Abstract
This article analyzes the response of the Mexican workers’ movement to democratization and the various consequences of this process for labor policies, providing a contribution to the comparative politics debate on the role of labor unionism in democratic change. The system that governs the State-worker relationship, a legacy of Mexico’s authoritarian past, helps to explain the calculations made by labor union leaders and government officials regarding the country’s democratic transition. This document analyzes changes to political representation in labor unions and the electoral behavior of unionized workers, together with the successive failures experienced by the proposed reform to the Federal Working Law since 2000 and the implications for the workers’ movement and Mexican society.

Keywords
Workers’ movement, democratization, State-worker relationship.