

This paper seeks to examine the state responses to the demands for political incorporation of the newly mobilized poor in the beginning of the twentieth century. Governments in the region attempted new institutional forms to deal with this challenge, some of which gave a stronger presence to the state in the political, social and even economic arenas. Were those responses effective to diminish political conflict? We will try to identify the conditions under which different types of institutions constituted a successful response for reducing conflict and evaluate if a relationship between levels and modes of mobilization mattered for state responses. In particular, we will assess to what extent and with what consequences the Latin American states employed the institution of the suffrage as a response to increasing demands for political inclusion.