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RESEARCH INTERESTS

For over ten years, my research has concentrated on various aspects of law and government in Latin America (primarily on Colombia). My early work focused on human rights, constitutional and administrative law. Over the past four years my work has been focused on water governance and regulation, public-sector reform and subnational politics.

EDUCATION

University of Oxford

DPhil (PhD) Candidate in Politics (2012-present)

Supervisors:

[Professor Christopher Hood](#) (Emeritus Fellow of *All Souls College* and Gladstone Professor of Government)

[Professor Eduardo Posada-Carbó](#) (Professor of the History and Politics in Latin America)

Thesis title: “[Recentralisation and its causes in Colombia, 1994-2014](#)”

London School of Economics

MSc Regulation (2011-2012)

‘Enrique Low Murtra’ scholar

Dissertation: “Political Institutions and the Role of the Regulator: an Approach in Context, the Case of the Colombian Water and Sanitation Regulatory Commission”

A paper based on my dissertation was published in the *Journal of Politics in Latin America* of the German Institute of Global and Area Studies -GIGA- in Hamburg, Germany. [It was the most read paper of this journal in 2013.](#)

Universidad Javeriana, Colombia

Master in Economic Law (2005-2007)

Academic Council’s scholar

Dissertation: “El Régimen Tarifario de los Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios y la Cláusula de Progresividad de los DESC en Colombia”

“[Honourable Mention](#)” awarded by the Corporación José Ignacio de Márquez, in the *Concurso Nacional José Ignacio de Márquez de Derecho Económico*, a national Law and Economics paper contest, for my dissertation.

Universidad Javeriana

LL.B. (with honours) (2000-2004)

Third highest score in the country (3rd/8577 students) in the State undergraduate test of knowledge of Law (ECAES – Pruebas Saber Pro).

Dissertation: “Transformación de la Política Social Colombiana: Análisis Normativo y Jurisprudencial de la Reforma Laboral y Pensional 2002-2005”

“Honourable Mention” to recognize the outstanding level of my dissertation.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Center for Transnational Legal Studies in London -CTLS, Georgetown University (2014)

- [Transnational Environmental Law](#)

Universidad de Los Andes, Colombia (2010 -2011)

- Legislation and Public Policy

Universidad del Cauca, Colombia (2010-2011)

- Economic Law
- Globalisation and Law

Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas, El Salvador (2009-2011)

- Utilities Regulation in Developing Countries
- Legal Research

Universidad Javeriana, Colombia (2006-2011)

Director of the Center for Studies in International Law Francisco Suárez, S.J (research group registered before Colciencias) / Managing Editor of the International Law Review. [CyLAC](#) (Spanish) (2008-2011)

- Human Rights and Development
- Utilities Regulation
- Constitutional Law
- Sources of Law
- Legal Research

WORK EXPERIENCE

Government (2007-2010)

External Advisor, [Superintendencia de Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios](#) (national agency responsible for the monitoring and surveillance of public utilities), Colombian Government

- Evaluation of drafts of laws, decrees and regulations, specially, on competition issues, consumer protection, infrastructure access and pricing regulation.
- Presentations of these evaluations before members of the Colombian Congress and the National Planning Department.

Law Firm (2003-2007)

Associate, Palacios Lleras

- Member of the firm's team which represented and advised Governmental entities as well as private concessionaires on arbitration controversies arising from some of the largest infrastructure projects in Colombia.

Research assistant

- Several studies on the interpretation of Laws 142 (Public Utilities Statute) and 143 (Electricity Statute)

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- Normal Chester Fund travel grant, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford, 2015.
 - Travel grant, Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford, 2015.
 - Colciencias Scholarship, 2014.
 - “Enrique Low Murtra” Scholarship, one of the most prestigious scholarships of Colombia awarded to one person per year by the Central Bank, on the basis of academic and professional excellence, 2011.
 - “Honourable Mention” awarded by the Corporación José Ignacio de Márquez, in the *Concurso Nacional José Ignacio de Márquez de Derecho Económico*, a national Law and Economics paper contest, for my paper *El Régimen Tarifario de los Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios y la Cláusula de Progresividad de los DESC en Colombia* (Regulation of public utility rates and the obligation of progressive realization of economic, social, and cultural rights in Colombia), based on my Master’s Dissertation (Master in Economic Law). It was chosen from the approximately twenty-seven Law Reviews published in Colombia and selected by a board of five of the most prominent academics and legal professionals in the country, 2010.
 - Colfuturo Scholarship, 2011.
 - Academic Council’s Scholarship, Javeriana Law School, 2005-2007.
 - “Honourable Mention” awarded by Javeriana Law School, to recognize the outstanding level of my dissertation (LL.B.), 2005.
 - Certificate Issued by the Ministry of National Education, to “make public recognition” for having obtained the third highest score in the country (3rd/8577 students) in the State undergraduate test of knowledge of Law (ECAES for its acronym in Spanish), 2005.
 - “Honourable Mention” awarded by Javeriana Law School, to recognize that I obtained the highest score in the school (1st/147 students) in the State undergraduate test of knowledge of Law (ECAES for its acronym in Spanish), 2005.
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REFEREEING

- Economía Institucional (ISSN 0124-5996)
 - Cuadernos de Administración (ISSN 0120-4645)
 - Estudios Socio-Jurídicos (ISSN 0124-0579)
 - Opinión Jurídica (ISSN1692-2530)
 - Universitas (ISSN 0041-9060)
 - Anuario Colombiano de Derecho Internacional (ISSN: 2027-1131)
 - International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional (ISSN 1692-8156)
 - Civilizar (ISSN 1657-8953)
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MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES

- The American Political Science Association (APSA)
- Latin American Studies Association (LASA)
- [Oxford Water Network](#)
- *Academia Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (Colombian Society of International Law)
- *Centro de Estudios de Financiamiento y Desarrollo Regional* (Centre for Studies in Regional Finances and Development), Universidad Javeriana
- *Centro de Estudios de Servicios Públicos, Infraestructura y Telecomunicaciones* (Centre for Studies in Public Utilities, Infrastructure and Telecommunications), Universidad Javeriana

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- La Garantía de los Derechos Sociales (Social Rights Guarantees) (ISBN 978-958-716-310-0), Universidad Javeriana and Ibáñez Press, 2009 (With Alfredo Bateman, Juliana Vengoechea and Juanita López. Foreword by Nilson Pinilla Pinilla, former President of the Colombian Constitutional Court). [More info](#)

Journal articles

- **Regulatory Agencies and Courts in the South: the Overlaps in Colombian Water Regulation**, *Journal of Politics in Latin America* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1868-4890), 5 (2) 2013, pp. 105-132. [More info](#)
- **Political Institutions and Judicial Role: an Approach in Context, the Case of the Colombian Constitutional Court**, *Vniversitas* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 0041-9060), No.119.2009, pp. 55-92 (with [D. Landau](#)). [More info](#)
- La Protección de la Propiedad de la Tierra en la Jurisprudencia de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos y su Aplicación al Caso de las Comunidades Campesinas en Colombia (The protection of land in the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and its application to Colombian rural communities), *International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-8156), No.14.2009, pp.71-105 (with G. Maldonado). [More info](#)
- El Régimen Tarifario de los Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios y la Cláusula de Progresividad de los DESC en Colombia (Regulation of public utility rates and the obligation of progressive realization of economic, social, and cultural rights in Colombia), *Revista de la Maestría en Derecho Económico* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-3103), No.5. 2009, pp. 201-240. [More info](#)
- “Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios”: una Reinterpretación Desde el Bloque de Constitucionalidad (Household Public Utilities: a reinterpretation from the perspective of the “Constitutional Block”), *Vniversitas* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 0041-9060), No.117.2008, pp.171-196 (with J. Schonberger). [More info](#)
- La Obligación de Progresividad de los Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales: el Caso de los Servicios Públicos en Colombia (The Obligation of progressive realization of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: the case of Colombian public utilities), *International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-8156), No.12.2008, pp.217-252 (with L. García). [More info](#)
- La Problemática Actual de los Paraísos Fiscales (Current problems around Tax Havens Issue), *International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-8156), No.10.2007, pp.311-338 (with J. Schonberger). [More info](#)
- Asistencia Estatal a los Desplazados y Reparaciones en el Sistema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos (Public assistance and reparations to forcefully displaced persons in the Inter-American Human Rights System), *International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-8156), No.8.2006, pp. 161-194 (with [J. Acosta](#)). [More info](#)

Book chapters

- El Bloque de Constitucionalidad en su Dimensión Correcta: Obligatoriedad de las Interpretaciones Autorizadas (The constitutional block in its correct dimension: binding character of the authorized interpretations) in “Realidades y Tendencias del Derecho en el Siglo XXI – Filosofía e Historia del Derecho” (ISBN: 978-958-35-0805-9), Universidad Javeriana and Editorial Temis, 2010, p. 233 – 254. [More info](#)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- The Causes of Recentralisation in Colombia, 1994-2014, **111th American Political Science Association –APSA Annual Meeting, San Francisco (USA)**, 3-6 September 2015 (paper accepted).
- The New Colombian System of Royalties: Decentralisation or Recentralisation?, **XXXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association -LASA, San Juan (Puerto Rico)**, 27-30 May 2015.
- ¿Por qué no pasar de la “Agencia Reguladora Independiente” a la “Empresa Reguladora”? (Why not move from "Independent Regulatory Agency" to "Regulatory Enterprise"?), VIII Jornadas de derecho económico: “20 años de las leyes 142 y 143: éxitos y retos”, Facultad de Ciencias Jurídicas, Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá (Colombia), 14 August 2014.
- Regulatory Agencies and Courts in the Global South, **Latin American Constitutionalism: between Law and Politics, University of Glasgow, Glasgow (UK)**, 2 July 2014.
- The Emergence of Recentralization in Colombia, **XXXII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association -LASA-, Chicago (USA)**, 21-24 May 2014.
- Subnational Autonomy and Political Participation in the Current Colombian Peace Talks, **The Colombian Peace Talks: A Challenge for Security and Democracy?, St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford, Oxford (UK)**, 20 November 2013.
- El Bloque de Constitucionalidad en su Dimensión Correcta: Obligatoriedad de las Interpretaciones Autorizadas de los Tratados Internacionales de Derechos Humanos (The constitutional block in its correct dimension: binding character of the authorised interpretations of the International Human Rights Treaties), **VII Seminario Permanente de Derechos Humanos Xabier Gorostiaga, S.J., Universidad del Zulia et al., Maracaibo (Venezuela)**, 31 May and 1-3 June 2011.
- Elementos para una Garantía Sostenible del Derecho al Agua (Elements to a sustainable guarantee of the Right to Water), Cátedra Europa, Universidad del Norte, Barranquilla (Colombia), 28 March to 1 April 2011.
- Propiedad Privada en el Sistema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos (Private Property in the Inter-American System of Human Rights), **Curso Internacional de Jurisprudencia de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos”, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, UNAM, Mexico City (Mexico)**, 26-27 February 2009.
- La Obligación de Progresividad de los DESC Como Fórmula Contra el Populismo (The Obligation of Progressive Realization of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights as a Measure Against Populism), II. Congreso Interamericano de Derechos Humanos, Inter-American Court of Human Rights et al., Bogotá (Colombia), 6-7 November 2008.
- La armonización del Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos con la Regulación Económica (The harmonization of the International Human Rights Law and Domestic Economic Regulation), Congreso sobre Derecho Internacional Francisco Suarez S.J., Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá (Colombia), 29 October 2008.
- El Régimen Tarifario de los Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios y la Cláusula de Progresividad de los DESC en Colombia (Regulation of public utility rates and the obligation of progressive realization of economic, social, and cultural rights in Colombia), Congreso sobre Derecho Internacional Francisco Suarez S.J., Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá (Colombia), 29 October 2007.

ACADEMIC BLOGGING

- **Water Supply and Sanitation in Colombia: From Decentralisation to Recentralisation**, Global Water Forum, UNESCO – Australian National University, 16 March 2015 [Full text](#)
 - Reforma a las transferencias: un dilema preocupante, Razón Pública, November 2014. [Full text](#)
 - ¿Cómo entender el problema de agua en Yopal?, Razón Pública, July 2014. [Full text](#)
 - **Book review: Policy Alienation and the Power of Professionals: Confronting New Policies**, LSE Review of Books, 8 April 2014. [Full text](#)
 - **Book review: Political Struggles and the Forging of Autonomous Government Agencies**, LSE Review of Books, 1 September 2013. [Full text](#)
 - La empresa regulatoria, Semana Sostenible. [Full text](#)
 - Cuatro formas de ver los problemas de la Justicia, Semana Sostenible. [Full text](#)
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SHORT COURSES

- NVivo 10 (2014)
 - EndNote (Mac) (2014)
 - Preparation for Learning and Teaching at Oxford (2014)
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LANGUAGES

- Spanish (native) and English (IELTS 7.5/9.0)
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OTHER INTERESTS

- *Oxford University Colombian Society*: Founder member and inaugural President (2012-2013, 2013-2014). Convenor of the conference “[Colombia at Oxford. Innovation in Science, Public Policy and Culture](#)” (three panels, fourteen speakers from British and Colombian institutions and a closing concert).
- *Oxford University Fencing Club*: Former member (2012-2013, 2014-2015)