

Manuel Moscoso-Rojas

PERSONAL DETAILS

Department of Political Science
Brown University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science , Brown University	<i>Expected: 2025</i>
M.A. in Political Science , Brown University	<i>2020</i>
M.Sc. in Economics , Universidad Javeriana	<i>2013</i>
B.SC. in Economics , Universidad Javeriana	<i>2010</i>

RESEARCH FIELDS

Comparative Politics, Research Methods, Politics of Public Security, Crime Reduction

DISSERTATION IN PROGRESS

[The Politics of Public Security: Origins and Consequences of the Uneven Distribution of Police Security in Colombia](#)

Committee: Robert Blair (chair), David Skarbek, Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro, Pedro Dal Bó

Why do states provide security to some places and not others within their borders? Who are the primary beneficiaries of the security provision in rural areas? How does the uneven distribution of security affect citizen-state relations? Despite renewed interest in understanding the states' uneven territorial reach, little we know about why states prioritize the expansion of their security apparatus to some places and not others and its consequences on state-citizen relations. Using original qualitative and quantitative data (surveys, survey experiments, archival research, and interviews) from three subregions in Colombia (Magdalena Medio and three subregions in Antioquia and Caldas), this project unpacks the decision-making process of allocating police infrastructure in Colombia between 2002 and 2010.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

[Preventing Rebel Resurgence after Civil War: A Field Experiment in Security and Justice Provision in Rural Colombia](#) with Rob Blair, Michael Weintraub, and Andrés Vargas. *American Political Science Review*. Vol. 116-04. November 2022, pp. 1258 à 1277.

How can states prevent armed groups from exploiting local governance gaps to (re)establish territorial control during transitions to national peace? We report results from an experimental evaluation of Colombia's ComunPaz program, a scalable, inexpensive intervention that sought to replace rebel governance by harnessing complementarities between state and communal authorities and by improving security and justice provision in areas once dominated by FARC, the country's largest rebel group. We find that ComunPaz enhanced the quality of local dispute resolution, increased citizens' trust in (some) state institutions, and strengthened coordination between state and communal authorities. It also appears to have reduced citizens' trust in, and reliance on, armed groups. The program did not, however, increase reliance on either state or communal authorities to resolve disputes, nor did it increase citizens' trust in communal institutions. We discuss the implications of our findings for peace-building and state-building in countries transitioning from civil war.

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

Taxation and the Uneven Distribution of Security in Colombia

Do Temporary Bans on Carrying Firearms Reduce Violent Outcomes? A successful Intervention in Colombia with Jorge A. Restrepo and Edgar Villa

NON-PEER-
REVIEWED
ARTICLES

Insecurity and hybrid organization forms: challenges and opportunities to construct social capital in post-conflict settings. with Luz Elena Orozco, Clemente Forero, and Eduardo Wills.

Insecurity and hybrid organization forms in rural zones affected by violence with Luz Elena Orozco, Clemente Forero, and Eduardo Wills. Chapter 4, "Academy and Peace Process"

Economic growth, armed conflict, and organized crime: Colombian evidence with Jorge A. Restrepo and Edgar Villa. Chapter 6, Economic and social consequences of armed conflict in Colombia. ESRC/DFID Universidad de los Andes. Bogotá, Colombia.

RESEARCH
GRANTS

Dissertation Project Governance Initiative - JPAL (7,182 USD), CLACS at Brown University (3,000 USD), Graduate Program Development (3,000 USD), Political Science Department grants (8,000 USD)

Rebel Governance Project IOM (8,000), UNDP (63,000), KFW (20,000), Folke Bernadotte Academy (16,000).

SCHOLARSHIPS
AND AWARDS

Center for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Fellowship. Brown University	2024-2025
Conference Travel Fund. Brown University	Spring/Summer 2024
CLACS Fellowship. Brown University	Summer 2023
GPD Fellowship. Brown University	Summer 2023
International Travel Fund. Brown University	Spring 2023
Doctoral Research Travel Grant. Brown University	Spring 2023
Conference Travel Fund. Brown University	Spring 2023
Graduate School Fellowship. Brown University	Summer 2021
Graduate School Fellowship. Brown University	Summer 2020
Scholarship to undertake doctoral studies. Brown University	2019-2025
Scholarship to undertake doctoral studies. Fulbright-Colciencias	2019-2023
Fellowship Virginia Gutierrez de Pineda for Young Researchers. Colciencias	2011
Bachelor Degree in Economics - Honors	2010

TEACHING

Political Science Department. Brown University

Teaching Assistant for Paul Testa. Political Research Methods	Spring 2024
Teaching Assistant for Peter Andreas. Politics of Illegal Global Economy	Fall 2023

Department of Economics. Universidad Javeriana

Teaching Assistant for Andres Giraldo. Economic Growth	Fall 2009 and 2011
Teaching Assistant for Jorge Gallego. Mathematical Economics	Fall 2009
Teaching Assistant for Arsenio Pecha. Mathematical Economics	Fall 2009

COMPUTER
SKILLS

STATA (High), RStudio (High), Quarto (High), ArcGIS (High)

WORKSHOPS
AS CO-
ORGANIZER

Co-organizer of Mini-Conference on Democracy and Organized Crime (with Adele Weeler and Mariana Bustamante). APSA 2024	September 2024
Graduate Student Coordinator. Watson Institute Security Studies Seminar	Spring 2023

CONFERENCES

LAPSS, MPSA, APSA	2024
REPAL	2023
EGAP Learning Days. Uruguay	2018
Ethnicity, Conflict, and Inequality. Brown University	2016
Olympia Summer Academy, Cycle A: Conflict Political Violence	2014

EMPLOYMENT
HISTORY

International Justice Mission	<i>October 2023 -February 2024</i>
Senior Advisor on Police Reform and Monitoring and Evaluation.	
National Planning Department	<i>January 2018 -June 2019</i>
Advisor Security and Defense Unit. Justice, Governance, and Defense Unit	
Office of Attorney General	<i>September 2017 - December 2018</i>
Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant	
National Planning Department	<i>January 2014 - March 2017</i>
Advisor Security and Defense Unit. Justice, Governance, and Defense Unit	
Conflict Analysis Resources Center - CERAC	<i>June 2011 - December 2013</i>
Researcher	

LANGUAGES English (Fluent), Spanish (Native)

Last updated: July 12, 2024