

Pedro Alarcón

The Ecuadorian Oil Era

Nature, Rent, and the State



Nomos

Studien zu Lateinamerika
Latin America Studies

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Volume 40

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Funded by the DAAD from funds of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ).
SDGnexus Network (grant number 57526248), program “exceed – Hochschulexzellenz in der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit”

DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



The **Deutsche Nationalbibliothek** lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available on the Internet at <http://dnb.d-nb.de>

a.t.: Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO) sede Ecuador, Diss., 2020
Original title: “Rent and the State: An Approach to the Ecuadorian Oil Booms and Their Impact on Social Formation”

Directed by Prof. Dr. Stefan Peters of the Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen

ISBN 978-3-8487-7985-7 (Print)
978-3-7489-2115-8 (ePDF)

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-3-8487-7985-7 (Print)
978-3-7489-2115-8 (ePDF)

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Alarcón, Pedro
The Ecuadorian Oil Era
Nature, Rent, and the State
Pedro Alarcón
245 pp.

Includes bibliographic references.

ISBN 978-3-8487-7985-7 (Print)
978-3-7489-2115-8 (ePDF)

1st Edition 2021

© Pedro Alarcón

Published by
Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG
Waldseestraße 3-5 | 76530 Baden-Baden
www.nomos.de

Production of the printed version:
Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG
Waldseestraße 3-5 | 76530 Baden-Baden

ISBN (Print): 978-3-8487-7985-7

ISBN (ePDF): 978-3-7489-2115-8

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5771/9783748921158>



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Onlineversion
Nomos eLibrary

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List of Abbreviations

AfDB	African Development Bank
BCE	Banco Central del Ecuador
BEV	Banco Ecuatoriano de la Vivienda
BIESS	Banco del Instituto Ecuatoriano de Seguridad Social
BNF	Banco Nacional de Fomento
BMZ	Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung
CAN	Comunidad Andina
CEPAL	Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe
CEPE	Corporación Estatal Petrolera Ecuatoriana
CEREPS	Cuenta Especial de Reactivación Productiva y Social, del Desarrollo Científico Tecnológico y de la Estabilización Fiscal
CES	Consejo de Educación Superior
CFN	Corporación Financiera Nacional
CGY	Certificado de Garantía Yasuní
CIADI	Centro Internacional de Arreglo de Diferencias Relativas a Inversiones
CNE	Consejo Nacional Electoral
CONADE	Consejo Nacional de Desarrollo
CONAIE	Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador
CONAM	Consejo Nacional de Modernización del Estado
EAR	Ecuadorian Amazon Region
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECORAE	Fondo para el Ecodesarrollo Regional Amazónico
ENAC	Empresa Nacional de Almacenamiento y Comercialización
ENE	Emisiones Netas Evitadas
ENPROVIT	Empresa Nacional de Productos Vitales
FEIREP	Fondo de Estabilización, Inversión Social y Productiva y Reducción del Endeudamiento Público
FEISEH	Fondo Ecuatoriano de Inversión en los Sectores Energético e Hidrocarburiífero
FEP	Fondo de Estabilización Petrolera
FETRACEPE	Federación Nacional de Trabajadores Petroleros Estatales de CEPE
FETRAPEC	Federación Nacional de Trabajadores de la Empresa Estatal Petróleos del Ecuador
FLOPEC	Flota Petrolera Ecuatoriana
FONADE	Fondo Nacional de Desarrollo

List of Abbreviations

GDP	Gross domestic product
GFCF	Gross fixed capital formation
GNI	Gross national income
ICSID	International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes
IEA	International Energy Agency
IERAC	Instituto Ecuatoriano de Reforma Agraria y Colonización
IESS	Instituto Ecuatoriano de Seguridad Social
IFI	International Financial Institutions
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INECEL	Instituto Nacional de Electrificación
ISI	Import-substitution industrialization
ITT	Ishpingo Tambococha Tiputini
JUNAPLA	Junta Nacional de Planificación y Coordinación Económica
KSA	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
LPG	Liquefied petroleum gas
LRSE	Ley de Régimen del Sector Eléctrico
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MIT	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
MITI	Ministry of International Trade and Industry
NIC	Newly industrialized countries
OCDE	Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económicos
OCP	Oleoducto de Crudos Pesados
OECD	Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
OLADE	Organización Latinoamericana de Energía
OXY	Occidental Petroleum Corporation
OPEC	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
PAIS	Movimiento Patria Altiva i Soberana
PdVSA	Petróleos de Venezuela S.A.
PETROECUADOR	Empresa Estatal Petróleos del Ecuador
PETROECUADOR	Empresa Pública de Hidrocarburos del Ecuador
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation
SAP	Structural adjustment program
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SENESCYT	Secretaría Nacional de Educación Superior, Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación
SENPLADES	Secretaría Nacional de Planificación y Desarrollo
SOTE	Sistema Oleoducto Trans-Ecuatoriano
TFP	Total factor productivity
TRANSHAVE	Transportes Navieros Ecuatorianos
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

List of Abbreviations

UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WC	Washington Consensus
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WTO	World Trade Organization
YNP	Yasuní National Park

Abstract

By focusing on half-century of recent Latin American economic history, this book presents a multidisciplinary approach to the relentless quest of development in the Global South and aims at revitalizing the academic debate if natural resources abundance is a blessing or a curse. The pioneering diachronic comparative approach of two Ecuadorian oil booms, 1) 1972-1980, and 2) 2003-2014, shows processes of continuity and change in the capacity of the peripheral state to intervene in the national development process and its consequences on social formation framed by the contemporary forms of global capitalism and the irruption of environmental thinking into development policymaking.

The Ecuadorian state's struggle with multinational corporations for the appropriation of a larger portion of oil rent became a landmark of the 1970s; henceforth, oil rent has been central to modernization. Since the dawn of the twenty-first century, social environmental awareness is deeply entrenched in the Ecuadorian sociopolitical arena and increasingly contributes to expose the flaws of the prevalent natural resources-based development model. Together with environmental thinking, social environmental awareness strives for further influencing development policymaking and advocates for the reconstruction of the concept of development itself.

The study of either Ecuadorian oil booms through the viewpoint of nature, rent, and the state allows a historical-structural approach to the process of development. Such methodological strategy converges upon the heritage of Latin American development studies, which takes into account a scenario framed by 1) external constraints (the insertion of the country into the broader international division of labor) and 2) domestic circumstances (different development policymaking strategies and common debatable outcomes regarding economic diversification and temporary improvements in socioeconomic indicators).

Keywords: Latin America, development studies, neo-extractivism, environmental discourses, buen vivir, peripheral state

Acknowledgements

This book is the culmination of my PhD studies at FLACSO under the direction of Prof. Dr. Stefan Peters of the Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen. Its publication is possible thanks to the SDGnexus Network funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) from funds of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ).

I could not have formulated this book without guidance and criticism of fine scholars, among them my wife María Augusta Espín. I also found a mentor in my dissertation director, who closely supervised my thesis and enriched it with bright comments at every step of the long journey. His intellectual contributions greatly improved this manuscript. Now I happily can count Stefan as a friend.

I am grateful to Daniele Benzi, Julio Oleas, William Sacher, and Alberto Acosta for their academic contributions during the early stages of this book. Jan Ickler proofread some sections of the manuscript, thereby he openhandedly offered thought-provoking criticism. Carmen Diana Deere, Anita Krainer, and Myriam Paredes ensured stimulating environments for the elaboration of this book as they invited me to join their academic projects and to teach in their courses. My fellow researchers Virginia Villamediana, Lucía Yamá, Claudia Arce and Paulina Quisaguano provided greatest joy from comradeship and put their vast knowledge of the social sciences at my disposal. Thanks for generosity and goodwill. My debt of gratitude goes also to all my reviewers, especially Sebastian Matthes, Juan Pablo Pérez Saínz and Rafael Domínguez Marín for their erudite and enriching comments.

FLACSO Ecuador funded my research during three years from February 2015 until February 2018. Between March and August 2018, European Union Erasmus+ funds financed my doctoral stay at the Freie Universität Berlin. Another rich source of academic exchange was my participation in conferences and congresses. I was granted financial support from the University of Kassel, the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), and the Maria Sibylla Merian Center for Advanced Latin American Studies (CALAS) to participate in academic events abroad, where I exposed the progress of my research and received constructive feedback. Last but not least, during the long journey of my PhD studies, my family welcomed me

Acknowledgements

to take shelter (and warm meals) in Quito, Conocoto, Tonsupa, Adliswil and Kew Gardens.