Chile: Political Handover in a Crisis

In early 2010, Chile's democracy prepared for the first transfer of power between opposing political coalitions since Augusto Pinochet's ouster in 1990. The transition process had just begun when a massive earthquake devastated Chile, killing hundreds and causing billions of dollars in damage. A new ISS case study describes how prescient planning and staff recruitment by the incoming, center-right Piñera administration and briefings by Bachelet's outgoing, left-leaning team strengthened Chile's democracy and set a precedent for future cross-coalition transitions. This case is part of a new ISS series on effective handovers of authority between parties or coalitions.

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