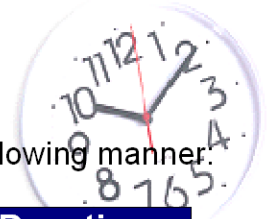


Group Activity “Analysis of the Advancements and Regressions of Democracy”

I. Organization

- a. **Individual Analysis:** Each participant should make individual reflections on the advances and regressions of democracy in the Americas.
- b. **Group Formation:** Organize the participants in small **multi-sector groups** to conduct a critical analysis of the state and factors of democratic development in the region on the basis of their personal and professional experience and knowledge, and the conceptual and analytical foundation of the workshop.
- c. **Selection of Spokesperson:** Each group should choose someone to take notes on the discussions and present the results to the full group.
- d. **Group Analysis:** Each group will analyze the advances and regressions of democracy in the region on the basis of the instruments provided for the activity.
- e. **Plenary (full group):** After conducting an analysis, the facilitator of the activity will call all the participants to a plenary assembly for each group spokesperson to present their conclusions. The facilitator will foster the exchange of findings, similarities and differences between the participants.
- f. **Results:** Each group should give the coordinators a copy of the activity with their completed analysis in electronic format and a printed copy the next day.





II. Time Administration

The 2 hours (120 minutes) assigned for the activity will be distributed in the following manner:

Activity	Duration
Explanation of the activity	10 minutes
Individual Analysis	10 minutes
Group formation and Selection of Spokesperson	5 minutes
Group Analysis	60 minutes
Full Group –Group presentations (5 groups x 5 minutes for each)	25 minutes
Conclusions	10 minutes
Total	120 minutes

III. Objectives

- a. To identify the principal advances and regressions in the democratic processes in the region through a basic identification of the characteristics of the democratic institutions, values and practices of the Americas.
- b. To analyze the principal strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to the development and sustainability of democratic political systems in the region and to prioritize them according to facilitate any necessary action and reforms.

IV. Description

- a. Each participant will make an individual reflection about the strengths and weaknesses of the institutions and democratic culture in the Americas.
- b. Each group will identify one strength and weakness by consensus of the political systems of the region, in terms of its institutional development and the predominant political culture.
 - *Strengths* = the internal attributes of the political system and democratic culture that foster and sustain democracy.
 - *Weaknesses* = the internal attributes of the political system and democratic culture that limit or restrain the development and sustainability of democracy.

- c. Once each group has identified the strengths and weaknesses, they should visualize which elements of their surroundings that could be considered opportunities and threats in each country.
- *Opportunities* = The external factors that encourage the development and sustainability of democracy.
 - *Threats* = The external factors that limit or restrain the development and sustainability of democracy.

V. Instructions

“Principal Characteristics of Democratic Institutions, Values and Practices”

- a. (Individual work) Identify the main strengths and weaknesses of democratic institutions and culture in your country during recent years. Cite at least three strengths and three weaknesses from each of the following perspectives: institutional (executive power, parliament, judicial, and electoral) and Cultural (values and practices).

Institutional Perspective	
Strengths	Weaknesses
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Cultural Perspective	
Strengths	Weaknesses
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

b. (Group Work) By consensus, select one strength and one weakness for each perspective identified. (Given the limited time, only choose one perspective.) In the space provided, describe the threats and opportunities for the development and sustainability of democracy according to the selected strength and weakness.

Institutional Perspective		
	Strength	Weakness
	1.	1.
Opportunities	1.	1.
	2.	2.
	3.	3.
	4.	4.
Threats	1.	1.
	2.	2.
	3.	3.
	4.	4.

Cultural Perspective		
	Strength	Weakness
	1.	1.
Opportunities	1.	1.
	2.	2.
	3.	3.
	4.	4.
Threats	1.	1.
	2.	2.
	3.	3.
	4.	4.

c. *(Full Group)*