, which seems to contain little new for readers familiar with the topic, is perhaps a little more up-to-date in that he tries to work out the mechanisms underlying Brazilian foreign policies since the Second World War. Grabendorff lists the alternatives for Brazilian foreign policies as including the following possibilities: the Mexican model, fortress Brazil, Brazil as an occidental power, expansionism, an alliance of the Portuguese-speaking countries, a Brazil-Argentina axis, and an alliance of the rich countries of the Southern Hemisphere.

The authors include F. H. Cardoso's welcome refutation of the subimperialism hypothesis, but it is inadequate as the sole statement in a discussion that has many complexities. The literature surveyed and the statistical tables might prove useful to the English-speaking reader. Those students who read German sufficiently well may find the volume a very good introductory textbook to the subject.

Adriano B. do Ameral's investigation concentrates on two aspects of Brazilian development strategies since the Second World War. The first is the phase of the substitution of imports from 1947 to 1965, and the second is the new phase of import substitution and the policy of diversification of exports from 1965 to 1973. Ameral's book contains much interesting material, including statistical tables, and surveys a wealth of literature. Unfortunately, serious printing errors limit the book's usefulness, especially the total omission of pages 152-53, 156-57, and 160-61. The most imaginative chapter is that dealing with the diversification of exports and the analysis of some very successful Brazilian firms who have participated in the trend toward the new international division of labor. It might be added that the Federal Republic of Germany is one of the European countries most deeply involved in the new international

division of labor. I therefore believe that both development analysts and industrialists will find Ameral's analysis useful.

The last volume of this incomplete sampling of recent Latin American research in German is Günter Wipplinger's study of small and medium-sized industrial enterprises in Brazil in recent years. Wipplinger's study is useful to the English-speaking reader because of its many detailed documents from the Brazilian industrial census of 1970. His state-by-state tables on the structure of Brazilian industry might also be very helpful to political scientists and sociologists.

Individuals such as Dieter Senghaas and Dieter Ernst have done much to systematize Latin American development thinking and to integrate it into a uniform theory of the international system. From this perspective, all three books cover only one aspect of the European discussion of the styles and possibilities of development in the world periphery. Research in German-speaking countries on Latin America has a rich and promising future with increasing numbers of trained political scientists and sociologists who possess a good working knowledge of Spanish, Portuguese, and sometimes Quechua and Guarani, and who have outstanding library facilities at their disposal.