

## Curriculum Vitae

### **Oliver Kaplan**

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Ben M. Cherrington Hall

University of Denver

Josef Korbel School of International Studies

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Denver, Colorado 80208

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#### **Current Position**

Assistant Professor

University of Denver, Denver, CO

The Josef Korbel School of International Studies

September 2013-present (Lecturer, 2012-2013)

Research and teaching courses in the Human Rights program at the undergraduate and graduate levels on: Human Rights and Foreign Policy, Civilian Protection, Civil War and Peacebuilding, Social Science Methods, Human Rights Research Methods.

Associate Director

Human Trafficking Center

The Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver

#### **Previous Positions**

Post Doctoral Research Associate in Conflict Studies, 2011-2012

Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC; Minerva Department of Defense project)

Woodrow Wilson School of International and Public Affairs

Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey

Post Doctoral Fellow, 2010-2011

Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC; Minerva Department of Defense project)

Department of Political Science

Stanford University

#### **Education**

Stanford University, Stanford, California

Ph.D. in Political Science, 2010

Emphases: International Relations, Comparative Politics

Minor fields: Political Methodology, American Politics

Dissertation project: "Civilian Autonomy in Civil War"

Committee: David Laitin (chair), Ken Schultz, Jeremy Weinstein, Terry Karl

\* 2012 Latin American Studies Association Diskin Dissertation Award (honorable mention)

University of California, San Diego (UCSD)  
Bachelor of Arts Degree June 2001 *with Highest Distinction; Magna Cum Laude*  
Major: Political Science—Public Policy  
Minors: Economics; Spanish Studies

University of Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica  
University of California Education Abroad Program, 2000

## Field Research Experience

Colombia (2007-2013)  
The Philippines (2012)

## Affiliations

Regular blogger, Political Violence @ a Glance (<http://politicalviolenceataglance.org/>)

Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC) research consortium

Colciencias Investigation Group (Colombian National Science Foundation), “Estudios de paz y posconflicto,” Centro de Investigación y Educación Popular (CINEP), Colombia

The Monitoring & Evaluation of Trafficking in Persons Community of Practice (METIP), Free the Slaves

Visiting Researcher, Universidad de Los Andes, Facultad de Ciencias Políticas, Bogotá, Colombia, Summer 2013

## Honors and Awards

2015 Blog Finalist, Duck of Minerva (“García Márquez’ Magical Realism: It’s Real”)  
([politicalviolenceataglance.org/2014/05/16/garcia-marquez-magical-realism-its-real/](http://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2014/05/16/garcia-marquez-magical-realism-its-real/))

2015 Blog Finalist, Duck of Minerva, Human Trafficking Center Blog

2012 Latin American Studies Association Diskin Dissertation Award (honorable mention)

2008 Stanford Goldsmith Writing Award in Dispute Resolution (\$1,000)

Honorable Mention, NSF Graduate Fellowship Program

Lakoff Award, Best Undergraduate Thesis, UCSD Department of Political Science

Department Honors in Political Science with *Highest Distinction*, UCSD

Research Scholar Award, UCSD Undergraduate Research Conference

Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Chapter (UCSD)

Golden Key National Honor Society

John Muir College Caledonian Honor Society

Provost Honors List, John Muir College, UCSD

## Research Grants

2015 Carnegie Corporation of New York, Co-Investigator, “Renewing Rights-based Approaches to Peacebuilding: Global Norms, Local Dynamics” (\$1 million)

2015 Korb Social Science Foundation Grant (Human Trafficking Speakers \$18,250)

2014-2016 Carnegie Corporation of New York, Rigor and Relevance grant Co-Investigator, “Nonviolent Action in Violent Settings: Practices and Implications for Policy” (\$1 million)

2014-2016 Department of Defense Minerva grant Co-Investigator, “Taking Development (Im)balance Seriously: Using New Approaches to Measure and Model State Fragility” (\$1.07 million)

2014 University of Denver Professional Research Opportunities for Faculty (PROF) grant (“Measuring and Analyzing Links Between Human Trafficking and Security”, \$17,779)

2014-2015 Korb Social Science Foundation Grant – Center for Latin American Studies (with Aaron Schneider, \$42,000)

2014 Korb Social Science Foundation Grant – DDR (\$9,000)

2014 Korb Research Grant – Human Trafficking and Security (\$7,500)

2013 International Center on Nonviolent Conflict conference grant (\$2,500)

2011 Bradley Foundation Research Fellowship, Princeton University (\$3,500)

2008-2009 Dwight D. Eisenhower/Clifford Roberts Fellowship (\$10,000)

2008 Smith Richardson Foundation World Politics & Statecraft Fellowship (\$7,500)

Stanford Community Engagement Grant (2010, \$500)

Stanford Diversity Dissertation Research Opportunity grant (2009, \$1,500)

Stanford CICN Research Grant (2009, \$3,200)

Stanford Center on International Conflict and Negotiation (SCICN) Fellow, 2009

American Political Science Association Travel Grant, Annual Meeting (\$300)

Stanford Graduate Research Opportunity award (2008, \$5,000)

O’Bie Schultz Dissertation Travel Fellowship, Stanford University, 2007 (\$5,000)

Dept. of Political Science, Stanford Univ., Graduate Fellowship

## Research Activities

Book Project: *Between Cooperation and Resistance: How War-torn Communities Protect Themselves*

How can civilians in violent civil war conflicts protect themselves, their property, and their families? Much of the research on civil wars suggests that when civilians are caught in the cross-fire between warring armies, they can do little other than flee for safety or take sides. Though civilians may be unarmed and up against stronger armed groups, they are far from powerless or passive. As actors with agency, civilians have varying abilities to organize to protect human rights. Indeed, in some conflicts there have been notable examples of civilian communities apparently gaining autonomy, or maintaining democratic decision-making power over outcomes *for* the community *within* the community, minimizing influence from outside armed groups. I argue that civilians’ cohesion and organizational capabilities can facilitate institutional solutions at the local level to reduce uncertainty, regulate relations with armed groups, and affect outcomes of violence and order across communities. In my sub-national quantitative tests of this argument in Colombia, I find that well-organized communities tend to suffer less violence than those that are less organized. These varying levels of organization are further not simply results of historical conflict patterns and armed actor permissiveness. My qualitative case studies form part of a “nested analysis” where the selection of cases is aided by the statistical modeling. The cases help verify the presence or absence of various

autonomy protection “mechanisms” in real-life communities. Data for these case studies comes from extensive fieldwork in both urban and rural parts of Colombia, including archival research and over 200 interviews with members of civilian communities, government and military officials, ex-combatants, and NGO workers.

## Publications

Kaplan, Oliver. 2013. “Nudging Armed Groups: How Civilians Transmit Norms of Protection.” *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development* 2(3): 62.

I examine the varying roles that norms play to either enable or constrain violence in armed conflict settings by drawing on experiences from communities and armed groups in Colombia. First, I explain how norms about violence and non-violence within communities may affect the behavior of civilian residents to become involved with armed groups. Second, I consider how norms, shared understandings, and patterns of interaction are created and shaped within the ranks of illegal armed groups, including through the influence of civilian communities, and subsequently shape decisions about the use of violence against civilians. I conclude by arguing that this style of analysis—emphasizing the interaction between communities and armed actors—is essential for making progress in the study of the mechanisms for civilian protection.

Kaplan, Oliver. 2013. “Protecting Civilians in Civil War: The Institution of the ATCC in Colombia.” *Journal of Peace Research* 50(3): 351–367.

This article analyzes the “mechanisms” of the community-case of the Peasant Worker Association of the Carare River (ATCC) in Colombia to protect residents and retain community autonomy. The Carare civilians developed a local institutional process to investigate threats against suspected armed group collaborators to clarify the “fog of war” and reform civilian preferences to participate in the conflict. This process is evaluated in reference to existing hypotheses about violence in civil wars using qualitative evidence from original field research. A unique within-case database created through focus-groups with community “conciliators” is used to analyze not only acts of violence, but also *threats* that were defused. Despite conditions that would predict persistent violence against civilians, the local institution itself proved to be a critical factor for both explaining and limiting levels of violence. The results suggest civilian choices and their consequences did not merely result from the capabilities or choices of armed actors.

Albertus, Michael and Oliver Kaplan. 2013. “Land Reform as a Counterinsurgency Policy: Evidence from Colombia.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 57(2): 198–231.

Can targeted land reform reduce levels of civil war conflict by mitigating the grievances of rural populations? This article uses new micro-level data on land reform and violence at the municipal level from Colombia from 1960-2000 to test whether land redistribution policies mitigated subsequent guerrilla activities. Results suggest land reform can be an effective counterinsurgency policy but may be politically hard to implement at a sufficient scale because it threatens the status quo. The implementation of half-measures has tended worsen insurgency.

## Commentary and Analysis

"This is the best effort we ever had at peace" (American researcher and academic Oliver Kaplan tells The Post's Mark Kennedy he's optimistic about the prospects for peace, despite the recent surge in violence). *The Bogotá Post*, June 17, 2015 (published interview with Mark Kennedy).

"Interview with Oliver Kaplan," Centre for Applied Intelligence, May 19, 2015.  
<http://centreforappliedintelligence.org/interview-with-oliver-kaplan/>

"Peace is Coming to Colombia" (Despite recent setbacks, the negotiation process between FARC and the government remains on track). *Foreign Policy* (Democracy Lab), May 14, 2015.

"Can Snowball Sampling Estimate Human Trafficking?" with Ashley Greve, *openDemocracy* (Beyond Trafficking and Slavery, peer reviewed), February 12, 2015.

"Colombia Calls a Draw in the War on Drugs" (After years of bloodshed, Colombia's government is teaming up with its former rebel enemies to beat the drug problem). *Foreign Policy* (Democracy Lab), June 13, 2014.

"Beyond Boko Haram: Nigeria's Human-Trafficking Crisis" with Lauren Jekowsky, *National Interest*, May 19, 2014.

"Grassroots political participation key to ensure peace in Colombia: Conflict expert" *Colombia Reports*, interview by Taran Volckhausen, November 21, 2013.

"Can Colombia build on its democratic opening?" *CNN.com Global Public Square*, November 19, 2013.

"Land for Peace in Colombia" (The Key to Ending Bogotá's War With the FARC) with Michael Albertus. 2013. *Foreign Affairs*, April 15, 2013.

"Colombia's Rebels and Land Reform" with Michael Albertus. *The New York Times*, October 9, 2012.

"A New Approach to the Drug War" (A novel model offers hope for communities battling narcos and militants). *National Interest*, July 26, 2012.

"Needles into Ploughshares (Want to fight Latin America's drug problem? Try land reform)" with Michael Albertus. *Foreign Policy* (Democracy Lab), April 12, 2012.

"The Clandestine Political Movements of the FARC." 2011. In *FARC Systems Analysis Workshop Report*, Naval Postgraduate School Department of Defense Analysis and US Special Operations Command South (SOCSOUTH), September 1, 2011.

## Manuscripts Under Review

Community Counts: The Social Reintegration of Ex-combatants in Colombia (with Enzo Nussio; under review)

This paper analyzes the determinants of the social reintegration of ex-combatants from armed conflicts. Participation can help ex-combatants feel socially fulfilled and acceptance by their communities can reduce their needs to maintain social connections to their former armed group networks and bosses. We hypothesize that the strength of community organization and social relations among residents are associated with increased participation of ex-combatants in their communities. We test various individual, community and environmental factors using data from a survey of randomly sampled ex-combatants from Colombia. The results suggest which ex-combatants are most likely to socially reintegrate and where. We also examine how the social participation of ex-combatants and social reintegration programs in Colombia may contribute to meeting broader definitions of successful reintegration.

Explaining Recidivism of Ex-combatants in Colombia (with Enzo Nussio; under review, *Journal of Peace Research*)

What determines the recidivism of ex-combatants from armed conflicts? We evaluate various individual-level, community-level, and broader security environment predictors of recidivism by combining data from a representative survey of ex-combatants of various armed groups from Colombia with police records that indicate which among the respondents returned to belligerent or illegal activities. By analyzing data on the observed behaviors of ex-combatants, we avoid some of the validity pitfalls of existing studies of reintegration that only rely on perceptions about why ex-combatants might go astray. The results suggest which individual and community-level factors are most highly correlated with various kinds of recidivism and hold policy implications for reintegration programs.

## Ongoing Research Projects

Shootings and Shamans: Indigenous Group Authority Structures and Civil War Violence in Colombia.

Do the unique organizational forms of indigenous groups help explain whether some groups have been better able to overcome armed conflict violence than others? I develop a theory about the importance of strong tribal authority structures to regulate the internal order of indigenous communities and reduce entanglements with external armed groups. To test this theory, I leverage never used before micro-level quantitative data on the incidence of violence against members of different ethnic groups and on these groups' cultural and organizational characteristics. The findings yield important implications for managing violence against civilians and protecting human rights in Colombia and in weak states where local or tribal structures are common for the provision of local order.

Taking it to the Streets: Engaged Research in Political Science

You cannot go back to every place you've ever been. But you can return to some. For social science researchers, it is all too common to conduct field research, learn what one can, and then be done with a place. This article argues there can be great value to engaging communities with research and taking results back to the "streets" after academic research has been completed. This article urges researchers to think ahead about future engagement at

the moment the research is being conducted, or even prior setting foot on the ground. I discuss the literature on engagement from anthropology and political science. I then detail my recent engagement process of sharing results from a study of nonviolent mediation during civil conflict with the community of La India in Colombia.

### Surviving the Syrian Civil War

According to disparate and lesser-known sub-narratives, and similar to populations of other war-torn countries, many Syrians themselves found ways to get by and survive the conflict. This paper groups and examines various cases of how individuals and communities have avoided violence and identifies social cohesion as an important factor for preserving community autonomy in the face of pressure from belligerents. As these examples from Syria attest, civilians are not passive in such situations and instead can exercise agency. The paper concludes by considering whether any of the community models that are encountered could have been or may still be applicable to other communities and other countries.

### Foiling the Fighters: The Protective Strategies of “Peace Zone” Communities in The Philippines (presented at the ISA 2013 conference)

This study analyzes the strategies civilian “Peace Zone” communities have used in The Philippines to protect themselves from armed conflict violence. I conduct a content analysis of data from original fieldwork and archival documents that include communities’ statements, declarations, and correspondence to systematize the types and frequencies of collective protection strategies and describe among which kinds of communities different strategies are most prominent. The reactions of armed actors are analyzed with additional documents on the military’s and rebel groups’ responses to the Peace Zones, as well as interviews with community and NGO experts and military officials. Micro quantitative data on the armed conflict permits the testing of how protection strategies have affected subsequent patterns of violence. The findings hold implications for protecting human rights and developing more humane counterinsurgency policies.

### Explaining State Territorial Consolidation in Post-conflict: The Macarena Region of Colombia (presented at the ISA 2013 conference)

After territory in a civil conflict has been cleared by state forces, how can permanent security be guaranteed and economic development be stimulated? This study examines the joint efforts by USAID and the Colombian government to “consolidate” gains in the conflictive Macarena region of Colombia through development spending and institutional strengthening beginning in the mid-2000s. Based on field visits and sub-national datasets, I conduct statistical tests at the village-level of hypotheses on how various types of development projects and spending interact with military activities to affect outcomes related to citizen security, economic growth, and coca cultivation. Identification comes from accounting for the pre-consolidation policy characteristics of communities that were eligible recipients for development programming. The findings yield policy implications for ongoing post-conflict development programs both in other consolidation regions in Colombia and in other countries, such as Afghanistan, where militaries are currently engaged in counterinsurgency and state-building campaigns.

### Protesting for Protection: The Effects of Social Movements Against Civil War Violence (with Mauricio García-Durán, S.J.)

Can peaceful social protests against repression by armed actors in civil wars work to protect civilians from violence? While armed actors may suffer greater reputational effects if they transgress against civilians in the face of mass protests, conventional theories of violence

largely view civilians as powerless and, at worst, suggest that protests may also incite additional retributory violence. To adjudicate among these distinct narratives, we conduct statistical analyses of protests and violence across Colombian municipalities from 1990-2010. We also model and take into account when and where anti-violence protests are likely to occur since protests may in part be mobilized as responses to high levels of repression. The results provide insights about civilians' abilities to act collectively to shape their own environments and preserve their autonomy in the face of armed conflict.

#### Local Capacity Building in Afghanistan: A Path to Civilian Protection and Autonomy in Armed Conflict?

Can the strengthening of local community organizations for purposes of economic development also affect security conditions in armed conflict settings? Statistical tests assess whether the National Solidarity Program (NSP) councils formed across communities in Afghanistan beginning in 2003 help civilians protect themselves and undercut support for insurgents. Panel regression analysis shows that when communities undertook projects and managed more cumulative project funds they have tended to suffer less violence at the hands of Taliban insurgents. District-level fixed-effects help to isolate some causal mechanisms and cast doubt on others, including the possible spuriousness that councils may solely function in peaceful regions.

#### “International Organizations and the Custom of Outsourcing Customs” (Master’s of Arts Field Paper).

Since the 1960s, approximately fifty countries outsourced their customs operations to multinational corporations (MNCs) in what is known as Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI). This paper explains why some countries make the decision to outsource while others do not. This type of outsourcing may help states reduce corruption and promote “good governance.” However, there are also important drawbacks to relinquishing such core state functions and perceived state sovereignty. Given this tension, possible explanations for why countries adopt PSI include external pressure from international institutions like the IMF, World Bank, or WTO, who seek to reform corrupt countries, or internal motivations (either for need or desire). Quantitative tests and case studies suggest that levels of corruption, reformist leadership, and influence of international organizations are all significant predictors of contracting a PSI company and outsourcing a core state function such as customs.

#### The Effect of Armed Conflict on Participation in Civil Society Organizations in Colombia.

#### Explaining the Emergence of Civilian “Peace” Organizations: The Case of the ATCC in Colombia.

“Bartering Towards Interethnic Peace: An Economic Interdependence Model of Ethnic Group Relations.” Undergraduate Thesis, UCSD Department of Political Science, April 2001.

### Policy Publications

*Bi-national Border Transportation Infrastructure Needs Assessment Study.* SourcePoint/ SANDAG, January 2004. Especially, “Financing Options for Border Transportation Infrastructure: Comparing the Transportation Planning Processes in Mexico and the U.S.” Prepared for the U.S. – Mexico Joint Working Committee.



“A Path to Prosperity: Preparing Our Workforce.” SourcePoint/ The San Diego Workforce Partnership, December 2002. [www.workforce.org](http://www.workforce.org).

“San Diego's Defense and Transportation Manufacturing Industry Cluster: A Strategic Workforce Development Plan.” SourcePoint/ The San Diego Workforce Partnership, July 2002.

“San Diego's Business Services Industry Cluster: A Strategic Workforce Development Plan.” SourcePoint/ The San Diego Workforce Partnership, July 2002.

## Presentations

“Civilian Agency in Disrupted Societies,” Fletcher Summer Institute for the Advanced Study of Nonviolent Conflict, International Center on Nonviolent Conflict, Tufts University, Boston, MA, June 12, 2015 (invited speaker).

“Taking it to the Streets: Engaged Research in Political Science,” *Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference*, San Juan, PR, May 27, 2015.

“Taking it to the Streets: Engaged Research in Political Science,” *International Studies Association Annual Conference*, New Orleans, LA, February 20, 2015.

“External Aid to Nonviolent Actors: Methodological Concerns,” External Support for Nonviolent Campaigns Workshop, Josef Korbel School, University of Denver, November 19, 2014.

“Who Goes Bad? The Social Reintegration and Recidivism of Ex-combatants,” United Nations University, New York, NY, October 21, 2014.

“Protesting for Protection: The Effects of Social Movements Against Civil War Violence,” *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Washington, DC, August 31, 2014.

“Taking it to the Streets: Engaged Research in Political Science,” *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Washington, DC, August 30, 2014.

“Protesting for Protection: The Effects of Social Movements Against Civil War Violence,” presented at the International Studies Association/FLACSO 2014 conference, Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 24, 2014.

“Shootings and Shamans: Indigenous Group Authority Structures and Civil War Violence in Colombia.” Understanding Civil Conflict workshop, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum, Barcelona, Spain, June 18-19, 2014 (invited speaker).

“Protesting for Protection: The Effects of Social Movements Against Civil War Violence,” presented at the International Studies Association 2014 conference, Toronto, Canada, March 27, 2014.

“Nudging Armed Groups: How Civilians Transmit Norms of Protection,” presented at the International Studies Association 2014 conference, Toronto, Canada, March 27, 2014.

“Explaining Recidivism of Ex-combatants in Colombia.” Sié Center Research Seminar Series, University of Denver, November 12, 2014.

“Explaining Recidivism of Ex-combatants in Colombia.” *US Embassy*, Bogotá, Colombia, September 30, 2013.

“Explaining Recidivism of Ex-combatants in Colombia.” *ALACIP Conference*, Bogotá, Colombia, September 25, 2013.

“Nudging Armed Groups: How Civilians Transmit Norms of Protection.” Conflict Research Society annual conference, University of Essex, United Kingdom, September 18, 2013.

“Explaining Recidivism of Ex-combatants in Colombia.” *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Chicago, IL, August 29, 2013.

“Mi Estudio Sobre La ATCC: Protegiendo a la Población Civil,” ATCC Asamblea Campesina and 25<sup>th</sup> (26<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary Celebration, Corregimiento de La India, Landázuri, Santander, Colombia, June 17, 2013.

"Village Elders and Conflict Resolution in Colombia: The Institution of the ATCC," Program on Conflict Resolution, The Korbel School, University of Denver, May 20, 2013.

“Policy Implications for the FARC Peace Negotiations in Colombia,” US Department of State, Bureau of Conflict and Stability Operations (CSO), Washington, DC, May 13, 2013.

“Explaining State Territorial Consolidation in Post-conflict: The Macarena Region of Colombia,” presented at the International Studies Association 2013 conference, San Francisco, CA, April 6, 2013.

“Foiling the Fighters: The Protective Strategies of “Peace Zone” Communities in The Philippines,” presented at the International Studies Association 2013 conference, San Francisco, CA, April 5, 2013.

“Civilian Autonomy in Civil War,” Josef Korbel School, University of Denver, March 25, 2013 (invited speaker).

“Strategies for Civilian Protection in Armed Conflict.” International Center for Nonviolent Conflict Webinar, February 9, 2013.

“Surviving the Syrian Civil War.” Resolving the Syria Crisis: An International Conference, University of Denver, January 10, 2013.

Roundtable co-chair, "Latin America: Drugs, Crime, and State Fracture," Student Conference on US Affairs (SCUSA), Department of Social Sciences, US Military Academy, West Point, NY, November 7-10, 2012.

“Surviving Violence” workshop, invited speaker, The Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada, September 28-29, 2012.

“Community Counts: The Social Reintegration of Ex-combatants in Colombia,” Sié Center Research Seminar Series, University of Denver, September 10, 2012.

“Community Counts: The Social Reintegration of Ex-combatants in Colombia,” *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, New Orleans, LA, September 1, 2012. (event cancelled)

“Explaining State Territorial Consolidation in Post-conflict: The Macarena Region of Colombia,” Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC) Research Conference, Stanford University, June 6, 2012.

“El rol de la comunidad: La reintegración social de excombatientes en Colombia,” Invited speaker, Primer Taller Estado–Academia sobre DDR (First State-Academia Workshop on DDR), The Colombian High Advisory for Reintegration, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP), and the Programa de Investigación sobre Conflicto Armado y Construcción de Paz (ConPaz) of the Political Science department of the Universidad de los Andes, at Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia, May 30, 2012.

“Tiros y Teguas: Estructuras Locales de Autoridad Civil y La Violencia en el Conflicto Colombiano” (Shootings and Shamans: Local Civilian Authority Structures and Civil War Violence in Colombia), Invited speaker, Nuevas perspectivas sobre la violencia en Colombia conference (seminario), Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia, May 28, 2012.

“Shootings and Shamans: Indigenous Group Authority Structures and Civil War Violence in Colombia.” Stanford University, "Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America" conference, Stanford Center for Latin American Studies and the Program on Human Rights, May 8, 2012.

“Un adiós a la coca? Estudios sobre la desincentivización de la producción de drogas” (A Farewell to Coca?), SIMCI Project Meeting of Academic Researchers,

Invited speaker, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Bogotá, Colombia, February 22-23, 2012.

"Small Fry or Bad Guys? Communities and the Catch and Release of Suspected Insurgents." Naval Postgraduate School, Department of Defense Analysis (invited presentation). Monterey, CA, February 14, 2012.

"Consultoría en asuntos humanitarios y postconflicto" (Consulting in Humanitarian and Post-conflict issues), Invited speaker, *Mentes Independientes: Seminario Internacional Perspectivas Empresariales de la Ciencia Política en Colombia*, Bogotá, Colombia, October 21, 2011.

"Shootings and Shamans: Indigenous Group Authority Structures and Civil War Violence in Colombia." *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Seattle, WA, September 3, 2011.

"Clandestine Political Movements of the FARC: Analysis and Implications." FARC Workshop, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, August 30, 2011 (invited presentation).

"Land Reform as a Counterinsurgency Policy: Evidence from Colombia." Minerva Terrorism, Governance, and Development Annual Meeting, UC San Diego, June 25, 2011 (invited presentation).

"Community Organizations and Conflict."

- Colombian National Commission for Reparation and Reconciliation (CNRR), Area of Demobilization, September 20, 2010.
- Colombian High Commission for Reintegration (ACR), September 20, 2010.
- USAID Mission, Bogotá, Colombia, September 17, 2010.
- Universidad Sergio Arboleda, Bogotá, Colombia, September 9, 2010.

"The Effect of Civilian Organizations on Violence in Civil Wars: Quantitative Evidence from Colombia." *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Washington, DC, September 2, 2010.

"Civilian Autonomy in Civil War," University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Political Science, November 13, 2009 (invited presentation).

"El Efecto de las Organizaciones de Civiles sobre la Violencia."

- Instituto Fedesarrollo, Bogotá, Colombia, April 24, 2009.
- CEDE (Centro de Estudios sobre el Desarrollo Económico) Seminar, Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia, August 14, 2008.

"Evaluating Civilian Autonomy in Civil War: Theory and Evidence from Colombia." *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Boston, MA, August 28, 2008.

"Entre la espada y la pared: La toma de decisiones de civiles en las guerras civiles."  
CERAC, Bogotá, Colombia, February 2007.

"International Organizations and the Custom of Outsourcing Customs," *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Philadelphia, PA, September 2006;  
Presentation to Stanford IR Seminar, January 2005.

## Professional Experience

USAID, Colombia "USAID Regional Governance Activity (RGA) in Colombia"  
*Technical program evaluation advisor, 2015-2019*

USAID, Colombia

*External program evaluation advisor, 2010-2012*

Assist USAID mission in evaluating its programs for social and economic development in Colombia and its support of the Colombian Government's territorial consolidation plan.

San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), SourcePoint, Inc. Consulting  
*Associate Economist, Intern, September 2001-November 2002*

Co-Author of "Path to Prosperity" study; policy analysis of a "Living Wage" standard for the San Diego region; conducted labor market research including industry cluster analysis, statistical analysis, and economic forecasting; US-Mexico Binational Transportation Infrastructure Assessment study; project management; organized and participated in advisory committee meetings to build research consensus.

Foundation of Foreign Service for Peace and Democracy, Costa Rica  
*Intern ("Pasante"), Spring 2000*

Helped organize "Regional Forum on Trade and Development in Central America"; translated documents from Spanish to English.

The White House, Office of Cabinet Affairs, Washington, D.C.  
*Intern, Fall 1999*

Assisted Cabinet Secretary and office staff with: preparation of weekly Cabinet reports for the President and other White House senior staff, Cabinet/other meetings, correspondence with Cabinet Agencies. Topic-specific involvement: World Trade Organization and NGOs, Olympics/ anti-doping.

## Teaching/ Service

PhD Dissertation Committees:

Paul Tanghe  
Arturo Lopez-Levy

MA Thesis Committees:

Jonathan Pinckney

M.A. SRP Advisor:

Tara Dillon

Instructor, “Int'l Women's Rights. Beyond the #Hashtag: Women, Gender and International Human Rights,” University of Denver University College Enrichment Program, Fall 2014.

Editorial board member, *Journal of Human Trafficking*

Reviewer for:

*American Political Science Review, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, International Security, Colombia Internacional, European Journal of Political Research, International Studies Quarterly, Security Studies, Terrorism and Political Violence, Journal of Politics, Journal of Peacebuilding & Development, Routledge (book)*

M.A. level courses on Human Rights and Foreign Policy, Civilian Protection, and Civil War and Peacebuilding, Human Rights Research Methods, undergraduate course on Civilian Protection, Josef Korbel School, University of Denver, 2012-2015. M.A./Ph.D. course on Social Science Research Methods.

Teaching Assistant, Stanford University, War and Peace in American Foreign Policy, Prof. Ken Schultz, Spring 2005, Spring 2007, Spring 2010.

Teaching Assistant, Stanford University, Introduction to International Relations (PS1), Prof. Mike Tomz, Fall 2004, Fall 2005.

Teaching Assistant, Stanford University, Global Politics of Human Rights, Prof. Terry Karl, Winter 2005.

President’s Committee on Labor Policies and Practices, Stanford Univ., 2004.

### **Research Assistance**

Professor Terry Karl, “Human Rights and Leftist Parties in Latin America,” Fall 2006.

Professor David Laitin, “Political Instability Task Force War Termination Narratives,” Summer 2006.

**Language Proficiency:** Spanish (fluent).