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Security Inequalities in North America: Reassessing Regional Security Complex Theory

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Abstract

This article re-evaluates earlier work done by the authors on Realist Security Theory (RSCT) in North America, using sectoral analysis initially developed by Waeber, but also adding the variables of institutions, identity, and culture. These variables are assessed qualitatively in the contemporary context and impress upon the process of securitization within sectoral relations in Mexico, and the United States. The article reviews the movement of relations between these states to the development of a trilateral security challenges post- 9/11. It further addresses the present situation to be a security process derailed by recent political changes as highlighted by the election of Donald Trump in 2016. The article reviews three states initially evinced a convergence of regional security interests, but did create new institutional responses, under the current conditions. Political interests and security inequalities have reduced the effectiveness of relations in North America. Relations between states in North America are characterized by the role of institutions and interests and moral values in the region.

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