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Luchando a brazo partido: Responding to the Crisis in Education From a Latin American Perspective

We live in an increasingly complex world in which national and global systems face diversifying challenges. It is a world rife with tensions, which are intensified by, and simultaneously exacerbate, economic and political uncertainties as we struggle to navigate the apparent contradiction between increasing globalization and concurrent international disengagements. Latin America is not exempt from these global contradictions and uncertainties. In fact, growing inequality and marginality in many regions has contributed to intensifying ongoing political and economic debate on how best to respond to the current global situation. The education system is at the crux of this debate, as it is looked to for solutions to the world's problems, while simultaneously being blamed for current political fragmentation and growing uncertainty. In light of this debate, this paper analyzes significant trends in Latin American discourse on education as it relates and responds to current economic and political uncertainties in the region. Such an analysis sheds light on expectations of education as crucial to finding a remedy to current crises. It aims to make a meaningful contribution to a deeper understanding not only of Latin America's political and economic context, but more significantly, how its context shapes the region's expectations of the role of education today.