Chile and Argentina are very similar countries in Latin America. Why are their political systems so different? Massive European immigration in Argentina, far from creating “European” political conditions, departed from them, because the vast majority of the urban bourgeoisie and the working class did not take up citizenship and were thus at a disadvantage for the creation of liberal or labor parties. Consequences for the party system will be analyzed, in particular the likelihood of a bipolar left-right system evolving also in Argentina.

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