The Highs and Lows of Chile’s Second Democratic Transition

From Salvador Allende’s democratic socialism to General Pinochet’s neoliberal experiment, Chile is a country that has often attracted the world’s attention. In recent months the country’s constitutional process once again was seen as a progressive example. Yet on 4 September, over 60% of the Chilean electorate rejected the constitutional draft. This presentation will review the road travelled and offers a theoretical framework which may offer some insight into possible successes and failures along the way. It posits that Chile is attempting a transition towards a new form of democratic governance.

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