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### 6. *On Democratic Governance*

In Mexico, the underlying framework of governance established through the process of the Mexican Revolution has undergone counter-reforms that have reduced or eliminated democratic protections, permitting corporate interests to gain access to land and resources.

In the United States, structural concerns found within the environmental regulatory system and the legal doctrine of corporate rights present challenges to actual democratic praxis on the part of communities.

For both countries, the corresponding populations are faced with the serious task of determining which aspects of the current legal framework preclude, rather than enhance, democratic governance. From there, they must find a path forward that counteracts those forces and places the law squarely in the hands of the people most affected by governing decisions that are taken regarding the lands upon which they live.