



COUNTRY BRIEF COSTA RICA

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Country Brief

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THE VARIETIES OF DEMOCRACY INSTITUTE



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About V-Dem

Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) is a new approach to conceptualizing and measuring democracy. V-Dem's multidimensional and disaggregated approach acknowledges the complexity of the concept of democracy. The V-Dem project distinguishes among five high-level principles of democracy: *electoral*, *liberal*, *participatory*, *deliberative*, and *egalitarian*, which are disaggregated into lower-level components and specific indicators.

Key features of V-Dem:

- Provides reliable data on five high-level principles and 22 lower-level components of democracy such as regular elections, judicial independence, direct democracy, and gender equality, consisting of more than 400 distinct and precise indicators;
- Covers all countries and dependent territories from 1900 to the present and provides an estimate of measurement reliability for each rating;
- Makes all ratings public, free of charge, through a user-friendly interface.

With four Principal Investigators, two Project Coordinators, fifteen Project Managers, more than thirty Regional Managers, almost 200 Country Coordinators, several Assistant Researchers, and approximately 2,600 Country Experts, the V-Dem project is one of the largest-ever social science data collection projects with a database of over 15 million data points. The database makes highly detailed analysis of virtually all aspects of democracy in a country, while also allowing for summary comparisons between countries based on aggregated indices for different dimensions of democracy. Users from anywhere are able to use the V-Dem online analysis tools which can be found at the project's website. Governments, development agencies, and NGOs can benefit from the nuanced comparative and historical data when informing critical decisions such as selecting country program priorities, informing program designs and monitoring impact of their programs.

Methodology:

Unlike extant data collection projects, which typically use a small group of experts who rate all countries or ask a single expert to code one country, the V-Dem project has recruited over 2,600 local and cross-national experts to provide judgments on various indicators about democracy. The V-Dem dataset is created by combining factual information from existing data sources about constitutional regulations and de jure situation with expert coding for questions that require evaluation. Experts' ratings are aggregated through an advanced statistical model that takes into account the possibilities that experts may make mistakes and have different scales in mind when coding. In addition, bridge-coders - experts who code multiple countries - are recruited to calibrate the scales of estimates cross-nationally¹.

¹ For further details and information about the V-Dem methodology, see <http://v-dem.net>.

Introduction

This V-Dem data brief illustrates the democratic development of Costa Rica from 1900 to 2014. The purpose is to provide a concise overview of the V-Dem data collected for Costa Rica. The historical development of the five V-Dem principles of democracy - *electoral, liberal, egalitarian, deliberative and participatory* - is analyzed, accompanied by an overview of the *female rights index*. In addition, the brief delves further into the different components and detailed indicators of the main principles of democracy². We anticipate that this brief will be a useful resource for policy-makers, practitioners and citizen-led democracy assessments.

A former Spanish colony, Costa Rica gained independence in 1821. Historically, the country has enjoyed relative political stability compared to other countries in the region. The two major political events that interrupted the electoral regime during the time series explored in this brief occurred in 1917 when a military regime, led by General Federico Tinoco, seized political power through a coup d'état, and in 1948 when civil war broke out following a controversial presidential election.

In 1949 a new constitution was adopted that stipulates for a directly elected unicameral parliament called The Legislative Assembly. A directly elected president is the head of state and government of Costa Rica. The 1949 constitution forbids a standing military making Costa Rica one of the few countries in the world without a military. Costa Rica has a long history of holding direct elections although suffrage was limited until 1949 when women were enfranchised.

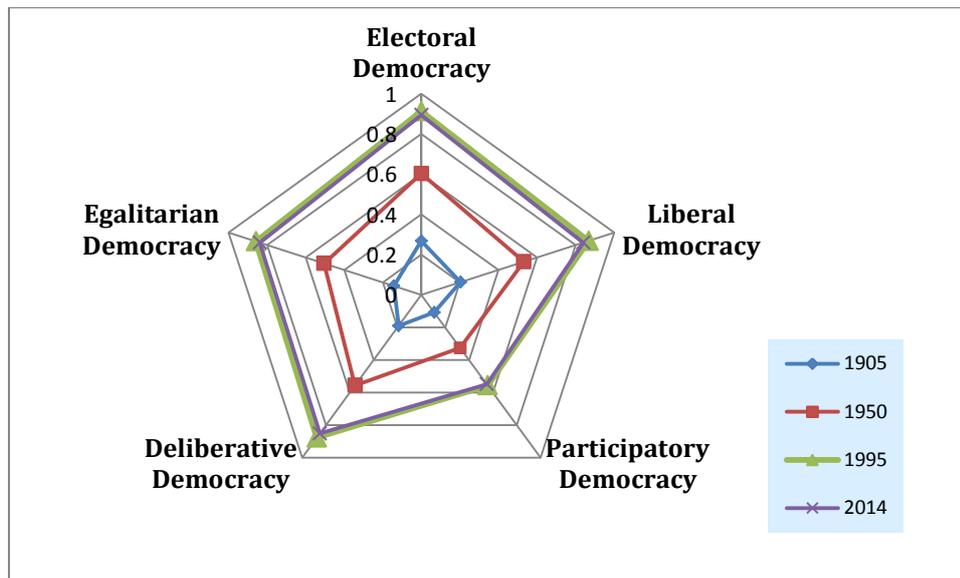
Principles of Democracy

The radar chart below in **Figure 1**, offers a quick overview of the five V-Dem indices of democracy in Costa Rica at four different points in time: 1905, 1950, 1995 and 2014. All indices in the figure range from 0 to 1, where a score of 0 suggests that a country did not evince the characteristics of democracy relevant to this particular index at this point in time, while 1 corresponds to the best possible situation for this index, according to the V-Dem measures.

In the V-Dem conceptual scheme, the electoral component of democracy is fundamental and understood as an essential element of the other principles of representative democracy - *liberal, participatory, deliberative, and egalitarian*; without it, we cannot call a regime “democratic”. However, we recognize that countries can have “democratic qualities”, without being democracies. As a result, the aggregation formulae for *all* high-level principles of democracy include the measure of electoral democracy. Thus, for example, “Participatory Democracy” is a composite score of the electoral and in the participatory components.

² For an overview of the structure of the indices, please see the Appendix.

Figure 1. Principles of Democracy Indices

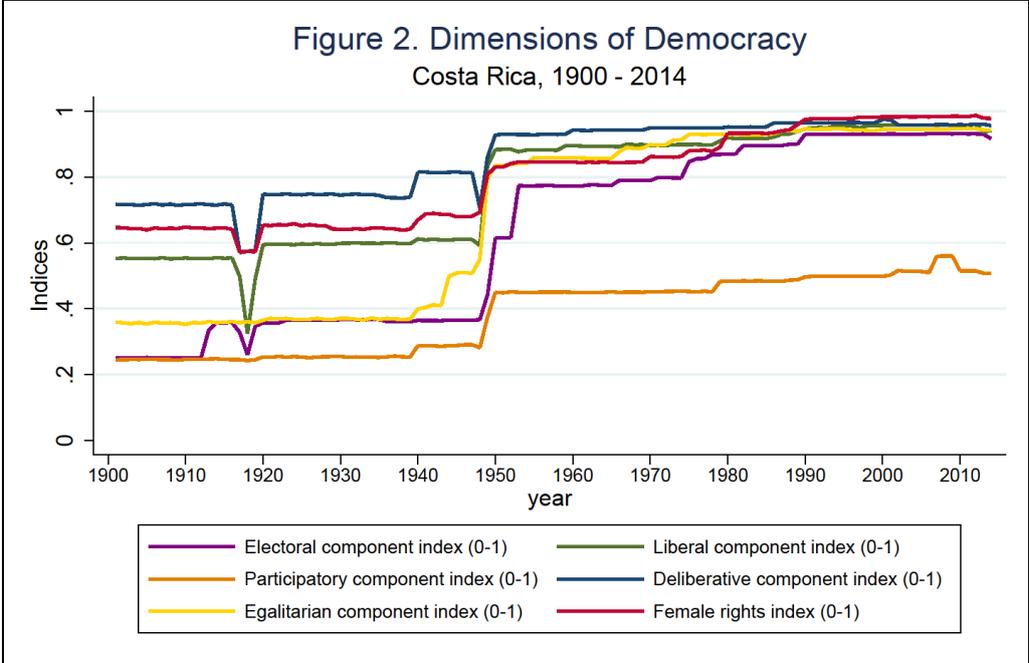


The chart indicates that Costa Rica has experienced substantive change in terms of becoming more democratic on all V-Dem principles of democracy throughout the period explored in this brief. The scores between .1 and .2 in the beginning of the century can be interpreted as indicating serious democratic deficits in Costa Rica on all areas captured by the V-Dem measures in this figure. Later on, all of the indices expand; this is first noticeable in the line for 1950. By 1995 the country has progressed even further to reach scores above .8 on all indices but one. In 2014, Costa Rica sustains more or less the same levels of development as it did in 1995.

Participatory democracy, a measure which focuses on the active direct participation of citizens in all political processes, electoral and non-electoral, is the area for which Costa Rica receives its lowest scores in all points in time in this figure, similar to many other democratic countries.

The highest scores, close to .9, in Costa Rica for 1995 and 2014 are achieved on *electoral* and *deliberative democracy*, suggesting that overall rulers are held responsive to citizens through electoral competition. It would suggest that political and civil society organizations could operate freely, and that wide deliberation on important changes is common practice in Costa Rica. In terms of the *liberal* and *egalitarian democracy* principles Costa Rica receives very high scores, around .83. This means that, generally in Costa Rica, individual and minority rights are protected and political power is distributed more or less equally across social groups.

In **Figure 2** below, we look more closely into the above indices and graph the components that comprise the five higher level principles of democracy: the electoral, liberal, egalitarian, participatory and deliberative aspects. In the graph, the development of the lower level components in Costa Rica over more than a hundred years is displayed, accompanied by the female rights index³.



Costa Rica shows more turbulent development over time in the first half of the 20th century on all democracy components included in this graph. In the second half of the century, all indices but one show gradual and consistent improvement and settle at top scores around .9 after the 1990s. The *participatory component* is the only one which shows a somewhat different development as it has only reached to the middle of the scale in more recent years.

The country shows the greatest progress in terms of *electoral democracy*, as it starts with scores of around only .2 in the beginning of the century and sees rapid improvement in the 1950s. After this period, frequent and fair electoral competition is an underlying characteristic of the Costa Rican political system, the data suggest.

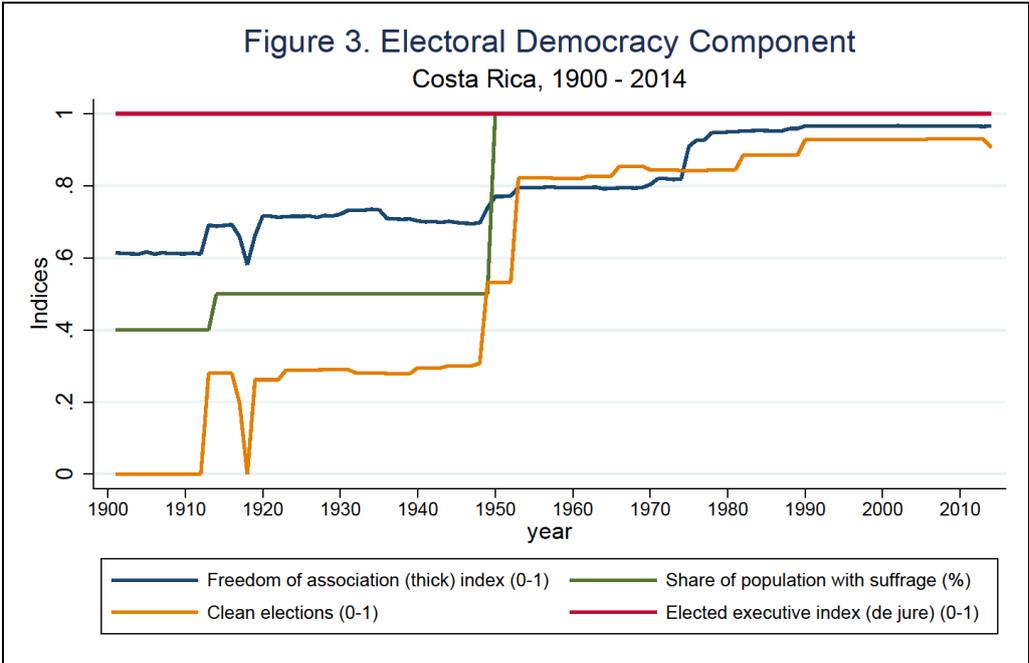
In terms of the areas captured by the *female rights index*, the *liberal* and *deliberative components*, Costa Rica experiences a somewhat similar development. Even in 1900, the country starts off with scores above the middle of the scale, and then drops from 1917 to 1919 as well as later on in 1948 on all three indices, although to a different extent. These drops could be attributed to the unstable political situation at the time. In the second half of the century women’s rights and their inclusion in political power gradually improve, coupled with the overall protection of citizens’ and minority rights, and the width and depth of public deliberation. Similarly, after the 1940s Costa Rica achieves more equal distribution of political power across social groups, which is captured by the *egalitarian component*.

In order to track down more specific aspects within these various democratic developments, the following section further explores each of the six components of democracy by graphing the indicators and indices constituting them.

³ The scale of each index and indicator is specified within parentheses in the legend of each graph. In all indicators and indices graphed, a lower score corresponds to a less democratic level, while a higher score suggests a more democratic level.

The Electoral Component

The V-Dem electoral democracy component index measures the core value of achieving responsiveness and accountability between leaders and citizens through the mechanism of competitive and periodic elections that are clean and not marred by fraud or systematic irregularities; whether political and civil society organizations can operate freely; and whether the chief executive of a country is selected (directly or indirectly) through elections. **Figure 3** displays the four sub-indices that constitute the electoral component index.



The development of voting rights in Costa Rica is captured with the indicator *share of population with suffrage*. It reflects that the country eliminates the previous economic and educational requirements for voting in 1913, and women are enfranchised in 1949.

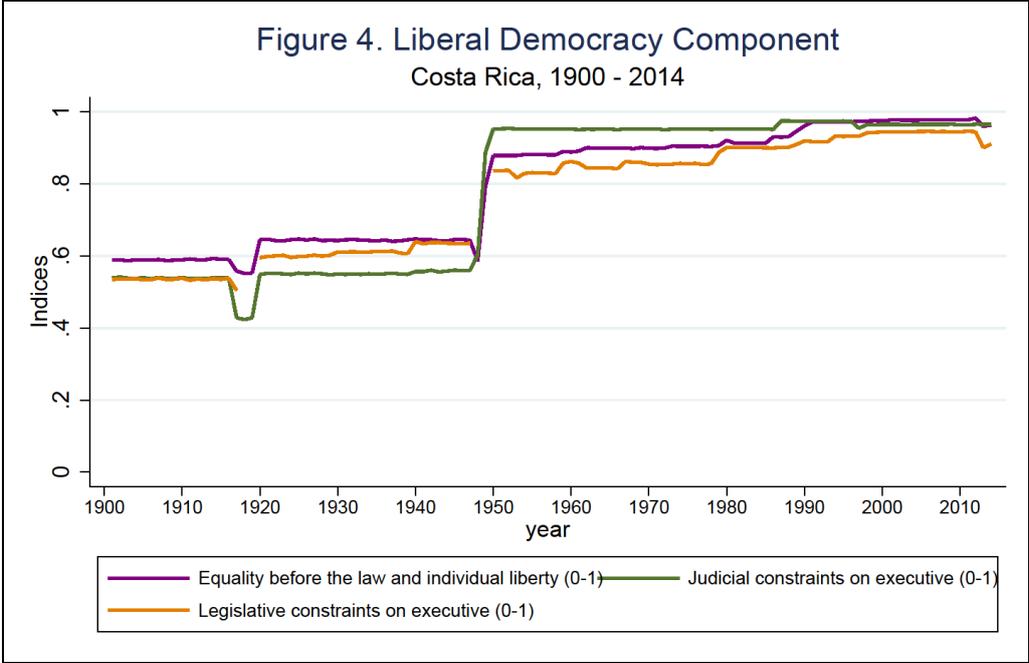
The top scores on the index *elected executive* show that the executive is selected through direct or indirect elections throughout the whole period graphed. Even after the military coup in 1917, formal vote is held, although even though there is only one candidate running in the presidential elections.

Costa Rica has been holding direct elections to the legislature since 1913, but the overview offered by the index *clean elections* suggests that irregularities have been affecting the election cycle to a very large extent up to the 1950s. After that the quality of elections is improved significantly and after the 1990s Costa Rica sustains levels around .9 on this indicator, which suggests that the elections in the country are free and fair but that minor problems still exist.

The country has also developed in regards to the *freedom of association index*, achieving rather high scores during the past four decades, and almost reaching a top score. These results suggest that parties, including opposition parties, and civil society organizations are allowed to form and operate freely. To a lesser extent, this was the case in previous years, when scores were generally lower, and especially due to some of the political situations aforementioned (the coup d'etat in 1917 and civil war in 1948).

The Liberal Component

The liberal dimension of democracy embodies the intrinsic value of protecting individual and minority rights against a potential “tyranny of the state and the majority.” This is achieved through constitutionally protected civil liberties, strong rule of law, and effective checks and balances that limit the use of executive power, all of which are captured with the V-Dem index for the liberal component. **Figure 4** demonstrates the development of the indices going into the liberal component over time.

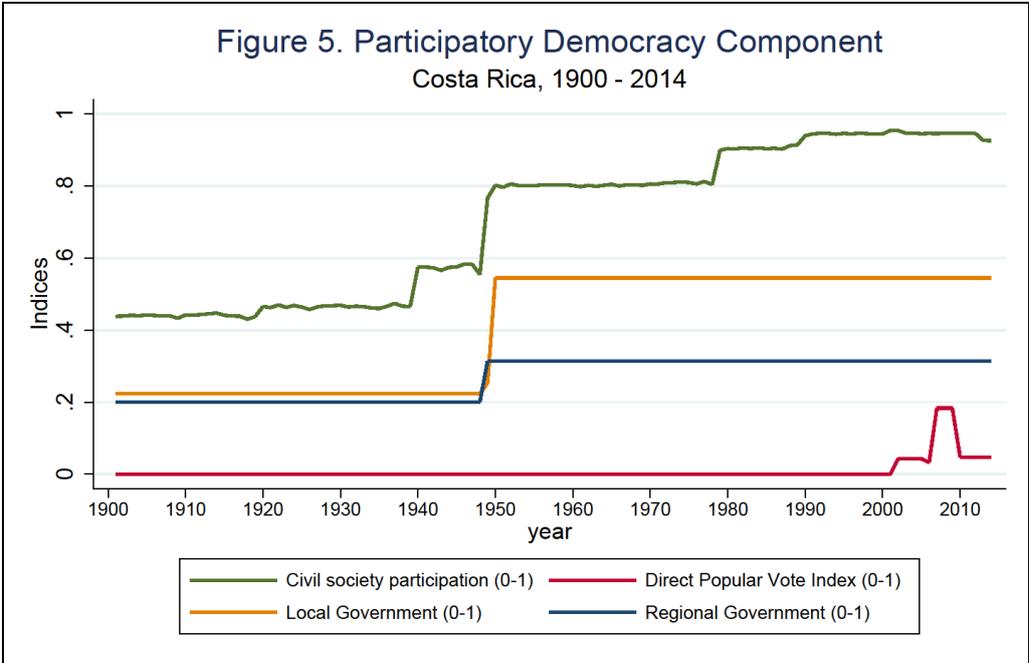


The two indices measuring the balance of power in Costa Rica, namely the *constraint on the executive by the judiciary and by the legislature*, follow somewhat similar development. On both indices the country starts off with scores just below the middle of the scale and does not show significant improvement until the 1950s. The missing data for 1917-1919 and 1948-1949 reflects that, during those periods, the legislature is closed down as result of the military coup and civil war. Close to top scores on these two V-Dem measures are reached in Costa Rica in the 1980s, indicating that the legislature is exercising tight oversight over the executive and that the executive respects the constitution, allowing for the judiciary to act in an independent fashion.

The high levels of *equality before the law and individual liberty* (around .9 and above) in the second half of the 20th century and afterwards demonstrate that, laws in Costa Rica are, to a very large extent, transparent and rigorously enforced, that the public administration is impartial, and that the people enjoy access to justice, secure property rights, freedom from forced labor, freedom of movement, physical integrity rights and freedom of religion. The data show that until 1946 there are substantial exceptions in equality before the law and individual liberties, and that, since then, Costa Rica has performed consistently well.

The Participatory Component

The participatory dimension of democracy embodies the values of direct rule and active participation by citizens in all political processes; it emphasizes non-electoral forms of political participation through such channels as civil society organizations and through the mechanisms of direct democracy. **Figure 5** displays the indices that go into the participatory democracy component.



The scores of the different indicators comprising the participatory component vary from near the bottom of the scale to the top, indicating that in Costa Rica, some participatory aspects of democracy are much stronger than others.

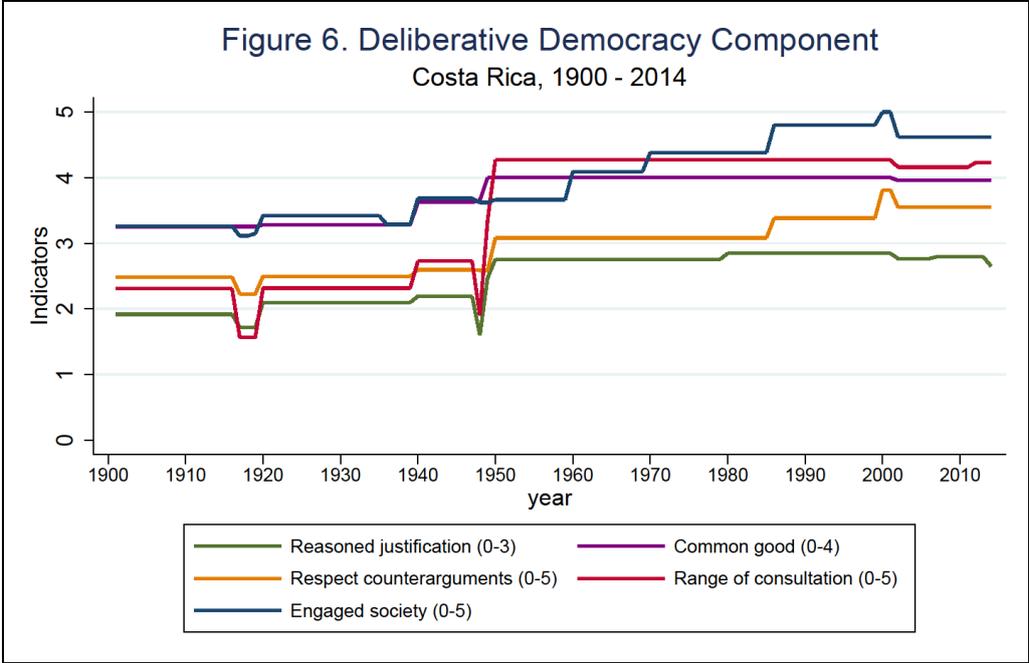
The variable scoring the lowest in Costa Rica in this graph, similar to other countries, is the *direct popular vote index*. Therefore, Costa Rica can be thought as one of the countries where the ideal of direct democracy has not been realized. The direct popular vote index measures how easy it is to initiate and approve direct popular votes (such as initiatives, referendums and plebiscites) and how consequential that vote is; it includes aspects such as the existence of a direct democracy process, the number of signatures needed and the time limits to circulate the signatures. A small increase in the data is noted at the end of the times series which registers the events around the 2007 national referendum on Dominican Republic – Central America Free Trade Agreement.

By contrast, the *civil society participation index* shows close to top scores after the 1980s. This indicates that Costa Rican citizens are actively involved in the political life of their country in the sense that peoples’ involvement in CSOs is high, women are largely involved, policymakers routinely consult these organizations, and political party nominations are highly decentralized. This high level of democratic development is reached after gradual improvements throughout the century, where the most significant changes occurring around the 1940s and 1970s.

The *regional and local government* indices measure the extent to which these bodies are popularly elected and have independent power from appointed officials by the central government. The figure shows that Costa Rica is a country where this is only partially achieved. On the local government index Costa Rica reaches the middle of the scale in the 1950s, while on the regional government index this score is even lower, around .3. This means that on the regional level even if there are elected officials, their power is not extensive.

The Deliberative Component

The deliberative component of democracy captures the core value that political decisions in pursuit of the public good should be informed by respectful and reasonable dialogue at all levels rather than by emotional appeals, solidary attachments, parochial interests, or coercion.



Note, that the indicators displayed in **Figures 6, 7 and 8** have different scales, which are specified in parentheses in the legend of each figure.

The overall trend for the indicators going into the deliberative component, shown in **Figure 6**, is one of gradual improvement, reflecting the development of a political environment that is more open to dialogue. Note that the indicators going into the deliberative index have varying scales.

On the indicator *reasoned justification* (ranging from 0 to 3, green line), Costa Rica receives close to maximum scores after the 1950s, with small fluctuations thereafter. This variable measures the extent to which political elites give public and reasoned justifications for their positions when important policy changes are being considered. The scores for Costa Rica indicate that sophisticated justification has taken place since the 1950s, meaning that elites tend to offer more than one complex, nuanced and complete justification for their position on a particular issue. Before this period, the justifications for policy-decisions tend to be more simplistic, with the lowest levels during the 1917-19 (military rule) and 1948-49 (civil war).

Holding wide and independent public deliberations on important policies plays a central role in deliberative democracy. The extent to which this is achieved in a country is measured by the indicator *engaged society* (blue line). In Costa Rica in the beginning of the century, public deliberation is confined to a small slice of specialized groups, which is reflected in scores of around 3 from 1900 until the 1940s. Later on, public deliberation is more actively encouraged and a broader segment of non-elite groups now participate.

On the measure of *range of consultation*, displayed in red on the graph, Costa Rica shows the greatest improvement compared to the other indicators included in this graph. In the beginning of the century, consultation at elite levels include only groups close to the ruling elite, while after the 1950s this circle is expanded to incorporate a wider range of participants, for example, leaders of opposition parties and/or business/society representatives. This is one of the areas that are largely affected by the political disruptions in the first half of the century. Note,

however, that the highest score for these two indicators is 5, which means that, according to the V-Dem data, certain groups are not being actively included in the deliberative process of decision-making in Costa Rica, even during more recent years.

In 1900, Costa Rica already achieves scores of above 3 for the indicator common good (purple line), and sustains this level until the 1950s when it improves further. This means that justifications of important policy changes are based on a mixture of references to constituency/party/group interests and on appeals to the common good in the beginning of the century, but later on justifications are more largely based on explicit statements of the common good for society, understood either as the greatest good for the greatest number, or as helping the least advantaged in a society.

The variable *respect counterarguments* (on a scale from 0 to 5, orange line) captures the extent to which political elites acknowledge and respect counterarguments, when important policy changes are being considered. This is the variable for which Costa Rica receives the lowest scores, between 2 and 3, in more recent years among the indicators used in this graph. Thus, the data suggests that, even though political elites tend to acknowledge opinions different from their own, often they will not accept them nor change their positions.

The Egalitarian Component

The egalitarian component is based on the idea that material and immaterial inequalities inhibit the actual exercise of formal rights and liberties; hence a more equal distribution of resources, education, and health across socioeconomic groups should enhance political equality.

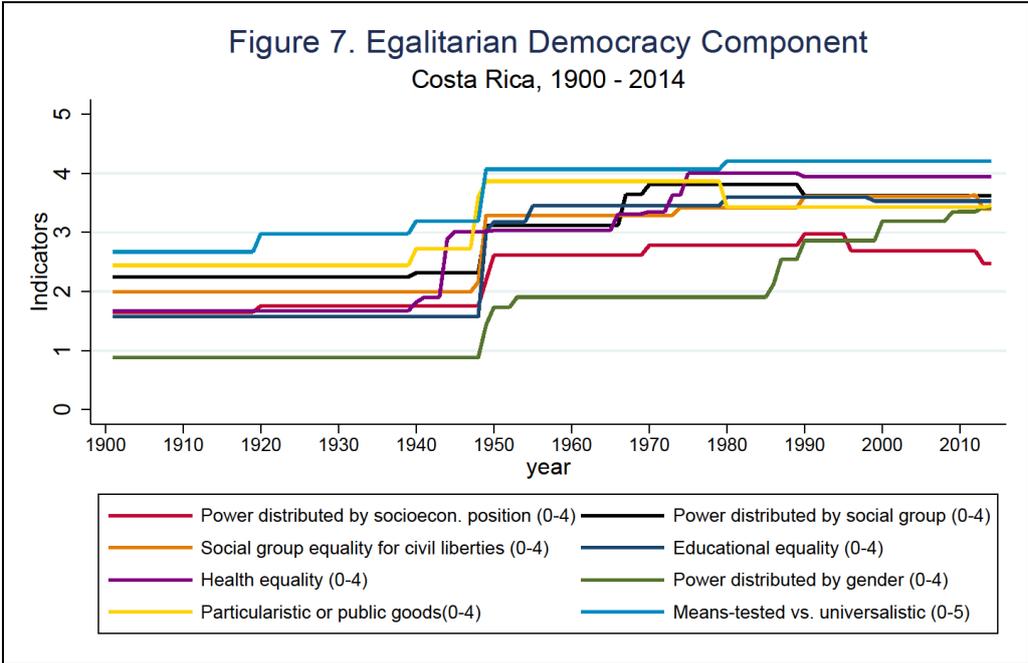


Figure 7 shows the eight indicators that comprise the egalitarian democracy component. As seen in the graph, the different aspects do not always develop in tandem; instead some improve while others are stagnant or decline.

The largest change has taken place in terms of *political power distribution by gender* (green line). As the scores until 1950s suggest, up to this period, Costa Rican women have only marginal influence over politics and since 1940 women have gradually started to gain more influence.

In the 1950s *distribution of civil liberties across social groups* becomes more equal, shown by the orange line in the graph. In the beginning of the century members of some social groups enjoy

moderately fewer civil liberties than the general population but after a swift increase in the 1950s, this gap decreases. However, since the top score of 4 has not yet been reached, it can be concluded that not all salient social groups enjoy the same level of civil liberties.

The indicator *means-tested vs. universalistic* (light blue line) aims to capture whether welfare programs are means-tested, targeting the poor or underprivileged constituents (through for example cash-transfer program), or whether they are potentially of benefit to all members of the polity (these can include free education, national health care schemes, and retirement programs). In the V-Dem conceptual scheme, welfare programs that benefit everyone and do not stigmatize certain unprivileged groups, such as poor people, are more democratic from an egalitarian perspective than means-tested programs which only target these particular groups. From the beginning of the 20th century up to the 1950s, welfare state policies in Costa Rica remains roughly evenly divided between means-tested and universalistic. Since the 1950s, the majority of the welfare policies target the whole population, but a significant portion is means-tested.

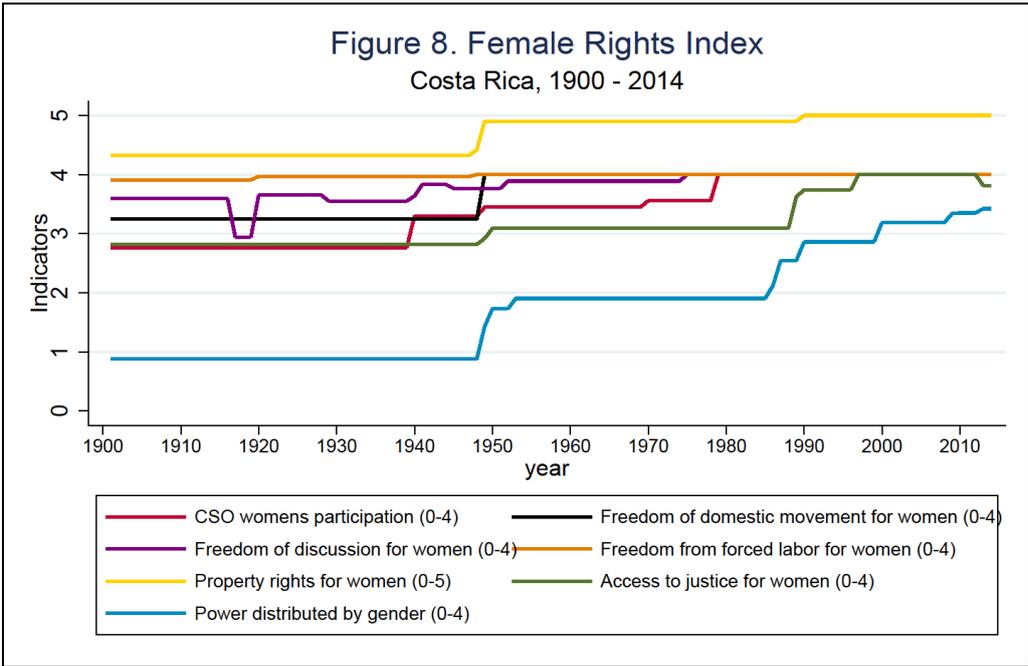
Somewhat similar development is experienced in the area captured by the measure *particularistic or public goods* (yellow line). This indicator measures how much of the budget is allocated to the provision of general public goods rather than particularistic ones (such spending may be referred to as “pork,” “clientelistic,” or “private goods”). In Costa Rica social and infrastructure expenditures are more or less evenly divided between particularistic and public-goods programs from the beginning of the century until the 1950s. After this, more programs have become public-goods in character, although a decline can be seen in the scores since the 1980s.

When looking at the two indicators which capture the political power distribution by *social group* (black line) and *by socioeconomic groups* (red line), one can see that, both historically and in more recent years, Costa Rica has experienced more significant problems with distributing political power to people of average and lower income. In comparison, after an increase in the 1950s and 1960s on the indicator *power distributed by social groups*, all significant groups receive their turn at the seat of power in Costa Rica. However, a small but steady decrease of levels is able to be discerned on both indicators after the 1990s.

On the indicators *health equality* (purple line) and *educational equality* (dark blue line) Costa Rica shows levels below 2 in the beginning of the century and significantly higher (between 3.5 and 4) in more recent years. These scores indicates that, overall, citizens have equal access to high quality healthcare and education in Costa Rica, enabling them to exercise their basic rights as citizens; although these right is undermined for around five to ten percent (%) of citizens due to low-quality education.

Female Rights

Equality between women and men is indivisible from democracy at all levels, and is broadly recognized as a pre-condition for truly representative and responsive governments. The V-Dem *female rights index* focuses on the ability of women to participate in open discussion of political issues, to take part in civil society organizations, to have an equal share in the overall distribution of power, the freedom of movement, the right to private property, access to justice, and freedom from forced labor. **Figure 8** displays the seven indicators that constitute this index for Costa Rica.



The graph indicates that women’s freedoms in Costa Rica have been largely protected, as portrayed by the high scores on the measures that comprise the V-Dem *female rights index* in **Figure 8**.

As the data suggests, *freedom from forced labor* (orange line), *freedom of domestic movement* (black line) and *freedom of discussion* (purple line) for women have been consistently protected in Costa Rica even at the beginning of the century. As it could be expected, the openness of discussions was affected significantly by the military coup in 1917 and to a certain extent during the civil war.

Secure and effective access to justice for women is almost always observed in more recent years, as indicated by the high scores for the variable *access to justice* (green line), although this has been less consistently observed before the 1980s.

Costa Rica reaches maximum scores on the indicators *property rights for women* (yellow line) and *CSO women’s participation* (red line) around 1950 and 1980 respectively, when all groups received equal protection of their property rights, and participation in civil society organizations (CSOs). Before that, female representatives of certain groups experienced violations of their rights in these two areas.

The last measure in the graph, *power distributed by gender* displayed in blue in this figure, develops somewhat slower in comparison to the other indicators. Costa Rica does not reach the maximum score on this indicator even in most recent years, although a gradual improvement starting from the 1940s has led to women gaining increasingly more power, as was noted in the previous section. Yet, parity remains to be achieved.

Concluding Remarks

Based on data from key V-Dem indices and indicators, this brief provides an overview of the democratic development of Costa Rica from 1900 to 2014. Overall the data has reflected the gradual and relatively stable democratic development of Costa Rica.

Starting from relatively low levels in the beginning of the century, the country now shows a number of democratic qualities. In particular, Costa Rica has developed greatly in terms of electoral and liberal democracy, achieving very high scores on the V-Dem indices and indicators that measure these democratic areas. For example, the quality of elections is rated high on the V-Dem *clean elections index* by the multiple V-Dem coders, as well as the equality before the law and individual liberties, which is confirmed by the disaggregation of the data by gender in the *female rights index*.

However, the brief also shows that the remaining goals of achieving equal distribution of political power by economic groups and gender have not yet been achieved. In addition, the *participatory component* is the one component which, when compared with other V-Dem indices, falls behind. However, this is mostly driven by the measure of how hard it is to initiate and get approval for a direct popular vote, and to some extent, the limited roles and freedom of the local and regional governments.

Appendix. Structure of Aggregation – Indices and Indicators.

Democracy Indices Names	Mid-Level Democracy and Governance Indices Names	Lower-Level Democracy and Governance Indices Names	Names Indicators	v2_tag Indices and Indicators
Electoral democracy index				v2x_polyarchy
Expanded freedom of expression index				v2x_freexp_thick
			Government censorship effort - Media	v2mecenefm
			Government censorship effort - Internet	v2mecenefi
			Harassment of journalists	v2meharjrn
			Media self-censorship	v2meslfcen
			Media bias	v2mebias
			Print/broadcast media critical	v2mecrit
			Print/broadcast media perspectives	v2merange
			Freedom of discussion for men	v2cldiscm
			Freedom of discussion for women	v2cldiscw
			Freedom of academic and cultural expression	v2clacfree
Alternative source information index				v2xme_altnf
			Media bias	v2mebias
			Print/broadcast media critical	v2mecrit
			Print/broadcast media perspectives	v2merange
Freedom of association index (thick)				v2x_frassoc_thick
			Party ban	v2psparban
			Barriers to parties	v2psbars
			Opposition parties autonomy	v2psoppaut
			Elections multiparty	v2elmulpar
			CSO entry and exit	v2cseeorgs
			CSO repression	v2csreprss
Share of population with suffrage				v2x_suffr
			Percent of population with suffrage	v2elsuffrage
Clean elections index				v2xel_frefair
			EMB autonomy	v2elembaut
			EMB capacity	v2elembcap

	Election voter registry	v2elrgstry
	Election vote buying	v2elvotbuy
	Election other voting irregularities	v2elirreg
	Election government intimidation	v2elintim
	Election other electoral violence	v2elpeace
	Election free and fair	v2elfrfair
Elected executive index (de jure)		v2x_accex
	Lower chamber elected	v2lgello
	Upper chamber elected	v2lgelecup
	Legislature dominant chamber	v2lgdomchm
	HOS selection by legislature in practice	v2exaphos
	HOS appointment in practice	v2expathhs
	HOG selection by legislature in practice	v2exaphogp
	HOG appointment in practice	v2expathhg
	HOS appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdfcbhs
	HOG appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdjcbhg
	HOS dismisses ministers in practice	v2exdfdmhs
	HOG dismisses ministers in practice	v2exdfdshg
	HOS appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdfcbhs
Liberal democracy index		v2x_libdem
Electoral democracy index		v2x_polyarchy
Liberal component index		v2x_liberal
	Equality before the law and individual liberty index	v2xcl_rol
	Rigorous and impartial public administration	v2clrspct
	Transparent laws with predictable enforcement	v2cltrnslw
	Access to justice for men	v2clacjstm
	Access to justice for women	v2clacjstw
	Property rights for men	v2clprptym
	Property rights for women	v2clprptyw
	Freedom from torture	v2cltort
	Freedom from political killings	v2clkill
	Freedom from forced labor for men	v2clslavem

	Freedom from forced labor for women	v2clslavef
	Freedom of religion	v2clrelig
	Freedom of foreign movement	v2clfmov
	Freedom of domestic movement for men	v2cldmovm
	Freedom of domestic movement for women	v2cldmovw
Judicial constraints on the executive index		v2x_jucon
	Executive respects constitution	v2exrescon
	Compliance with judiciary	v2jucomp
	Compliance with high court	v2juhccomp
	High court independence	v2juhcind
	Lower court independence	v2juncind
Legislative constraints on the executive index		v2xlg_legcon
	Legislature questions officials in practice	v2lgqstexp
	Executive oversight	v2lgotovst
	Legislature investigates in practice	v2lginvstp
	Legislature opposition parties	v2lgoppart
Deliberative democracy index		v2x_delibdem
Electoral democracy index		v2x_polyarchy
Deliberative component index		v2xdl_delib
	Reasoned justification	v2dlreason
	Common good	v2dlcommon
	Respect counterarguments	v2dlcountr
	Range of consultation	v2dlconslt
	Engaged society	v2dlengage
Egalitarian democracy Index		v2x_egaldem
Electoral democracy index		v2x_polyarchy
Egalitarian component index		v2x_egal
Equal protection index		v2xeg_eqprotec
	Access to justice for men	v2clacjstm
	Access to justice for women	v2clacjstw
	Social class equality in respect for civil liberties	v2clacjust
	Social group equality in respect for civil liberties	v2clsocgrp

	Weaker civil liberties population	v2clslnlpc
Equal distribution of resources index		v2xeg_eqdr
	Power distributed by socioeconomic position	v2pepwrses
	Power distributed by social group	v2pepwrsoc
	Educational equality	v2peedueq
	Health equality	v2pehealth
	Power distributed by gender	v2pepwrgen
	Encompassingness	v2dlencmps
	Means-tested vs. universalistic	v2dlunivl
Participatory democracy index		v2x_partipdem
Electoral democracy index		v2x_polyarchy
Participatory component index		v2x_partip
Civil society participation index		v2x_cspart
	Candidate selection--National/local	v2pscnslnl
	CSO consultation	v2cscnsult
	CSO participatory environment	v2csprtcpt
	CSO womens participation	v2csgender
Direct popular vote index		v2xdd_dd
	Initiatives permitted	v2ddlegci
	Initiatives signatures %	v2ddsigcip
	Initiatives signature-gathering time limit	v2ddgrtlci
	Initiatives signature-gathering period	v2ddgrgpci
	Initiatives level	v2ddlevci
	Initiatives participation threshold	v2ddbndci
	Initiatives approval threshold	v2ddthreci
	Initiatives administrative threshold	v2dddistsci
	Initiatives super majority	v2ddspmjci
	Occurrence of citizen-initiative this year	v2ddciniyr
Local government index		v2xel_locelec
	Local government elected	v2ellocelc
	Local offices relative power	v2ellocpwr
	Local government exists	v2ellocgov
Regional government index		v2xel_regelec

	Regional government elected	v2elsrgel
	Regional offices relative power	v2elrgpwr
	Regional government exists	v2elreggov
Core civil society index		v2xcs_ccsi
	CSO entry and exit	v2cseeorgs
	CSO repression	v2csreprss
	CSO participatory environment	v2csprtcpt
Party institutionalization index		v2xps_party
	Party organizations	v2psorgs
	Party branches	v2psprbrch
	Party linkages	v2psprlnks
	Distinct party platforms	v2psplats
	Legislative party cohesion	v2pscohesv
Women political empowerment index		v2x_gender
	Women civil liberties index	v2x_gencl
	Freedom of domestic movement for women	v2cldmovew
	Freedom from forced labor for women	v2clslavef
	Property rights for women	v2clprptyw
	Access to justice for women	v2clacjstw
	Women civil society participation index	v2x_gencs
	Freedom of discussion for women	v2cldiscw
	CSO womens participation	v2csgender
	Percent (%) female journalists	v2mefemjrn
	Women political participation index	v2x_genpp
	Power distributed by gender	v2pepwrgen
	Lower chamber female legislators	v2lgfemleg
Electoral regime index		v2x_elecreg
	Legislative or constituent assembly election	v2xel_elecparl
	v2eltype	v2eltype_0
	v2eltype	v2eltype_1
	v2eltype	v2eltype_4
	v2eltype	v2eltype_5
	Legislature closed down or aborted	v2xlg_leginter
	Legislature bicameral	v2lgbicam
	Presidential	v2xel_elecpres

election		
	v2eltype	v2eltype_6
	v2eltype	v2eltype_7
Chief executive no longer elected		v2x_hosinter
	HOS = HOG?	v2exhoshog
	HOG appointment in practice	v2expathhg
	HOS appointment in practice	v2expathhs
Corruption index		v2x_corr
	Legislature corrupt activities	v2lgcrrpt
	Judicial corruption decision	v2jucorrdc
Public sector corruption index		v2x_pubcorr
	Public sector corrupt exchanges	v2excrptps
	Public sector theft	v2exthftps
Executive corruption index		v2x_execorr
	Executive bribery and corrupt exchanges	v2exbribe
	Executive embezzlement and theft	v2exembez
Electoral component index		v2x_EDcomp_thick
Freedom of association index (thick)		v2x_frassoc_thick
	Party ban	v2psparban
	Barriers to parties	v2psbars
	Opposition parties autonomy	v2psoppaut
	Elections multiparty	v2elmulpar
	CSO entry and exit	v2cseeorgs
	CSO repression	v2csreprss
Share of population with suffrage		v2x_suffr
	Percent of population with suffrage	v2elsuffrage
Clean elections index		v2xel_frefair
	EMB autonomy	v2elembaut
	EMB capacity	v2elembcap
	Election voter registry	v2elrgstry
	Election vote buying	v2elvotbuy
	Election other voting irregularities	v2elirreg
	Election government intimidation	v2elintim
	Election other electoral violence	v2elpeace
	Election free and fair	v2elfrfair

Elected executive index (de jure)		v2x_accex
	Lower chamber elected	v2lgello
	Upper chamber elected	v2lgelecup
	Legislature dominant chamber	v2lgdomchm
	HOS selection by legislature in practice	v2exaphos
	HOS appointment in practice	v2expathhs
	HOG selection by legislature in practice	v2exaphogp
	HOG appointment in practice	v2expathhg
	HOS appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdfcbhs
	HOG appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdjcbhg
	HOS dismisses ministers in practice	v2exdfdmhs
	HOG dismisses ministers in practice	v2exdfdshg
	HOS appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdfcbhs
Freedom of expression index		v2x_freexp
	Government censorship effort - Media	v2mecenefm
	Harassment of journalists	v2meharjrn
	Media self-censorship	v2meslfcen
	Freedom of discussion for men	v2cldiscm
	Freedom of discussion for women	v2cldiscw
	Freedom of academic and cultural expression	v2clacfree