

Manuel Moscoso-Rojas

PERSONAL DETAILS

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Ciudad de Mexico www.manuelmoscoso.com

APPOINTMENT **Postdoctoral Researcher**, School of Social Sciences and Government, Tecnológico de Monterrey. 2025-2026

EDUCATION **Ph.D. in Political Science**, Brown University 2025
 M.A. in Political Science, Brown University 2020
 M.Sc. in Economics, Universidad Javeriana 2013
 B.SC. in Economics, Universidad Javeriana 2010

**RESEARCH
FIELDS** Comparative Politics, Research Methods, Politics of Public Security, Crime Reduction

DISSERTATION [**Policing in Wartime: The Politics of Uneven Security Expansion in Colombia \(2002-2010\)**](#)

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 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, we know little about why states prioritize the expansion of their security apparatus to some places and not others and the consequences on state-citizen relations. My dissertation addresses these questions through a combination of original qualitative and quantitative data (surveys, survey experiments, archival research, and interviews) from Colombia.

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. 1258-1277.

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.

[**Meso-organizations, relational capital, and rural producers' integration into the market in a context of violence**](#) with Luz Elena Orozco, Clemente Forero Pineda, and

victor Alonso Baldrich Mora. *Journal of Rural Studies*. Vol. 80. December 2020, pp. 391-402.

SELECTED
WORK IN
PROGRESS Policing in Wartime: The Politics of Uneven Security Expansion in Colombia (2002–2010).
Submitted

State-Building through Policing: The Long-Term Effects of Police Expansion on Civilian
Conflict Resolution Preferences.

War-Making and State-Building: Revisiting a Classic Debate in the Colombian Civil War.

Security Voting in Mexico. *With Sandra Ley*

Do Temporary Bans on Carrying Firearms Reduce Violent Outcomes? The Colombian Case.
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 Clemente Forero, Luz Elena Orozco, and Eduardo Wills. Chapter 4 (279-300). 2017. The Academy and the Peace Process.

Economic growth, armed conflict, and organized crime: Colombian evidence with Jorge A. Restrepo and Edgar Villa. Chapter 6 (181-219). 2014. Economic and social consequences of armed conflict in Colombia. ESRC/DFID Universidad de los Andes. Bogotá, Colombia.

RESEARCH	Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Dissertation Prize	2025
AWARDS AND	Center for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Fellowship. Brown University	2024-2025
SCHOLARSHIPS	Conference Travel Fund. Brown University	Spring/Summer 2024
	Governance Initiative. JPAL *	Summer 2023
	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
	International Organization of Migration. Grant **	2018
	UNDP Innovation Facility. Grant **	2018
	British Embassy in Colombia. Grant **	2018
	KfW. Grant **	2016
	Fellowship Virginia Gutierrez de Pineda for Young Researchers. Colciencias	2011
	Bachelor Degree in Economics - Honors	2010
	~ * <i>Resources to fund dissertation</i> ** <i>Resources to fund rebel governance project</i>	

TEACHING **Political Science Department. Brown University**

Teaching Assistant for Paul Testa. Political Research Methods. UL. *Spring 2024*

Teaching Assistant for Peter Andreas. Politics of Illegal Global Economy. UL. *Fall 2023*

Department of Economics. Universidad Javeriana

Teaching Assistant for Andres Giraldo. Economic Growth. UL. *Fall 2009 and 2011*
Teaching Assistant for Jorge Gallego. Mathematical Economics. UL. *Fall 2009*
Teaching Assistant for Arsenio Pecha. Mathematical Economics. UL. *Fall 2008*
~ *UL: Undergraduate Level*

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
La Triada *2025*
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 **School of Social Sciences and Government, Tecnológico de Monterrey** *2024-2025*
Pre-Doctoral Researcher
International Justice Mission *2023-2024*
Senior Advisor on Police Reform and Monitoring and Evaluation.
Panagora *2024*
Senior Advisor on Youth Violence.
National Planning Department *January 2018 -June 2019*
Advisor. Justice, Governance, and Defense Unit
Office of Attorney General *September 2017 - December 2018*
Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant
National Planning Department *January 2014 - March 2017*
Advisor. Justice, Governance, and Defense Unit
Conflict Analysis Resources Center - CERAC *June 2011 - December 2013*
Researcher

LANGUAGES English (Fluent), Spanish (Native)

Last updated: September 22, 2025