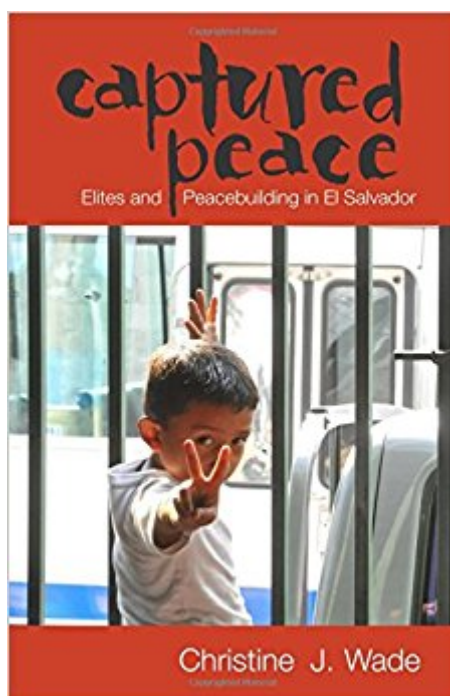


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Captured Peace: Elites And Peacebuilding In El Salvador (Ohio RIS Latin America Series)



Synopsis

El Salvador is widely considered one of the most successful United Nations peacebuilding efforts, but record homicide rates, political polarization, socioeconomic exclusion, and corruption have diminished the quality of peace for many of its citizens. In *Captured Peace: Elites and Peacebuilding in El Salvador*, Christine J. Wade adapts the concept of elite capture to expand on the idea of 'captured peace,' explaining how local elites commandeered political, social, and economic affairs before war's end and then used the peace accords to deepen their control in these spheres. While much scholarship has focused on the role of gangs in Salvadoran unrest, Wade draws on an exhaustive range of sources to demonstrate how day-to-day violence is inextricable from the economic and political dimensions. In this in-depth analysis of postwar politics in El Salvador, she highlights the local actors' primary role in peacebuilding and demonstrates the political advantage an incumbent party—in this case, the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA)—has throughout the peace process and the consequences of this to the quality of peace that results.

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'Those who study El Salvador closely recognize more deeply the limitations of the peace accords in transforming its politics, economics, and society. This book does a fabulous job explaining how the peace accords failed in several important ways primarily because of the

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Effective and comprehensive review of the political and human rights situation in El Salvador, from early national history to present. Cannot recommend enough for any reader who wishes to understand El Salvador, another very dark chapter of Latin American history, or human rights in the Americas.

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