CURRENT ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN NORTH AMERICA: SITUATION AND DISJUNCTIVE

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Abstract

The economic integration, seen as a strategy for increase the commerce, search ways for cooperation and complementation, encouraging the development among countries, which since the last lustrum of the 21st century showed relatively clear tendencies in the American Continent. Since 2016, with the occurrence of unexpected events, seems to be aimed at giving a substantial change of direction, which will lead to reconfigure current forms.

The tendencies, now strongly questioned, show at least three orientations. The Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR in Spanish), a hybrid treaty that combine commerce, economy and social problems, with the change of leadership in Brazil and Argentina, has entered a seemingly dead-end tunnel; the USAN (UNASUR in Spanish) and the BAPOA-PTA (ALBA-TCP in Spanish), with a vision of solidary social cooperation, live times in of stagnation in the absence and policy weakness of who were its promoters once. The NAFTA (TLCAN in Spanish), whose twenty years of life, based on strategies of open regionalism, allowed to increase the commerce and investment in North America, now is strongly disputed for the brand new president of the United States of America (2017-2021), and thereby reduce the possibilities for the formation of a new commercial-economic block, exemplified in the TPP and in the now in force Pacific Alliance (AP for the acronym in Spanish). In the NAFTA model and its derivatives focus the paper.

In what has now been called “the end of an era”, the questions that emerge are: What would happen with all the economic integration projects conceived and in force in North America? Are the conditions to replacing it? Which would be the new trend tendencies on the horizon that awaits? The objective for the paper is search approximate answers to the questions above. The elaboration method is explicative-descriptive. We start from a description of the block of treaties that seemed to form a unit (NAFTA, PA, TPP), therefore identify questionings from the new United States government and the likely trends toward the reconfiguration of the integration process among Mexico, United States of America and Canada.

Key words: Integration, reality, perspectives.

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