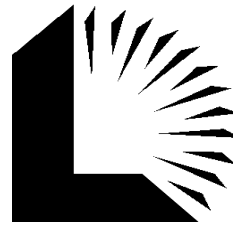


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Global Social Democracy
: Willy Brandt and the Socialist International in Latin America
By: BERND ROTHER



**GLOBAL SOCIAL
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Bernd Rother's book is a fundamental contribution to the study of contemporary political history. It reconstructs and explains in detail a series of political processes that have not been studied much, despite being the basis of the third wave of democratization in the 1980s and 1990s. Following Willy Brandt's transnational activity, *Global Social Democracy* offers an approach where the ideas and strategies of political actors take on great importance, revealing a world where politics—and especially social democracy—was no longer confined within national or regional borders. This book is the product of an exhaustive review of sources and interviews that makes it essential reading for specialists and those interested in the history of the twentieth century, but also for locating the roots, agendas, and even the protagonists of the current situation in Latin America.

— **Fernando Pedrosa**, University of Buenos Aires

Bernd Rother has deployed his fine historical skills and has written an engaging book about the Socialist International during the long presidency of the charismatic former German Chancellor Willy Brandt. Under Brandt's leadership, the Socialist International became a global political and moral force for good, bringing Latin America, the Caribbean, and Europe as close together as never before in the postwar years. This imaginative new 'Third Force' in global politics, however, was viewed highly skeptically in Washington. Rother's important book throws new light on a much-overlooked dimension of Brandt's policies. It is essential reading for anyone who wishes to truly understand North–South relations and the influence of social democracy on global politics from the 1970s to the present.

— **Klaus Larres**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

ABOUT THIS BOOK

This is first book in English dealing with the history of the Socialist International—the international alliance of social democratic parties—during the presidency of former German Chancellor Willy Brandt from 1976–1992. This book is based on thorough studies in numerous European and Latin American archives. It tries to avoid a Eurocentric view, giving equal importance to the Latin American and the European actors. It takes a fresh look at party diplomacy, a new kind of international diplomacy that was introduced by Willy Brandt in the field of international relations in the 1970s and 1980s. This study brings new insights in European as well as Latin American history of this time. It has a special focus on the role of Social Democrats (European as well as Latin American) in the civil wars in El Salvador and Nicaragua in the 1980s, and on its repercussions on domestic policies in Germany, Venezuela etc., and on the relations of those countries with the U.S. government

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bernd Rother is senior fellow at the Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt Foundation.

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