

How Party Activism Survives

Political parties with activists are in decline due to various external shocks. Societal changes, like the emergence of technologies of communication, have diminished the role and number of activists, while party elites increasingly can make do without grassroots activists. However, recent scholarship concerning different democracies has shown how activism still matters for representation. This book contributes to this literature by analyzing the unique case of the Uruguayan *Frente Amplio* (FA), the only mass-organic, institutionalized, leftist party in Latin America. Using thick description, systematic process tracing, and survey research, this case study highlights the value of an organization-centered approach for understanding parties' role in democracy in the twenty-first century. Within the FA, organizational rules grant activists a significant voice, which imbues activists' participation with a strong sense of agency. This explains activists' participation with a strong sense of efficacy. This book is an excellent resource for scholars and students of Latin America and comparative politics who are interested in political parties and the challenges confronting new democracies.

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Frontmatter

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How Party Activism Survives

Uruguay's Frente Amplio

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To Lena and Manu

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Frontmatter

[More Information](#)

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>List of Tables</i>	x
<i>List of Boxes</i>	xii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xiii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xvii
1 Introduction	1
Theory	8
Methods	19
Overview	27
2 Context Matters: The Political and Socioeconomic Setting	30
Introduction	30
Rise and Decay of the Polyarchy	31
The Dual Transition in Uruguay	35
The Political Economy of the First Three FA Governments	40
Conclusions	46
3 Voluntary Activism in the FA	47
Introduction	47
The Participation Structure: In-Depth Description of the Deviant Case	48
Conclusions	78
4 Origins and Reproduction of the Mass-Organic Structure	81
Introduction	81
The Origin of the FA as a Mass-Organic Leftist Party	83
The Determinants of the Construction of the Participatory Structure	91

viii	<i>Contents</i>	
	The Reproduction of the Mass-Organic Nature	99
	Conclusions	106
5	Party Structure, Efficacy, and Activism	108
	Introduction	108
	Activists Are Different from Adherents	110
	Voice Reduction Affects Activists	115
	Organizers Transform Adherents into Activists	120
	Conclusions	122
6	The Limits to Strategic Adaptation	124
	Introduction	124
	Empirical Analysis of Party Decisions	128
	The Ideological Transformation of the FA	131
	Examples of Limits to Strategic Adaptation	133
	Conclusions	142
7	The FA in Comparative Perspective	145
	Introduction	145
	The Brazilian PT: A Negative Case in Latin America	147
	The FA as a Strange Electoral Alliance	154
	Conclusions	159
8	Theoretical Conclusions and Political Implications	160
	Introduction	160
	Review of Empirical Findings	161
	The Challenges Ahead	165
	A Decadent Organization of the Past or Democracy in the Twenty-First Century?	169
	<i>Appendix – Interviewees</i>	173
	<i>References</i>	175
	<i>Index</i>	189

Figures

2.1	The electoral evolution of the left before 1971	<i>page</i> 34
2.2	Electoral evolution in national elections, 1971–2014	40
2.3	Poverty, extreme poverty, and Gini Index 2002–2017	43
2.4	Main export items 2005–2018 (Paasche Index Prices in US Dollars 2005 = 100)	44
2.5	Evolution of GDP growth rate, unemployment, fiscal deficit, and inflation in Uruguay (2006–2018)	45
3.1	Self-reported distance from a Base Committee (in blocks)	51
3.2	Sociodemographic characteristics of Base Committee attendees	53
3.3	Active Base Committees in Montevideo in 1971	58
3.4	Active Base Committees in Montevideo in 2015	58
3.5	The organizational structure of the FA	65
6.1	National Political Board motions from factions and grassroots members (2000–2016)	129

Tables

1.1	FA Brand Across Latin America	<i>page</i> 22
1.2	Cited FA Documents	25
1.3	Types of Engagement	26
2.1	Constitutional Plebiscites and Law Referenda since 1980	37
3.1	Number of FA Members Who Pay Dues (By Year)	61
3.2	New Party Members (By Year, 1986–2017)	62
3.3	Electoral Evolution of FA Factions	72
3.4	Electoral Strength of FA Factions (2014 National Election and 2016 FA Internal Election)	74
3.5	Percentage of Base Committee Attendees by Faction	76
3.6	Faction Representation in Base Committees and Performance in a Recent FA Internal Election (2016) and National Legislative Election (2014)	77
4.1	Descriptive Inference Concerning the Origin of the FA	92
4.2	Causal Inference of the Origin of the FA	98
4.3	Causal Reproduction	101
4.4	Evidence of Descriptive Inference – Reproduction	104
5.1	Socioeconomic, Sociodemographic Characteristics, and Ideology	112
5.2	Willingness to Participate in Different Activities by Type of Adherent	113
5.3	Reported Behavior by Type of Adherent	114
5.4	Linear-Regression Model: Willingness to Participate and Reported Participation	115

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Verónica Pérez Bentancur , Rafael Piñeiro Rodríguez , Fernando Rosenblatt
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

<i>Tables</i>	xi
5.5 <i>t</i> -test Results Comparing Means on Treatment (Selective Incentive) and Control	118
5.6 <i>t</i> -test Results Comparing Means on Treatment (Collective Incentive) and Control	120
6.1 Members Perceptions of Ideological Positions	125

Boxes

5.1 Survey Experiment	<i>page</i> 117
5.2 Survey Experiment 2	119

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We took our first steps in the discipline at the Departamento de Ciencia Política of the Universidad de la República. As BA students, we were taught by the generation of political scientists who forged the nascent discipline in Uruguay. It was also a period of scant resources for education. Yet those who formed us as political scientists instilled in us a passion for both politics and the discipline. We were all research assistants at the department, and this first experience of conducting research confirmed and reinforced our interest in pursuing a career in Political Science. Verónica earned her doctorate at the Departamento de Ciencia Política y Relaciones Internacionales of the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella. Rafael and Fernando were among the first cohorts in the doctoral program in Political Science of the Instituto de Ciencia Política at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. These doctoral programs gave us a unique perspective on the research problems of the discipline,

as well as models of how to pursue scholarship in Political Science from the South. While we relish living in Latin America, close to our research subjects, doing Political Science from the South is extremely challenging. We have benefitted, however, from the professionalization and transformation of the social sciences that have taken place in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, and from their internationalization. These transformations can be seen, for example, in the activities of different global and regional networks (e.g., EGAP and REPAL) and in the organization of local initiatives with regional projection, such as the Escuela de Verano en Métodos Mixtos at the Instituto de Ciencia Política of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and the Escuela de Invierno en Métodos y Análisis de Datos organized by the Departamento de Ciencias Sociales of the Universidad Católica del Uruguay

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Acknowledgments

xv

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Abbreviations

ADEOM	Asociación de Empleados y Obreros Municipales (Mayoralty’s Union Workers)
ANCAP	Administración Nacional de Combustibles, Alcohol y Portland (Oil, Alcohol, and Cement National Administration)
AU	Asamblea Uruguay (Uruguayan Assembly)
CAP-L	Corriente de Acción y Pensamiento-Libertad (Action and Thought Tendency-Freedom)
CNT	Convención Nacional de Trabajadores (National Workers Convention)
CPO	Causal Process Observation
DC	Partido Demócrata Cristiano (Chilean Christian Democratic Party)
DSV	Double Simultaneous Vote
EGAP	Evidence in Governance and Politics
EP	Encuentro Progresista (Progressive Encounter)
FA	Frente Amplio (Broad Front)
FIDEL	Frente de Izquierda de Liberación (Leftist Liberation Front)
FLS	Frente Líber Seregni (Líber Seregni Front)
FRAP	Frente de Acción Popular (Popular Action Front)
FREDEJUSO	Frente por la Democracia y Justicia Social (Social Justice and Democracy Front)
FREPASO	Frente País Solidario (Solidary Country Front)
FTA	Free Trade Agreement

GAU	Grupos de Acción Unificadora (Groups of Unified Action)
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IDI	Izquierda Democrática Independiente (Independent Democratic Left)
ISI	Import Substitution Industry
JUP	Juventud Uruguaya de Pie (Uruguayan Standing Youth)
MAS	Movimiento al Socialismo (Movement toward Socialism)
MERCOSUR	Mercado Común del Sur (Common Market of the South)
MLN	Movimiento de Liberación Nacional-Tupamaros (National Liberation Movement)
MPG	Movimiento por el Gobierno del Pueblo (Movement for the Government of the People)
MPP	Movimiento de Participación Popular (Popular Participation Movement)
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
ONI	Organización Nacional de Independientes (National Organization of Independents)
PAP-Q	Preanalysis Plan-Qualitative
PC	Partido Colorado (Colorado Party)
PCCh	Partido Comunista de Chile (Chilean Communist Party)
PCU	Partido Comunista del Uruguay (Communist Party of Uruguay)
PDC	Partido Demócrata Cristiano (Christian Democratic Party)
PIT-CNT	Plenario Intersindical de Trabajadores – Convención Nacional de Trabajadores (Interunion Workers Plenary – National Workers Convention)
PJ	Partido Justicialista (Justicialist Party)
PLUNA	Primeras Líneas Uruguayas de Navegación Aérea (First Uruguayan Airlines)
PN	Partido Nacional (National Party)
POR	Partido Obrero Revolucionario (Revolutionary Workers Party)
PPD	Partido por la Democracia (Party for Democracy)
PRSD	Partido Radical Social Demócrata (Radical Social Democratic Party)
PSCh	Partido Socialista de Chile (Chilean Socialist Party)
PSU	Partido Socialista del Uruguay (Socialist Party of Uruguay)

Abbreviations xix

PT	Partido dos Trabalhadores (Workers Party)
PVP	Partido por la Victoria del Pueblo (Party for the Victory of the People)
TISA	Trade in Services Agreement
UCR	Unión Cívica Radical (Civil Radical Union)
UN	United Nations
UP	Unidad Popular (Popular Unity)
US	United States of America
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

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