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Social conflict has different consequences on political systems and their dynamics. It has been studied by the theory of social movements, but only recently it is having more attention by the researchers. This chapter aims to analyze an increasingly important type of conflicts in Latin America: the socio-territorial conflict. It is a kind of conflict that is normally not associated with political consequences. However, things have changed in the new scenario of democratic governance, losing of State power and capacity and neoliberal internationalization of Latin American economies. The frontiers of the "extractivismo" has expanded, socio territorial conflicts has increased and the nature of the relation between social actors, politics and the State has changed. Local affairs are having political consequences.

The chapter analyzes the political consequences of these conflicts, in relation to institutional changes and the implementation of public policies. It also focuses on the emergence of new political actors in the same territories of conflicts. It incorporates empirical evidence from four countries of the region (Bolivia, Chile, Colombia and Peru), going beyond case studies to develop a more accurate conceptualization for an aggregated vision of the issue. The hypothesis of the chapter is that it has been important changes in the historical patterns of politicization prevailing in the region. They involve new political actors as well as new forms of political influence: in new places (non-urban, peripheral), mostly distant from political parties and formal organizations and through diverse and heterogeneous processes of organization and mobilization (networks of articulation, without forming social movements, with different orientations among themselves). New ways of citizenship has emerged (is the case of indigenous people, for example). Often invisible, it is urgent to investigate these changes to understand better politics in a globalized world.