

Tracing the changes in Dual Citizenship in Latin America and the Caribbean

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Historically, dual citizenship has been discouraged by both States and International Law: in the 1960's just around a third of the world States accepted some type of dual citizenship for, at least, their own citizens-by-birth. However, since the 1970's and particularly after the 90's, a global trend towards increasing acceptance of dual citizenship took place with such a force, that currently dual citizenship is accepted by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the States in the world (Vink, De Groot & Luk 2015). Nowhere such change was more radical than in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Traditionally, this region was the most opposed to dual citizenship and yet, this changed so drastically during the 80's and 90's, that in those 20 years it became the most liberal region in this regard. Currently, almost 90% of LAC countries accept dual citizenship, or even promote it; what is more, it is the only region where such liberalisation towards dual citizenship never faced real challenges (Vink, De Groot & Luk 2015). I will argue that the sources of such radical change, from rejection to wide tolerance of dual citizenship in LAC from 1980's, are twofold: firstly, the demands of quickly growing communities of nationals residing abroad, regarding their states of origin; secondly, broader changes in political paradigms in the region, particularly regarding nationalism (e.g. subjected to criticism by both multiculturalism, as well as by neo-liberal ideologies). For that, will use original data (datasets) and reports by the MACIMIDE Global Expatriate Dual Citizenship Dataset (Vink, De Groot & Luk 2015); the Emigrant Policies Index (EMIX) (Pedroza, Palop-García & Hoffman, 2017), and the Global Citizenship Observatory (GLOBALCIT, 2018), as well as secondary literature for the specific cases.