

OMAR GARCÍA-PONCE

The George Washington University
Department of Political Science
2115 G St. NW, Monroe Hall 406
Washington, DC 20052

Personal Website: omargarciaponce.com
Google Scholar: <https://goo.gl/vXrBrW>
Contact: garciaponce@gwu.edu
+1 (646) 643-7034

Academic Appointments

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| 2024– | Associate Professor of Political Science & International Affairs, George Washington University |
| 2019–24 | Assistant Professor of Political Science & International Affairs, George Washington University |
| 2016–19 | Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of California, Davis |
| 2015–16 | Post-Doctoral Fellow, Center for Global Development |

Education

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| 2016 | Ph.D. in Political Science, New York University |
| 2009 | M.A. in Political Science (Terminal Degree), New York University |
| 2006 | B.A. in Politics and Public Administration, El Colegio de México |
| 2004–05 | France Excellence Eiffel Scholarship Program, Sciences Po Paris |

Research

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- “Cross-Border Spillover: U.S. Gun Laws and Violence in Mexico.” 2013. *American Political Science Review* [lead article] 107 (3): 397–417 (with Arindrajit Dube and Oeindrila Dube).
- “Partisan Losers’ Effects: Perceptions of Electoral Integrity in Mexico.” 2015. *Electoral Studies* [lead article] 39: 1–14 (with Francisco Cantú).
- “From Maize to Haze: Agricultural Shocks and the Growth of the Mexican Drug Sector.” 2016. *Journal of the European Economic Association* 14 (5): 1181–1224 (with Oeindrila Dube and Kevin Thom).
- “Why Ethnic Subaltern-Led Parties Crowd Out Armed Organizations: Explaining Maoist Violence in India.” 2019. *World Politics* 71 (2): 367–416 (with Kanchan Chandra).
- “Trump-induced Anxiety among Latina/os.” 2021. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations* 24 (1): 68–87 (with Bradford Jones and seven other collaborators).
- “Are Voters too Afraid to Tackle Corruption? Survey and Experimental Evidence from Mexico.” 2021. *Political Science Research and Methods* 9 (4): 709–727 (with Thomas Zeitzoff and Leonard Wantchekon).
- “Peace and Health: Exploring the Nexus in the Americas.” 2022. *BMJ Global Health* 7 (8): 1–9 (with Adnan Hyder, Natalia Ambrosio, and Lorena Barberia).

- “Anger and Support for Retribution in Mexico’s Drug War.” 2023. *Journal of Peace Research* 60 (2): 274–290 (with Lauren Young and Thomas Zeitzoff).
- “Organized Criminal Syndicates and Governance in Mexico and Central America.” 2023. *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science*.
- “Who is to Blame? Youth Crime and Attribution of Responsibility in Urban Mexico.” 2023. *Journal of Criminal Justice* 86 (May-June): 1–14 (with Isabel Laterzo, Vivian Bronsoler, Elisa Lavore, and Shahriar Kibriya).
- “Critical Junctures: Independence Movements and Democracy in Africa.” 2024. *American Journal of Political Science* 68(4): 1266–1285 (with Leonard Wantchekon).
- “Moral Reasoning and Support for Punitive Violence After Crime.” 2025. *Journal of Peace Research* 62 (3): 660–674 (with Hannah Baron, Jorge Olmos Camarillo, Lauren Young, and Thomas Zeitzoff).
- “Criminal Violence, the State, and Society.” 2025. *Annual Review of Political Science* Vol. 28: 435–456.

Working Papers

- “The Legacy of Mexico’s Drug War on Youth Political Attitudes.” (with Isabel Laterzo). Revised and resubmitted to the *British Journal of Political Science*.
- “A Faustian Bargain? Security vs Democracy in Mexico” (with Julio Ríos-Figueroa).
- “The Limits of Deliberation: A Field Experiment on Criminal Justice Preferences in Mexico” (with Hannah Baron, Lauren Young, and Thomas Zeitzoff).
- “Electoral Cycles of Corruption: Evidence from Municipal Audits in Mexico.” (with Viridiana Ríos).
- “Women’s Political Participation in the Aftermath of Civil War: Evidence from Peru.”
- “The Long-Term Effects of Colonial Repression in Madagascar.” (with Leonard Wantchekon).
- “How Political Repression Shapes Attitudes Toward the State: Evidence from Zimbabwe.” (with Benjamin Pasquale).
- “Why Mafias Persist.” (with Ryan Hübert).

Selected Projects in Progress

- “Violence, Impunity, and Belief Systems”
- “The Limits of Deliberation: A Field Experiment on Criminal Justice Preferences in Mexico.” (with Hannah Baron, Lauren Young, and Thomas Zeitzoff)
- “Assessing and Counteracting Negative Attitudes toward Central American Immigrants in Mexico.” (with Bradford Jones, Jeffrey Sherman, and Daniel Zizumbo-Colunga)
- “Rethinking Democracy and Intrastate Violence.” (with Kanchan Chandra)

Other Writing

- “Civil War and Female Political Participation: The Case of Peru.” 2017. *APSA Comparative Politics Newsletter*. 27 (1): 25–31.
- “Independence Movements and Democracy in Africa.” 2017. In Stelios Michalopoulos and Elias Papaioannou (Eds.) *The Long Economic and Political Shadow of History*. London: Centre for Economic Policy Research (with Leonard Wantchekon).

Grants & Awards

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| 2023 | The Journal of Peace Research Best Visualization Award (with L. Young and T. Zeitzoff) |
| 2022 | UNU-WIDER Grant, \$5,000 |
| 2019 | UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, \$60,454 (with R. Fernández de Castro) |
| 2018 | National Science Foundation, Law & Social Sciences \$249,021 (with L. Young and T. Zeitzoff) |
| 2017 | National Science Foundation, Social & Economic Sciences \$256,724 (with B. Jones and J. Sherman) UC MEXUS-CONACYT, \$25,000 (with B. Jones, J. Sherman, and D. Zizumbo) |
| 2016 | NYU Abu Dhabi Global Seed Grant, \$55,000 (with S. Malik and K. Thom) |
| 2014 | New York University, Field Research Grant, \$4,000 |
| 2013 | CAF Citizen Security in Latin America Grant, \$15,000 (with O. Dube and K. Thom) New York University, Field Research Grant, \$4,000 |
| 2009–15 | New York University, Henry MacCracken Fellowship for Doctoral Studies |
| 2007–9 | Fulbright-García Robles Fellowship for Master Studies New York University, Full-Tuition Scholarship for Master Studies |
| 2004–5 | Sciences Po Paris, France Excellence Eiffel Scholarship Program |
| 2000–4 | El Colegio de México, Academic Achievement Scholarship |

Invited Talks & Conference Presentations

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| 2025 | <i>UT Dallas</i> , School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences <i>DMV-WEPS</i> , Inaugural meeting of the DMV Workshop in Empirical Political Science <i>EGAP LatAm Regional Meeting</i> , Group of Analysis for Development (GRADE) <i>American Political Science Association</i> , Annual Conference <i>Yale Identity & Conflict Lab</i> , Conference on Identity & Conflict <i>Florida State University</i> , Workshop on Multi-Method Conflict Research <i>American University</i> , Guest Speaker <i>Penn State University</i> , Non-State Armed Governance Workshop <i>Georgetown University</i> , School of Continuing Studies <i>Midwest Political Science Association</i> , Annual Conference <i>Georgetown University</i> , The Gathering 2025 Guest Speaker <i>Tulane University</i> , Asking About Violence Workshop <i>Salt Lake Committee on Foreign Relations</i> , Guest Speaker <i>Georgetown University</i> , The Metropolitan Washington Workshop on Immigration & Race |
| 2024 | <i>ITAM</i> , Department of Political Science <i>Peace Science Society</i> , Annual Conference |

University of Kentucky, Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce

EGAP Plenary Meeting, Sciences Po Paris

EGAP LatAm Regional Meeting, Fundação Getulio Vargas

Foreign Service Institute, United States Department of State, Guest Speaker

American Political Science Association, Annual Conference

Georgetown University, School of Continuing Studies

Latin American Studies Association, Annual Conference

University of Michigan, Workshop on Multi-Method Conflict Research

University of Mary Washington, Roundtable on Ecuador and Drug Politics

Johns Hopkins SAIS, PhD Student Conference

Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Conference

George Washington University, Cisneros Institute

American University, School of International Service, Seminar Series

2023

Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC), Annual Conference

American Political Science Association, Annual Conference (online)

Georgetown University, School of Continuing Studies

University of Pennsylvania, Crime and Policing in Comparative Perspective Conference

Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Conference

Columbia University, Department of Political Science, Comparative Politics Seminar

International Studies Association, Annual Conference

Public Choice Society, Annual Conference

Southern Political Science Association, Annual Conference

2022

UC San Diego, Illicit Economies Conference

CCU Tlatelolco, Long Range Development in Latin America Conference

George Washington University, Graduate School of Political Management

American Political Science Association, Annual Conference

Red para el Estudio de la Economía Política de América Latina, Annual Conference

Latin American Studies Association, Annual Conference

CIDE Mexico City, Interdisciplinary Program for the Study of Violence, Seminar Series

Duke University, Department of Political Science, Security, Peace & Conflict Seminar

American University, Roundtable on the Future of Political Violence in the U.S.

UNU-WIDER, Institutional Legacies of Violent Conflict Workshop

Washington Area Development Economics Symposium, Annual Conference

Public Choice Society, Annual Conference

- 2021
UNC-Chapel Hill, Department of Political Science, Comparative Politics Seminar
NYU Abu Dhabi Institute, Online Conference on Global Political Violence
Georgetown University, Department of Government, Comparative Politics Seminar
American Political Science Association, Annual Conference
Red para el Estudio de la Economía Política de América Latina, Annual Conference
WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Institutions and Political Inequality Seminar
InterGroup Relations Workshop, Guest Speaker
Harvard University, Workshop on the Political Science of Lynching in Global Comparative Perspective
- 2020
UC San Diego, Conference “Between War Making and Peace Building”
American Political Science Association, Annual Conference (online)
Peace Science Society, Online Colloquium
Public Choice Society, Annual Conference [cancelled]
Yale University, Conference on Repression in China and the World [cancelled]
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Conference [cancelled]
International Studies Association, Annual Conference [cancelled]
- 2019
Center for American Progress, 5th Annual Gun Violence Prevention Meeting
University of Maryland, Department of Government and Politics, Comparative Politics Seminar
Peace Science Society, Annual Conference
Yale University, Conference “Old and New Challenges to Mexican Democracy”
American Political Science Association, Annual Conference
Stanford University, Department of Political Science, Comparative Politics Seminar
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Conference
Stanford University, Conference on “Human Rights and Repression”
UC Davis School of Law, Aoki Center for Critical Race and Nation Studies
- 2018
Stanford University, Center for Latin American Studies, Seminar
UC Merced, Department of Political Science Seminar
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Armed Violence Prevention Seminar
American Political Science Association, Annual Conference
European Political Science Association, Annual Conference
Latin American Studies Association, Annual Conference
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Conference
LSE, Conference on Long-Run Development in Latin America
UC San Diego, Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies
NYU Abu Dhabi, Workshop on Legacies of Political Violence

- Yale University, Department of Political Science, Order, Conflict, and Violence Seminar
Western Political Science Association, Annual Conference
NYU, Department of Politics
Southern Political Science Association, Annual Conference
- 2017 Uppsala University, Speaker Series
UC Davis, Migration Research Cluster Seminar
MIT, Political Behavior of Development Conference
American University, School of Public Affairs Seminar
Mexican Bank Association, International Money Laundering Seminar
American Political Science Association, Annual Conference
Stanford University, Conference on Long Range Development
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Conference
Stanford University, Center for Latin American Studies, Speaker Series
- 2016 NYU Abu Dhabi, Speaker Series
American Political Science Association, Annual Conference
CUNY Graduate Center, Comparative Politics Seminar
Center for Global Development, Research Seminar
Washington Area Development Economics Symposium, Annual Conference
- 2015 Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse, Research Seminar
Barcelona Institute of Political Economy and Governance, Research Seminar
Columbia University, Political Economy of Latin America Group
ITAM, Department of Political Science, Seminar Series
Center for Global Development, Research Seminar
- 2014 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Expert Group Meeting (hosted by GIZ Berlin)
CIDE Mexico City, Empirical Economic History Conference
Harvard University, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
Columbia University, Comparative Politics Seminar
Princeton University, Workshop on Violence in India
- 2013 Princeton University, Department of Politics, Political Economy Seminar
Latin American & Caribbean Economic Association, Annual Conference
International Political Economy Society Conference, Annual Meeting
Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy, Afrobarometer Conference
American Political Science Association, Annual Conference

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| | MIT, Working Group on African Political Economy |
| | University of Michigan, Conflict Consortium Workshop |
| | UC San Diego, Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies |
| | Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting |
| | Princeton University, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics |
| 2012 | Latin American & Caribbean Economic Association, Annual Meeting |
| | UC Berkeley, Working Group on African Political Economy |
| | American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting (cancelled) |
| | Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting |
| 2011 | American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting |
| | El Colegio de México, Center for Economic Studies, Seminar Series |
| | National Bureau of Economic Research, Crime Working Group |
| | Columbia University, Center for the Study of Development Strategies |
| | Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting |
| 2010 | Columbia University, Contemporary African Political Economy Research Seminar |

Teaching Experience

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| 2025-26 | Seminar in Quantitative Social Science (graduate), GW |
| | The Politics of Crime and Violence in the Americas (undergraduate), GW |
| 2024-25 | The Politics of Crime and Violence in the Americas (undergraduate), GW |
| | US-Mexico Relations (undergraduate), GW |
| | Organized Crime, the State, and Society (undergraduate), GW |
| | The Political Economy of Violence (undergraduate), GW |
| 2023-24 | The Political Economy of Violence (undergraduate), GW |
| | US-Mexico Relations (undergraduate), GW |
| | The Politics of Crime and Violence (undergraduate), GW |
| | Mexico Since Independence (undergraduate), GW |
| 2022-23 | The Political Economy of Violence (undergraduate), GW |
| | US-Mexico Relations (undergraduate), GW |
| 2021-22 | The Political Economy of Violence (undergraduate), GW |
| | US-Mexico Relations (undergraduate), GW |
| | The Politics of Crime and Violence (undergraduate), GW |
| | Mexico Since Independence (undergraduate), GW |

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| 2020–21 | The Political Economy of Violence (undergraduate), GW US-Mexico Relations (undergraduate), GW The Politics of Crime and Violence (undergraduate), GW Introduction to Empirical Political Analysis (Ph.D.), GW |
| 2019–20 | The Political Economy of Conflict and Development (M.A.), GW US-Mexico Relations (undergraduate), GW Intrastate Conflict (undergraduate), GW |
| 2018–19 | Ethnic Conflict (undergraduate), UC Davis Mexican Politics (undergraduate), UC Davis |
| 2017–18 | Applied Causal Inference (Ph.D.), UC Davis Research Methods (Ph.D.), UC Davis Ethnic Conflict (undergraduate), UC Davis |
| 2016–17 | Ethnic Conflict (undergraduate), UC Davis The Political Economy of Conflict and Development (Ph.D.), UC Davis |
| 2013–14 | TA, Quantitative Methods in Political Science (undergraduate), NYU TA, Senior Honors Seminar (undergraduate), NYU |
| 2012–13 | TA, Senior Honors Seminar (undergraduate), NYU TA, Quantitative Research in Political Science II (Ph.D.), NYU |
| 2011–12 | TA, Quantitative Methods in Political Science (undergraduate), NYU TA, Political Economy of Development (undergraduate), NYU |
| 2010–11 | TA, Introduction to Quantitative Political Analysis I (M.A.), NYU TA, The Politics of Latin America (undergraduate), NYU TA, Introduction to Quantitative Political Analysis I (M.A.), NYU |

Advising

- Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member for Isabel Laterzo (UNC–Chapel Hill)
- Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member for María del Carmen Pantoja (UC Davis)
- M.A. Thesis Advisor for Natalia Malgrejo (George Washington University)

Referee

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, Crime, Law, and Social Change, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Economics and Politics, Electoral Studies, Governance, International Organization, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Quantitative Criminology, Latin American Politics and Society, Latin American Research Review, Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association, National Science Foundation, Perspectives on Politics, Political Behavior, Political Geography, Political Research Quarterly, Political Psychology, Political Science Research and Methods, Politics, Groups, and Identities, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Quarterly Journal of Political Science, Review of Economics and Statistics, Security Studies, and World Politics.

Other Professional Service

- Associate Editor, *Political Psychology* (2025–present)
- Director, Data Analytics for Policy Professionals (DAPP) Program (2025–present)
- Chair, LatinX Affinity Group at GW's Columbian College of Arts and Sciences (2023–25)
- Faculty Board, GW's Latin American and Caribbean Studies Initiative (2024–present)
- Methods Comprehensive Examination Committee Member at GW (2020–present)
- Faculty Advisory Committee Member of the Elliott School's LAHSP program at GW (2020–24)
- Co-coordinator, Comparative Politics Workshop at GW (2020–22)
- Co-organizer, Online Conference on Global Political Violence (2021)
- Co-organizer, Between War Making and Peace Building Conference (2020)
- Co-founder, California-based Workshop on Empirical Political Science (2018)
- Co-organizer, Speaker Series at the UC Davis Department of Political Science (2016–18)

Professional Affiliations

- Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
- Evidence in Governance and Politics Network (EGAP)
- American Political Science Association (APSA)
- Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
- Latin American Studies Association (LASA)
- International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP)
- Non-State Armed Governance Working Group (NSAG)
- The Urban Violence Research Network (UVRN)

Policy & Non-Academic Experience

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| 2023– | Expert Declarations in Asylum Cases for Victims of Organized Crime |
| 2020–21 | Senior Advisor, Performance Evaluation of USAID/Mexico's Crime and Violence Prevention Activity |
| 2006–07 | Project Manager, Ipsos Mexico, Public Affairs Unit |

Other Skills

- Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (advanced), Italian (intermediate), Portuguese (beginner)
- R, Stata, ArcGIS, QGIS, Python, HTML (CSS), \LaTeX