Record Nr. UNINA9910809230403321 Autore Carnes Matthew E. <1970-> Titolo Continuity despite change: the politics of labor regulation in Latin America / / Matthew E. Carnes Pubbl/distr/stampa Stanford, California:,: Stanford University Press,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8047-9242-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xv, 238 pages): illustrations (black and white) Collana Social Science History Disciplina 344.801 Soggetti Labor laws and legislation - Latin America Labor policy - Latin America Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Front matter -- Contents -- Tables and Figures -- Acknowledgments Nota di contenuto -- Abbreviations -- Introduction: Continuity Despite Change --Chapter 1. Explaining Enduring Labor Codes in Developing Countries: Skill Distributions and the Organizational Capacity of Labor -- Chapter 2. Using Multiple Methods to Understand Labor Law Development in Latin America -- Chapter 3. Latin American Labor Laws in Comparative Perspective -- Chapter 4. Fragmented Individualism: Professional Labor Regulation in Chile -- Chapter 5. Contradictions. Divisions. and Competition: Encompassing Labor Regulation in Peru -- Chapter 6. Integration and Incorporation: Corporatist Labor Regulation in Argentina -- Conclusion: Politics and Labor Regulation in Latin America -- Notes -- References -- Index Sommario/riassunto As the dust settles on nearly three decades of economic reform in Latin America, one of the most fundamental economic policy areas has changed far less than expected: labor regulation. To date, Latin America's labor laws remain both rigidly protective and remarkably diverse. Continuity Despite Change develops a new theoretical framework for understanding labor laws and their change through time, beginning by conceptualizing labor laws as comprehensive systems or "regimes." In this context, Matthew Carnes demonstrates

that the reform measures introduced in the 1980's and 1990's have only marginally modified the labor laws from decades earlier. To

explain this continuity, he argues that labor law development is constrained by long-term economic conditions and labor market institutions. He points specifically to two key factors—the distribution of worker skill levels and the organizational capacity of workers. Carnes presents cross-national statistical evidence from the eighteen major Latin American economies to show that the theory holds for the decades from the 1980's to the 2000's, a period in which many countries grappled with proposed changes to their labor laws. He then offers theoretically grounded narratives to explain the different labor law configurations and reform paths of Chile, Peru, and Argentina. His findings push for a rethinking of the impact of globalization on labor regulation, as economic and political institutions governing labor have proven to be more resilient than earlier studies have suggested.