

Appendix to Chapter 6

Pachakutik's performance at the legislature during the 2002-2006 period.

Pachakutik's choice of holding-office harmed its ability to advance policy. As Strom (1990) argues, prioritizing one goal will inevitably have trade-offs. Prioritizing electoral support will often have a cost on the policy preferences of a political party. Pachakutik joined Lucio Gutiérrez, making a trade-off between holding office and the purity of its policy. Lucio Gutiérrez did not represent Pachakutik's policy platform in full, although he initially claimed he would.¹

The party started the period with 14 seats. By the time Pachakutik ended its alliance with PSP (in mid-2003), the party's legislative block only had ten members, and by the first months of 2005, the block only had six legislators.² Therefore, what started as an excellent opportunity to leverage a larger legislative block in the legislature ended up being a missed opportunity. Pachakutik's legislators between 2002 and 2006 had hence limited influence at the legislature.

The party sponsored 66 bill initiatives during this period, which is equivalent to 5.03% of all initiatives presented during this legislative period. Of these, 15 made it to the first debate and 11 to the second (equivalent to 4.01% and 4.4% of all initiatives discussed in the plenary, respectively). In total, out of the 66 proposals, only nine were approved and became laws. One of these approved laws was crucial for all public institutions that dealt with the indigenous population, such as CODENPE and the Bilingual Education Office. This was the "*Ley Organica de las Instituciones Públicas de Pueblos Indígenas del Ecuador que se autodefinen como Nacionalidades de Raíces Ancestrales.*" The law entered into force only in September 2007.

Table 6.1 summarizes Pachakutik's performance during the 1998-2002 period and the 2002-2006 period. During the former period, Pachakutik's members did not have any public

¹ Pachakutik was against Ecuador signing any intention letter for the International Monetary Fund (IMF), against supporting Plan Colombia, and in favor of ending the agreement with the government of the United States of America over the control of a military base in the city Manta (El Comercio, 2002). Lucio Gutiérrez originally adopted these claims as his own during the electoral campaign, however, as soon as he was sworn into office, he signed the intention letter with the IMF and called himself the USA's greatest ally. Shortly after Gutierrez took office it was evident he had abandoned Pachakutik's agenda.

² Pachakutik lost its legislator Jose Luis Columbo, elected as deputy of the province Napo. Pachakutik requested his impeachment because he was not respecting the party's programmatic values. In January 2005, Pachakutik also ousted Rodrigo García, who had been elected deputy for the province Chimborazo. Garcia was asked to leave the block because he had joined the government majority in late 2004 and early 2005 (El Comercio, 2005a). By march 2005 Pachakutik only had six legislators.

appointment, but this was not part of their interests.³ By contrast, during the 2002-2006 period, Pachakutik had a primary goal to hold office. Pachakutik sacrificed its policy position for the electoral alliance. Nonetheless, the party's legislators continued to work in pursuit of the party's agenda. However, during this period the party's performance did not surpass the party's performance between 1998 and 2002. During the 2002-2006 period, the party's bill initiatives that were turned into laws were only 9 and represented 5.03% of the total output of the legislature while in 1998-2002 the number of laws was 10 represented 5.43% of the total output. In sum, Pachakutik did not achieve its goal during the 2002-2006 period. Pachakutik's performance during this period highlight clear problems within the party organization. Moreover, they could also be used as indicators of a possible future party disbandment.

Table 6. 1 Pachakutik's performance (2002-2006)

Pachakutik's performance (2002-2006)		
	Pachakutik (1998-2002)	Pachakutik (2002-2006)
Policy advancement		
Proposals presented	58 (6.1%)	66 (5.03%)
Discussed in first debate	16 (4.94%)	15 (4.01%)
Discussed in second debate	15 (5.81%)	11 (4.40%)
Approved	10 (5.43%)	9 (5.03%)
Most important accomplishment	Approval of the "Ley de Juntas Parroquiales"	Approval of the law "Ley Organica de las Instituciones Públicas de Pueblos Indígenas del Ecuador que se autodefinen como Nacionalidades de Raíces Ancestrales" (registered in 2007)

** The percentages are calculated based on the total number of proposals presented, discussed, and approved.*

³ I refer here to publicized appointments, it could be possible that Pachakutik and its elected officials could leverage those appointments to secure some form of office holding benefits. However, during my research, I did not find any mention of such appointments.