

Análisis comparativo de la autodeterminación y representación política Indígena en el continente Americano

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In this paper I discuss Indigenous self-determination in our continent (the Abya Yala and Turtle Island) and how most nation-states address this issue from a standpoint of “you can sit with us but under our terms”. This position preaches the inclusion of Indigenous peoples in society, but under western liberal standards that are conducted as assimilation, **characteristic of neoliberal and neocolonial capitalism**. I argue that Indigenous self-determination, basing in Indigenous, decolonial and Marxist thinkers, includes two elements: the right to effectively exercise autonomy in their communities, as well as participation in the decision-making in the nation-state. I show that less than a thirds of the countries in the continent recognize Indigenous self-determination in their Constitutions formally, and that most nation-states that recognize it, only consider one element of Indigenous self-determination, not both, with almost non-existing mechanisms to effectively exercise it by all Indigenous groups.