



Faculty of Legal Sciences

School of International Studies

**REGIONAL INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN
LATIN AMERICA: PERIOD 2004-2024**

**Project prior to obtaining a Bachelor's Degree in
International Studies**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ii
LIST OF FIGURES AND ANNEXES	iii
List of figures	iii
List of appendices	iii
Abstract	iv
Resumen.....	iv
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Objectives.....	2
1.2 Theoretical framework	2
2. Literature review	4
3. Methods.....	7
4. Results	9
4.1 Evolution of Regional Integration in Latin America.....	9
4.2 General trends in integration in Latin America (2004-2024).....	12
4.3 Contributions of Regional Integration Mechanisms in Latin America	14
5. Discussion	16
6. Conclusion.....	20
7. References	22
8. Appendix.....	27

LIST OF FIGURES AND ANNEXES

List of figures

Figure 1 <i>Prisma Methodology Process</i>	8
Figure 2 <i>Distribution of years of publication of articles</i>	8
Figure 3 <i>Prisma Flow Diagram</i>	9

List of appendices

Appendix 1 <i>Bibliographic sources matrix</i>	27
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REGIONAL INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN LATIN AMERICA PERIOD 2004-2024

Abstract

This research analyzes regional integration processes in Latin America from 2004 to 2024, with a focus on four key mechanisms: ALBA, UNASUR, CELAC, and the Pacific Alliance. The study addresses the primary challenge of achieving sustained cohesion, which has prevented the region from consolidating as a strong global bloc. Despite the potential benefits of cooperation, ideological tensions, the prioritization of national sovereignty, and institutional fragmentation have consistently hindered effective integration. Using a systematic literature review guided by the PRISMA method, the study identifies the contributions and limitations of these four initiatives, highlighting common obstacles such as overlapping agendas, weak regional coordination, and limited citizen participation. CELAC has emerged as a forum for political dialogue; the Pacific Alliance has advanced in economic integration; ALBA has promoted a solidarity-based development model; and UNASUR has supported regional projects, although political shifts have weakened its influence. The findings underscore the need to build integration based on greater economic interdependence, active citizen engagement, and a shared vision that transcends ideological divides, strengthening Latin America's position in the global landscape.

Keywords:

Regional integration, ALBA, Pacific Alliance, CELAC, UNASUR

LOS PROCESOS DE INTEGRACIÓN REGIONAL EN AMÉRICA LATINA PERÍODO 2004-2024

Resumen

La presente investigación analiza los procesos de integración regional en América Latina durante el periodo 2004-2024, centrándose en cuatro mecanismos clave: ALBA, UNASUR, CELAC y la Alianza del Pacífico. La problemática abordada es la falta de cohesión sostenida, que ha impedido consolidar a la región como un bloque fuerte en el ámbito global. A pesar de los beneficios potenciales de la cooperación, las tensiones ideológicas, la prioridad a la autonomía nacional y la fragmentación institucional han limitado una integración efectiva. Mediante una revisión sistemática de literatura bajo el método PRISMA, se seleccionaron varios estudios que permitieron identificar las contribuciones de las cuatro iniciativas y los obstáculos comunes, como la superposición de agendas, la débil coordinación regional y la escasa participación ciudadana. La CELAC ha destacado como foro político de concertación; la Alianza del Pacífico ha logrado avances en integración económica; ALBA ha promovido un modelo solidario; y UNASUR impulsó proyectos regionales, aunque debilitados por cambios políticos. Los hallazgos subrayan la necesidad de construir una integración basada en una mayor interdependencia económica, una ciudadanía involucrada y una visión compartida que trascienda las divisiones ideológicas.

Palabras clave:

Integración regional, ALBA, Alianza del Pacífico, CELAC, UNASUR