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Academic appointments

University College Dublin

2022– *Assistant Professor* (with tenure) School of Politics and International Relations

Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE), Mexico

2019–2022 *Assistant Professor* of International Studies

Academic affiliations

2023–2027 Member, Folke Bernadotte Academy Working Group on Security Sector Reform
2022– Faculty Fellow, University College Dublin, Geary Institute for Public Policy
2020– Member, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP)
2020– Research Affiliate, University of Notre Dame, Violence and Transitional Justice Lab
2022–2025 Junior Fellow, Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT)

Education

University of Notre Dame

2019 *PhD* Political Science
2014 *MA* Political Science
2012 *MA* International Peace Studies

Universidad de la República, Uruguay

2009 *Graduate Diploma* International Studies
2008 *BA* Political Science

Publications

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

2024 “Mall Cop or Robocop? Political Determinants of Police Militarization in Brazil,” with Juan Albarracín, *Political Research Quarterly*, **OnlineFirst**
2024 “Uruguay 2023: Security as a Persistent Challenge and the Decline of Non-policy Politics as a Political Asset,” with Ines Fynn and Veronica Perez Bentancur, *Revista de Ciencia Política*, **open access**
2024 “Police Reform in the Aftermath of Armed Conflict: How Militarization and Accountability Affect Police Violence,” *Journal of Peace Research*, 61(3):383–397, **open access**, published online

2023

2024 “Iteration in Mixed-methods Research Designs Combining Experiments and Fieldwork,” with Veronica Perez Bentancur, 53(2), *Sociological Methods & Research*, published online 2022

2023 “How Climate Change Affects Organized Criminal Group Behavior,” *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 58(1):29–54

2022 “Dilemmas of substitution: Why the urban poor support punitive policing in a Latin American city,” with Veronica Perez Bentancur, OnlineFirst *Journal of Urban Affairs, Special Issue on Policing in the 21st Century*

2022 “Transparency and Replicability in Mixed-Methods Designs Using Experiments,” with Veronica Perez Bentancur, *Qualitative & Multi-Method Research*, Fall 2021 - Spring 2022, Vol. 19.2 / 20.1, **open access**

2018 “Breaking State Impunity in Post-Authoritarian Regimes: Why Transitional Justice Processes Deter Criminal Violence in New Democracies,” with Guillermo Trejo and Juan Albarracin, *Journal of Peace Research*, 55(6):787–809

- Downloaded over 2,750 times 1.5 years after publication; 98th percentile of most shared articles published by Sage Publishing

- Media Coverage: [The Weeds Podcast](#)

BOOK CHAPTERS

2022 “International Influence,” with Michael Coppedge, Ben Denison, Paul Friesen and Yang Xu. In Michael Coppedge, Amanda B. Edgell, Carl Henrik Knutsen and Staffan I. Lindberg (eds.), *Why Democracies Develop and Decline*, Cambridge University Press

- Juan Linz Book Award, APSA Democracy & Autocracy Section (honorable mention)

BOOK REVIEWS

2023 “Police: A Field Guide,” *Australian Outlook*, Australian Institute of International Affairs

2021 “Authoritarian Police in Democracy,” *Perspectives on Politics*, 19(3):1028–1029

NOT PEER-REVIEWED

2021 “International Influence: The Hidden Dimension,” with Michael Coppedge, Benjamin Denison, Paul Friesen and Yang Xu, Varieties of Democracy Institute: Working Paper No. 119

2015 “Varieties of Democratic Diffusion: Colonial and Neighbor Networks,” with Michael Coppedge, Benjamin Denison, Staffan I. Lindberg, Varieties of Democracy Institute: Working Paper No. 2

BOOK MANUSCRIPTS

“Accountability Shock: Why Transitional Justice Deters Criminal Violence in New Democracies,” with Guillermo Trejo and Juan Ablarracin (under review with Cambridge University Press)

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

“Criminal Market Expansion” with Chelsea Estancona (revise and resubmit at International Organization)

“Attitudes Towards Police Militarization in Mexico,” with Abby Cordova

“Assessing the quality of evidence in qualitative research: lessons from research on criminal governance strategies in Montevideo, Uruguay,” with Ines Fynn and Veronica Perez Bentancur
“Gendarmes and Soldiers: Exploring Drivers of Police and Military Specialization during Civil Wars,” with Peter White
“Supporting Mano Dura: Police Reform and Public Opinion Perceptions of Deservingness” with Veronica Perez Bentancur, Juan Albarracin and Leslie MacColman

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Socialization in the Colombian Armed Forces and Implications for Post-Conflict Transitions,” with Alejandra Ortiz-Ayala
“Post-conflict Police Reform and Criminal Violence: Lessons from South Africa”
“Criminal Governance in Mexico amid the Covid-19 pandemic,” with Sandra Ley, Tiago Ventura
“Supply Chain Disruptions and Criminal Governance in Mexico,” with Chelsea Estancona
“Do list experiments reduce social desirability bias?” with Sandra Ley and Tiago Ventura
“An application of network methods to estimate the size of hard-to-reach populations,” with Gustavo Diaz, Verónica Pérez Bentancur and Inés Fynn
“Organized Criminal Violence in Uruguay,” with Veronica Perez, Ines Fynn and Gustavo Diaz

Policy reports

2023 “En las Grietas del Estado: Gobernanza Criminal en Montevideo,” ANII, Fondo Sectorial de Seguridad Ciudadana, July

- Media coverage:

[La Diaria July 10, 2023](#)

[La Diaria July 11, 2023](#)

[Insight Crime](#)

2020 “Capacidad, practicas y percepcion ciudadana: Analisis del Programa de Alta Dedicacion Operativa,” ANII, Fondo Sectorial de Seguridad Ciudadana, September

2017 “Opportunities and Challenges in Civil and Political Rights in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, 30 years after Esquipulas II, using VDem data,” white paper, University of Notre Dame–Keough School of Global Affairs–USAID

2011 “On Corruption in South Africa: an Alternative Interpretation for the Case of the Police Service.” Occasional Papers Series, Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Cape Town, South Africa, 2011 *South Africa Reconciliation Barometer Report*, with Kate Lefko-Everett and Ayanda Nyoka, Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Cape Town, South Africa

“Economic Security in a Time of Uncertainty: A South African Public Opinion Perspective,” with Jan Hofmeyr. In Transformation Audit 2011, Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Cape Town, South Africa

Other Writing

[Consumers beware: the price of avocados may be higher than you think](#), *Political Violence at a Glance*, April 17, 2023, with Chelsea Estancona

- “Colombia: Derecho a la Protesta y Violencia Policial”, *CIPER Académico*, May 12, 2021
- “Crime and Conflict: Where we are and Where we are Headed in Research”, *PEV-CIDE*, November 23, 2020, with Chelsea Estancona
- “¿Por qué persiste la violencia policial?”, *CIPER Académico*, October 3, 2020
- “Sobre los Costos del Punitivismo”, *La Diaria*, June 25, 2020, with Veronica Perez
- “Para Vivir Sin Miedo”, *La Diaria*, October 23, 2019, with Veronica Perez

Grants, honors & awards

GRANTS

- 2024 “Research Grant to study police in Colombia,” Folke-Bernadotte Academy (Co-PI, \$16,000)
- 2023 “Enterprise Ireland Research Grant,” University College Dublin (PI, \$16,000)
- 2023 “Small Grant to gather data on criminal organizations,” University of South Carolina (Co-PI, \$10,000)
- 2022 “Small Grants to Develop Studies on Hard to Reach Populations,” WZB Berlin Social Science Center (Co-PI, \$ 2,600)
- 2021 “Attitudinal Change and Support for the Militarization of Public Security: Evidence from a Panel Study in Mexico,” Notre Dame International Mexico Grant, University of Notre Dame (Co-PI, \$ 10,000)
- 2021 “Organized Crime Presence in Montevideo, Uruguay,” National Research and Innovation Agency (ANII) of Uruguay (Co-PI, \$ 25,000)
- 2021 “Criminal governance amid the COVID-19 pandemic: Explaining violence and goods provision as public health responses by organized crime groups in Mexico,” Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) (Co-PI, \$ 10,000)
- 2019 “Police Capacity, Practices and Citizen’s Perceptions,” National Research and Innovation Agency (ANII) of Uruguay (Co-PI, \$ 25,000)
- 2019 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Department of Political Science, Keough School of Global Affairs, Gender Studies Program, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Grant to organize the conference New Research by Women Studying Violence (\$ 15,000)
- 2018 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Department of Political Science, Keough School of Global Affairs, Gender Studies Program, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Grant to organize the conference New Research by Women Studying Violence (\$ 10,000)
- 2016 Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Graduate Student Research Grant (\$ 7,000)
- 2016 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Graduate Student Research Grant (\$ 3,000)

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2023–2027 Folke Bernadotte Academy International Research Working Groups Member
- 2022–2025 Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) Fellowship
- 2018–2019 Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Dissertation Year Fellowship
- 2018 Outstanding Doctoral Student Contributions Award, Kellogg Institute for International Studies
- 2017 Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award, Graduate Student Union Honorable Mention
- 2017 Department of Political Science, Professional Development Award
- 2017 USAID–Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development, Research Fellowship
- 2017 Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Professional Development Award
- 2015 USAID, Research and Innovation Fellowship

- 2014–2015 Varieties of Democracy Project, University of Notre Dame, Research Fellowship
- 2014 Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Professional Development Award
- 2014 University of Notre Dame, Professional Development Award
- 2013 University of Notre Dame, Professional Development Award
- 2012–2017 Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, PhD Fellowship
- 2010–2012 Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, MA Full scholarship

Talks, seminars & workshops

INVITED TALKS

- 2024 Dublin City University, School of Law and Government seminar series
- 2023 Parliamentary Commissioner’s Office for the Penitentiary System in Uruguay
- 2022 University of Oxford, Latin American Center seminar series
- 2021 University of Konstanz, Department of Public Administration
- University of Notre Dame, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, [Police Militarization: Notes for Debate](#)
- Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, Centro de Estudios sobre Seguridad, Inteligencia y Gobernanza
- The University of Utah, Department of Political Science
- 2020 Universidad ICESI, Colombia, Department of Politics, [Violence and Security Sector Reform: Elements for Debate](#)
- Emory University, Department of Political Science seminar series
- CIDE, Department of Political Studies seminar series

SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

- 2024 Methodological Advances in Peace and Conflict Research, CPCR Annual Meeting, University College Dublin
- Workshop Political Violence in Democracies, University of Amsterdam
- 2023 Non-state Armed Governance Research Group, virtual
- Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research, University of Notre Dame
- Critical Perspectives on Peace and Conflict, CPCR Annual Meeting, University College Dublin
- 2022 Effective and Innovative Policymaking in Contested Contexts Colloquium, University of Erfurt
- EGAP Annual Meeting, Cornell University
- Illicit Economies and Informal Actors Mini-conference, University of California San Diego
- Hard-to-reach Populations in Political Science Research, WZB Berlin Social Science Center
- 2021 Facebook as a Research Tool workshop, Demed, University of Glasgow
- US-Mexico Center Workshop, University of California, San Diego
- Global Law and Politics Workshop, University of Texas at Austin (virtual)
- Programa para el Estudio de la Violencia, CIDE
- Carolinas’ Conflict Workshop, University of South Carolina
- 2020 Peace Science Society workshop
- Security and Criminality in the Americas Conference, University of Oxford (cancelled)
- Kellogg-Kroc Workshop on Crime and Violence, University of Notre Dame
- 2019 Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México

2018 Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights, University of Notre Dame
 2017 Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development–USAID, San Salvador, El Salvador
 Center for Criminology seminar series, University of Cape Town, South Africa
 The Notre Dame International Security Center, University of Notre Dame
 2016 Varieties of Democracy Launch Workshop, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame

Conference presentations

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2023
 Asociacion Colombiana de Ciencia Politica, 2014
 European Initiative for Security Studies Annual Meeting, 2023
 International Studies Association Annual Meeting, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2023
 International Studies Association Junior Scholar Symposium, 2015, 2016
 Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018
 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2023, 2024
 Peace Science Society International Annual Meeting, 2016, 2020, 2022
 Political Studies Association of Ireland, 2023
 Western Political Science Association, 2018

Teaching

School of Politics and International Relations, UCD

“The Politics of Organized Crime” (undergraduate)
“Qualitative Research Design” (graduate)
“International Security” (graduate)
Workshop Research Based Simulation in Teaching, Geary Institute Research Skills Initiative

Division of International Studies, CIDE

“Visualizing Politics” (undergraduate)
“International Security” (undergraduate)
“Crime and Violence in Mexico and Latin America” (short course, graduate)
“International Organization” (short course, graduate)

Department of Political Science, University of Notre Dame

“Causes and Consequences of Terrorism” (undergraduate)
“Introduction to International Relations” (undergraduate, teaching assistant)

Department of Political Science, Universidad de la República, Uruguay

“Introduction to Public Policy” (undergraduate, co-instructor)

Advising

School of Politics and International Relations, UCD

PhD Examinations

2023–2024 Sarah King (STA)

- 2022–2023 Paula Montano (STA); Salsabil Abdalbaki (STA)
Masters Thesis Direction
- 2023–2024 Jennifer O’Keeffe, “Media Framing of Femicide in Ireland”
 Zuzanna Krakowska, “Issue Ownership in Challenger Parties”
- 2022–2023 Lea Ianetta, “Decisions to Participate in Mass Violence in Civil War” (distinction)
 Alais Diebold, “Militarization of Conservation Practices in the DRC”
 Annabelle Hill, “Mass Media and Punitiveness in the United States”

Undergraduate Thesis Direction

- 2022–2023 Ciara De Buitler, “Populist leaders and right-wing violence” (distinction)

Division of International Studies, CIDE

Undergraduate Thesis Direction

- 2021–2022 Camila Rodriguez, “Policing Protest in Mexico” (distinction)
 2020–2021 Pablo Paras, “State Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic” (distinction)
 Natalia Sanchez, “Municipal Police Militarization in Mexico” (distinction)
 2019–2020 Maria Fernanda Mercado, “Public Opinion and Violence in Mexico”

Teaching Qualifications

- 2018 Online College Teaching Certificate, Kaneb Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Notre Dame
- 2017 Advanced Teaching Scholar Certificate, Kaneb Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Notre Dame
- 2016 Striving for Excellence in Teaching Certificate, Kaneb Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Notre Dame

Media appearances & inquiries

- Interview request, CBC, July 21, 2023
[Interview, *La Diaria*, July 22, 2023](#) (in Spanish)
 Interview request, Caracol Radio, Bogota, June 8, 2021
[Live Interview on Police Violence in the USA](#), France 24, June 16, 2020 (in Spanish)

Professional experience

- 2024 Study on police reform to prevent organized crime, Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), United Kingdom
- 2023 Research Day, Folke-Bernadotte Academy, Government of Sweden, Stockholm
- 2022 Ensuring Justice for Venezuela Conference, Caracas, Venezuela
 United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC), Regional Meeting on Strategies to Combat Organized Crime, Panama
 Ministry of Interior – National Agency for Research and Innovation, Uruguay
- 2019 Research Policy Dialogue, UN DPO and Folke Bernadotte Academy, New York
 Folke Bernadotte Academy SSR Research Working Group Meeting, New York

- 2018–2019 Pulte Institute for Global Development, University of Notre Dame, Technical Assistance, Fundación Myrna Mack, Guatemala
- 2015 Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Cape Town, Research Fellow, USAID
- 2011 Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Cape Town, Research Fellow, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies
- 2007–2010 United Nations Resident Coordinator’s Office, Uruguay, Specialist

Service

TO THE DISCIPLINE

- 2022 Reviewer, U.S. National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine
- 2022 Organizing Committee, Latin American Peace Science Annual Conference
- 2021 Section Chair, MPSA Annual Conference
- 2018, 2019 Organizer, Women Studying Violence Workshop

REFEREE

Journals: *American Political Science Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *European Journal of International Relations*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Illicit Economies and Development*, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Politics*, *Latin American Politics and Society*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Política y Gobierno*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *Third World Quarterly*, *World Development*.

Funding Agencies: ANII (Uruguayan agency for research and innovation; Clemente Estable Fund, Vaz Ferreira Fund), FONDECYT (Chilean fund for science and technology).

TO THE UNIVERSITY

University College Dublin

- 2023– SPIRe Director of Teaching and Learning (Director of Undergraduate Studies)
- 2022–2023 Coordinator, SPIRe Seminar Series
- 2022–2023 Member, Research Committee
- 2022–2023 Member, Research Ethics Committee

CIDE

- 2020–2022 Chair, Institutional Review Board (IRB)
- 2020–2022 Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee
- 2019–2022 Member, Library Committee
- 2021–2022 Member, Methods Curriculum Implementation Committee

Last updated: August 2, 2024