

Uruguayan Electoral Process 2014-2015

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Elections in Latin America
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1. Main features of the Uruguayan political process

2. Election, candidates and voting intention

3. Campaign issues

Main features of the Uruguayan political process

Country	Institutionalization index
Uruguay	2,72
Honduras	2,67
Mexico	2,32
Chile	2,3
El Salvador	2,27
Costa Rica	2,26
Panama	2,25
Paraguay	2,25
Venezuela	2,24
Nicaragua	2,06
Argentina	1,85
Bolivia	1,66
Colombia	1,66
Brazil	1,6
Guatemala	1,56
Perú	1,5
Ecuador	1,33

Source: Payne 2006

Party System

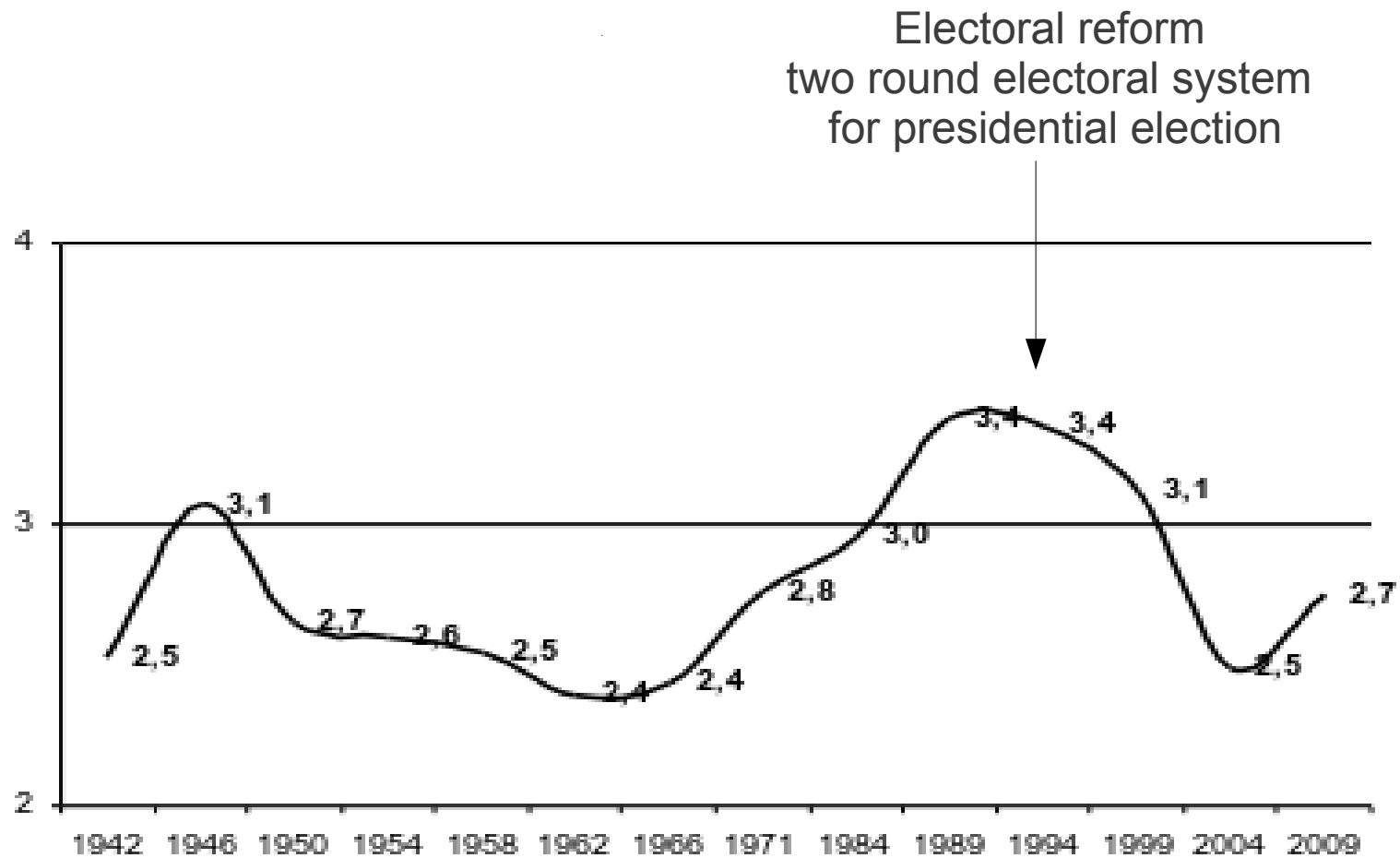
Partido Nacional (PN) (30 Representatives) and Partido Colorado (PC) (17 Representatives) are center-right parties, usually known as **Traditional Parties**. These parties born in the 19th Century. They were the main parties until 1971.

Frente Amplio (FA) (50 Representatives) is a center-left party. It has been the party government since 2004. It was founded in 1971 as a coalition of leftist parties (Communist and Socialist) and progressive factions of the Traditional Parties.

The **Partido Independiente (PI) (1 Representative)** is center-left party born from a small spilt of the Frente Amplio.

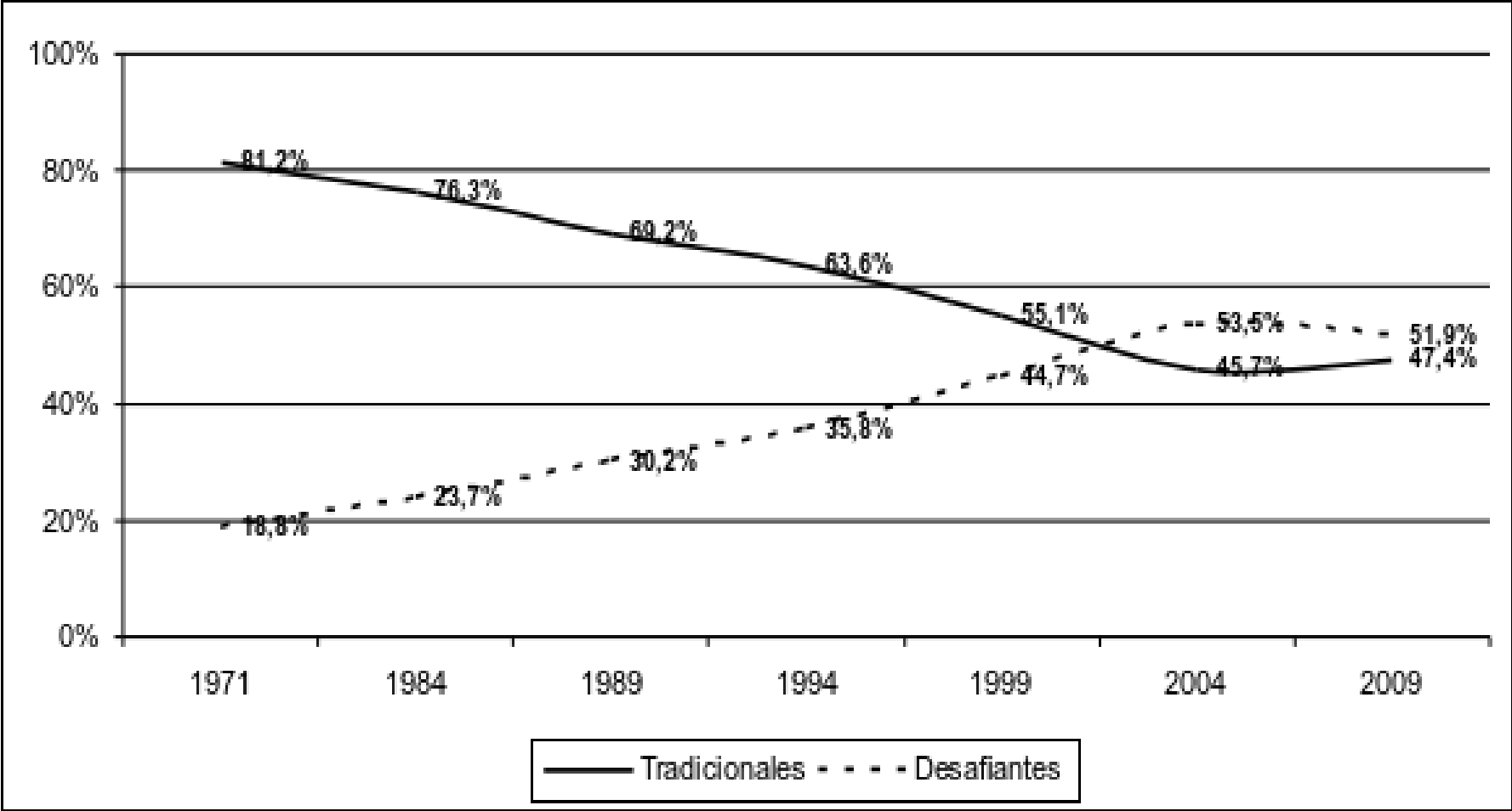
Evolution of party system fragmentation in Uruguay (1946 – 2009)

(effective number of parties (electoral))



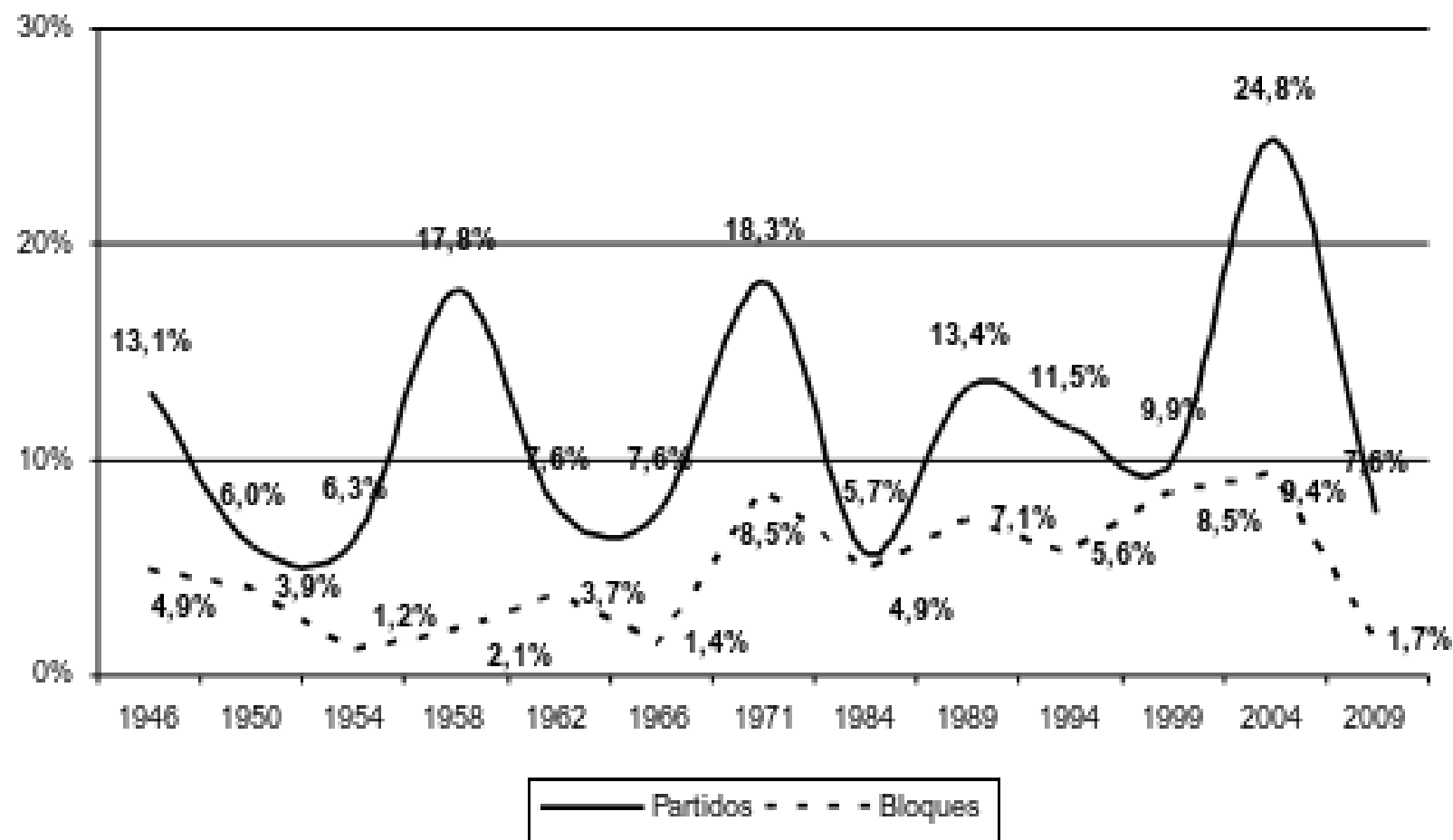
Source: Buquet and Piñeiro 2013

Vote Share for Traditional Parties and
Challengers (1971-2009)



Source: Buquet and Piñeiro 2013

Electoral Volatility in Uruguay (1946 - 2009)



Source: Buquet and Piñeiro 2013

Electoral Calendar in Uruguay

Primary elections (June 1st, 2014): mandatory, simultaneous and open primaries for all parties to select presidential candidates.

National election (October 26th, 2014): Senators (30) and Representatives (99) election. First round of the presidential election.

Second Round (November 30th, 2014): Second Round presidential election between the two most voted candidates in the first round.

Local elections (May 10th, 2015): election of executive and legislative local authorities at departamental and municipal level.

Presidential Candidates

Frente Amplio (FA): Tabaré Vázquez (71%)* - Constanza Moreira (between 3 and 5%)*

No competitive primary, Tabaré Vázquez has the support of the main sectors of the party (sure winner).

Partido Nacional (PN): Jorge Larrañaga (49%)* – Luis Lacalle Pou (28%)* – Sergio Abreu (4%)*

Competitive primary between Larrañaga and Lacalle Pou.

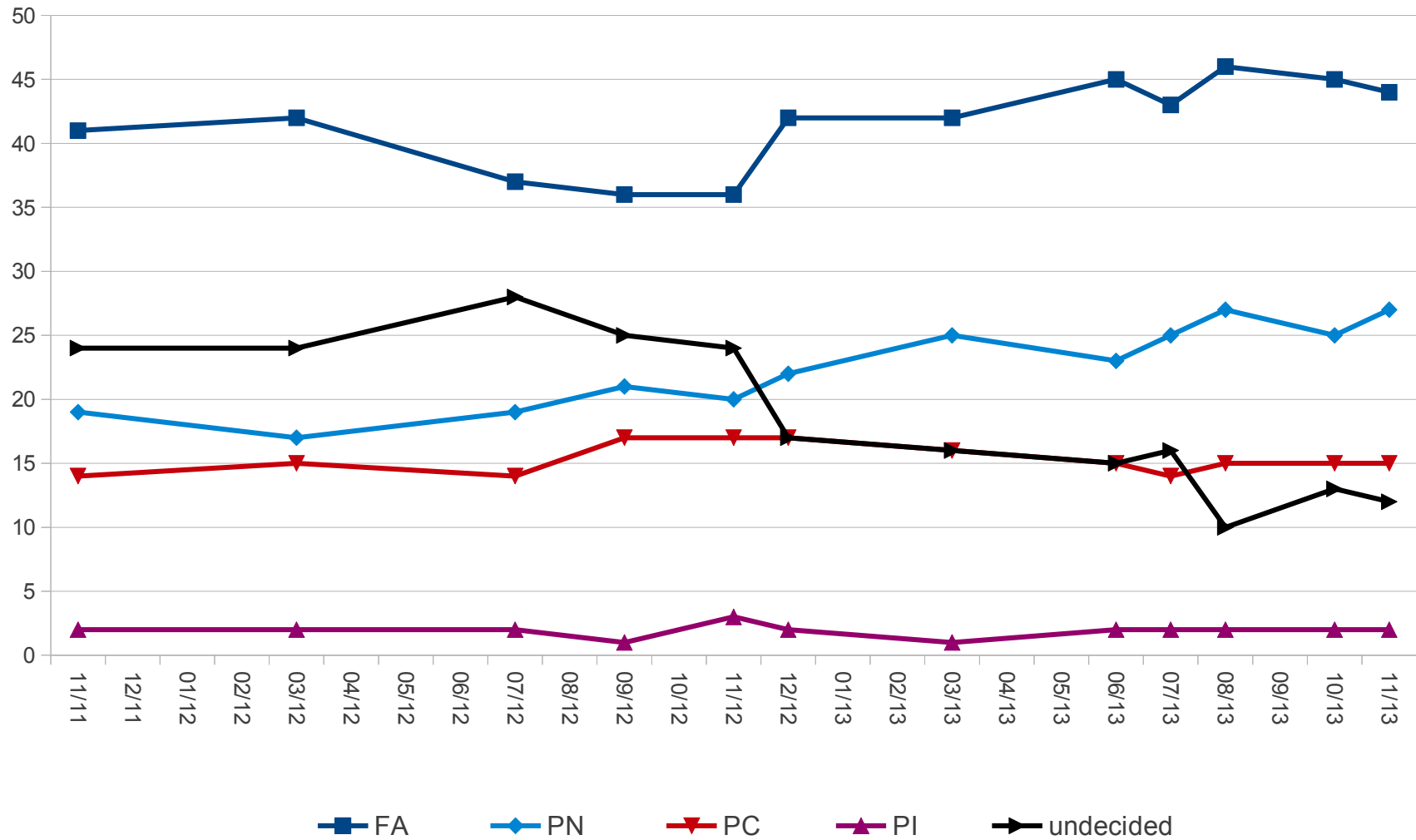
Partido Colorado: Pedro Bordaberry (81%)* – José Amorín (- de 3%)* – Manuel Flores Sivla (less than 1%)*.

No competitive primary, Pedro Bordaberry sure winner.

* Data on voting intention in primary elections from Equipos Mori (Dicember 2013)

Vote intention for parties (2011 – 2013)

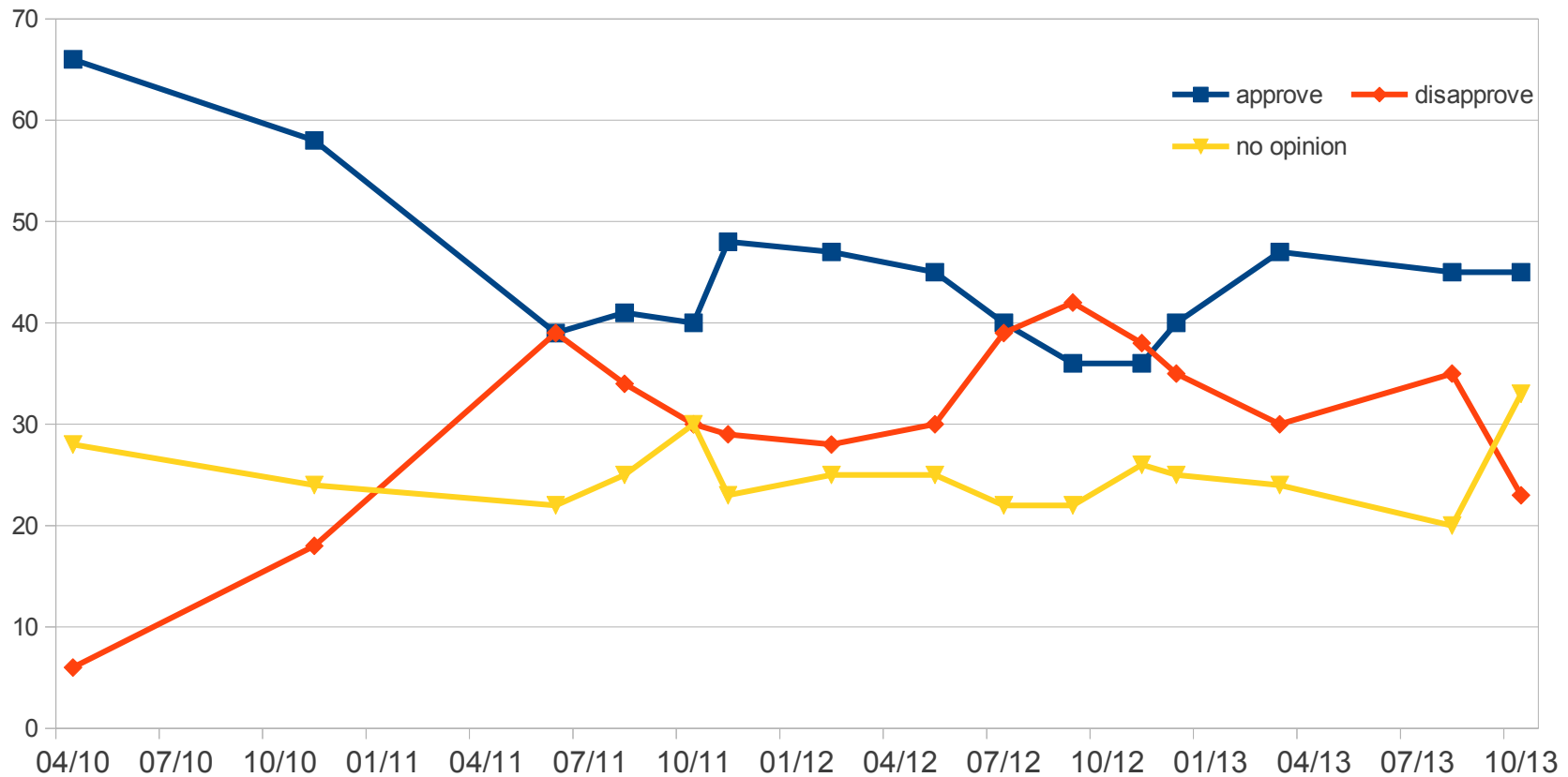
(Data from Cifra www.cifra.com.uy)



Source: Área de Política y Relaciones Internacionales del Banco de Datos de la FCS de la UdelaR

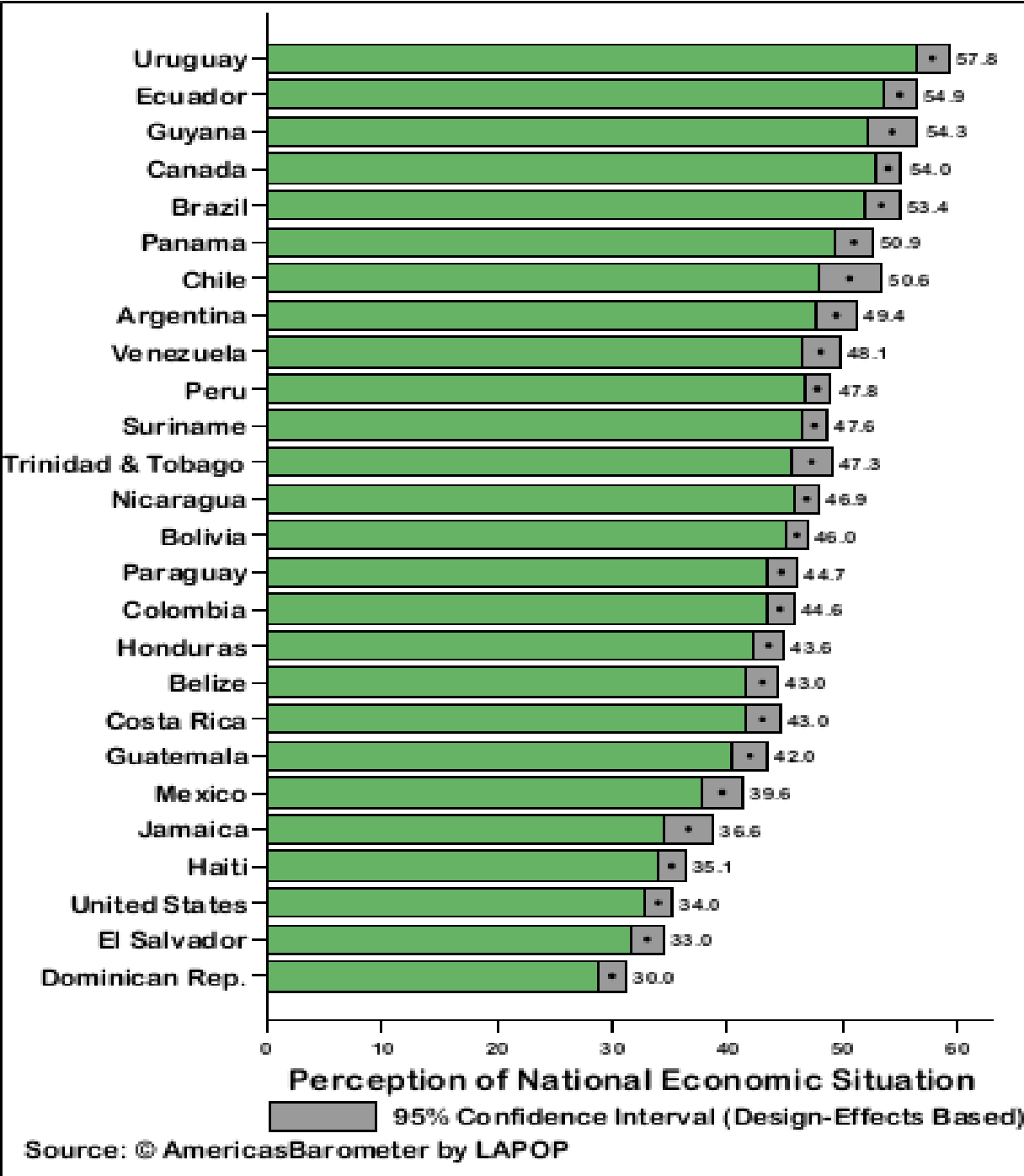
President Mujica Administration Approval Rating (2010 – 2013)

(Data from Cifra www.cifra.com.uy)



Fuente: elaboración propia en base a datos del Área de Política y Relaciones Internacionales del Banco de Datos de la FCS de la UdelAR

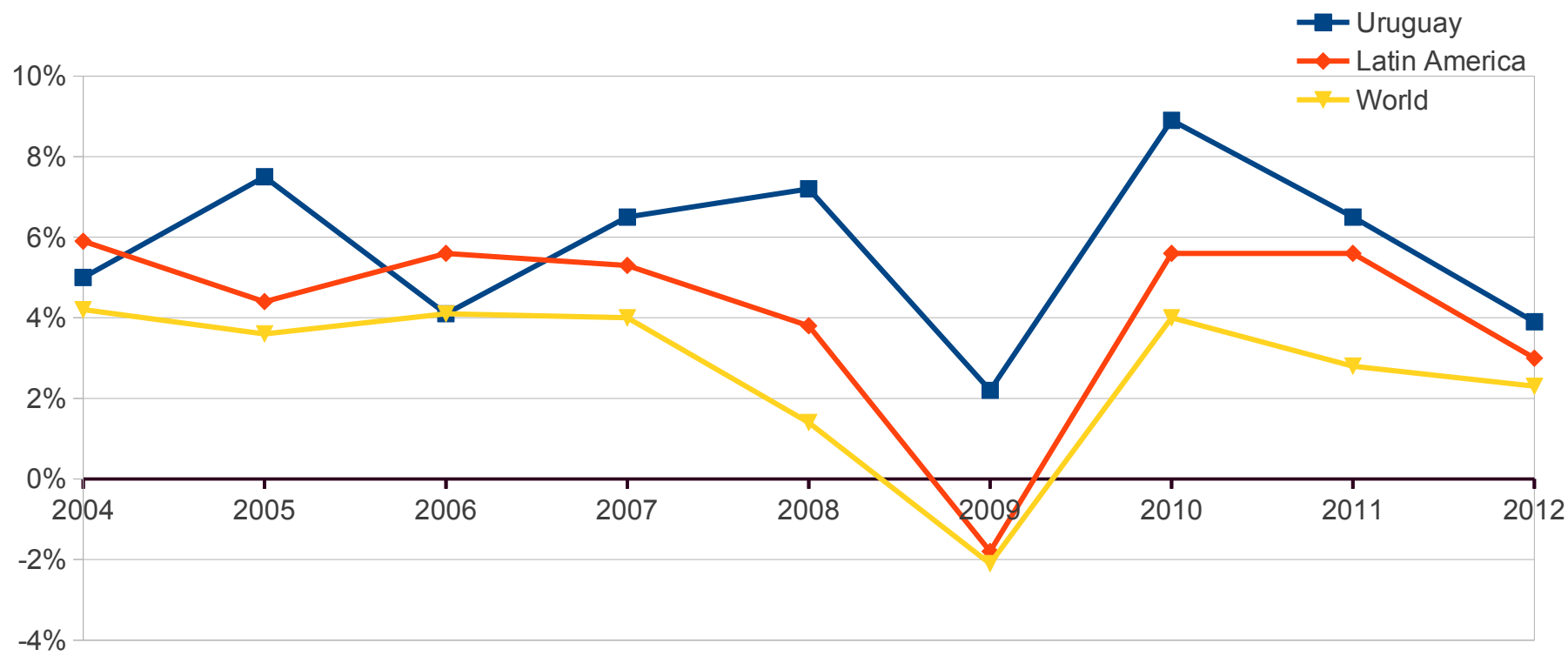
Perception
Regarding National
Economic Situation



Source: Seligson et al. (2012)

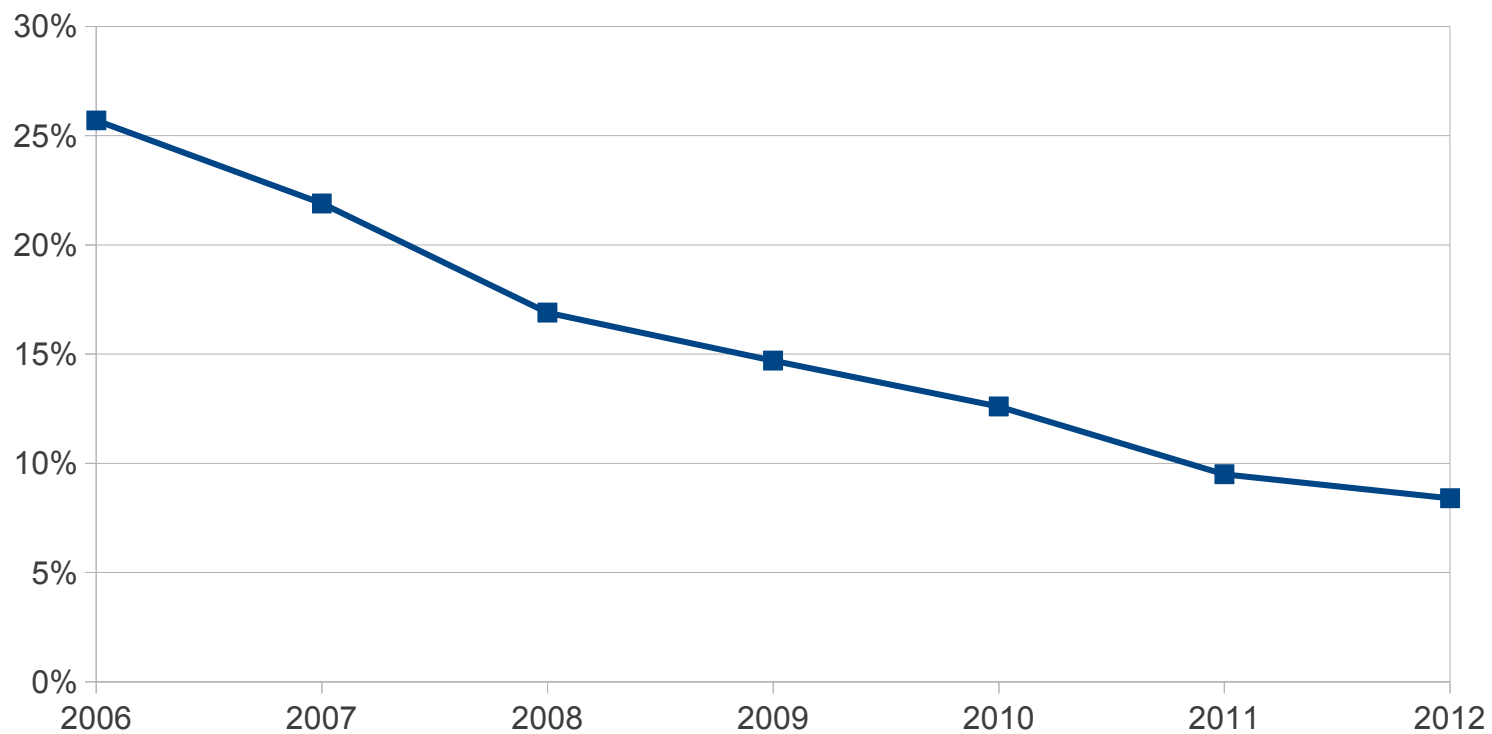
Source: © AmericasBarometer by LAPOP

GDP Growth Rate: Uruguay, Latin America and the World (2004-2012)



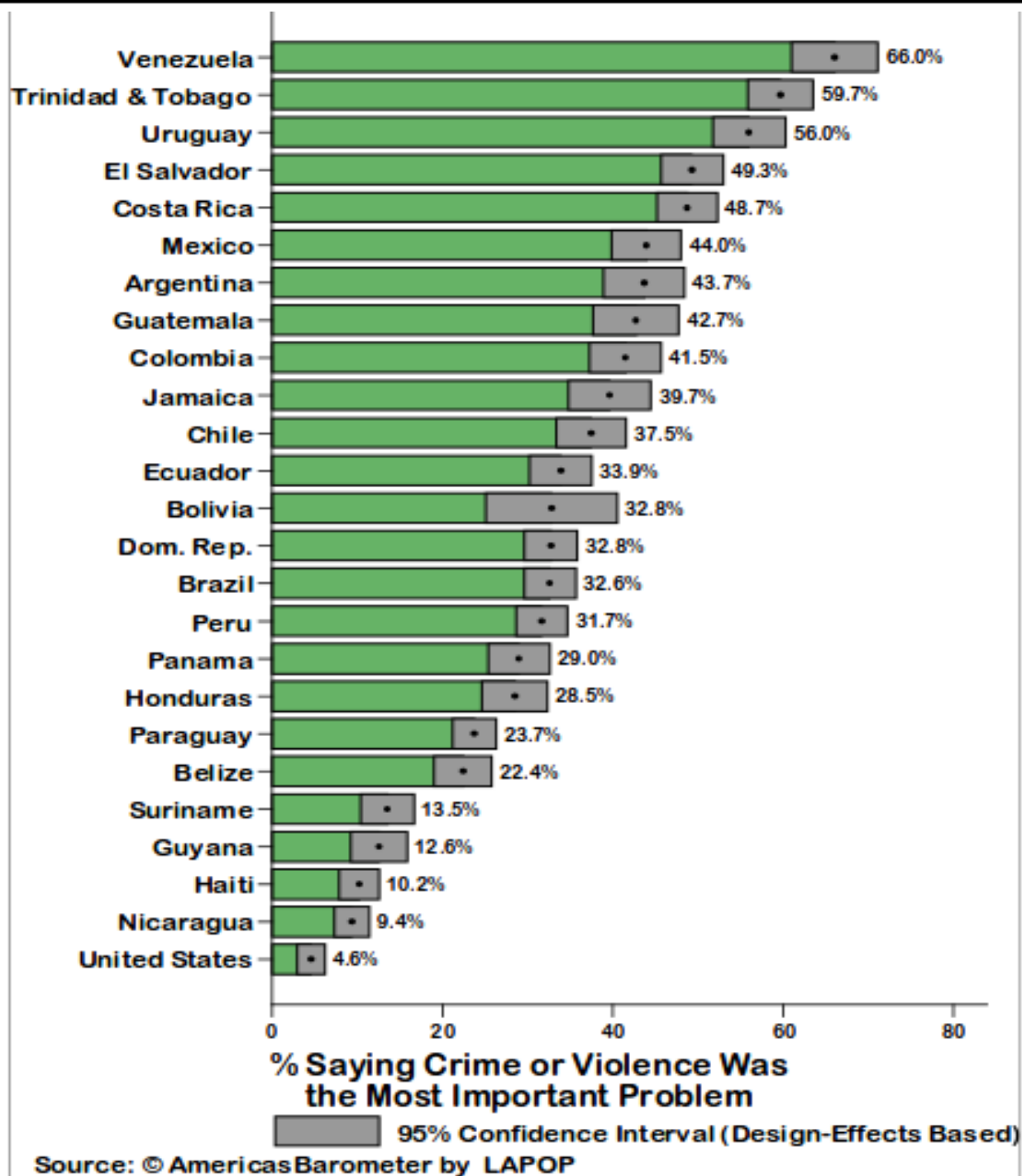
Source: Wordl Bank

Poverty Headcount Ratio at National Poverty Line (% of population)



Source: World Bank

Perception Regarding Crime and Violence



Source: Seligson et al. (2012)

Secondary School Completion Rate (2006-2012) (% of relevant age group)

Age	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
18 a 20	23,9	25,8	27,9	26,0	25,3	28,2	28,4
21 a 23	35,4	34,8	36,1	35,2	35,8	39,9	38,3

Source: División de Investigación, Evaluación y Estadística del CODICEN a partir de datos de la Encuesta Continua de Hogares del Instituto Nacional de Estadística.

As in many other countries in Latin America, investment in natural resources has aroused a strong debate over its potential benefits and costs. In the case of Uruguay this has been centered on the iron ore mega mining project “Aratirí”.

1. In this scenario, **continuity in electoral results is the most probable outcome** of the electoral process. **FA has the better chances of winning the election.** Nevertheless, if it is going to achieve legislative majorities (as in the two previous national elections) is still an open question.
2. **Education, public security, and the debate around natural resources** are some of the **issues that will be on the agenda of the next government.**
3. There are **other issues** that are not in the political agenda as the need to refocus **social spending on child** (to reduce child poverty), and the **way to link productivity and salary increasing** (as a way to keep inflation under control). Among others, these topics still need to be solved to consolidate uruguay's path towards development.