

GIOVANNY ALVAREZ

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EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Ph.D., Public Policy (Candidate)

Chapel Hill, NC
Expected May 2026

Dissertation: “Interpersonal Violence in Holistic and Partial Post-Conflict Contexts: Essays on Transitional Violence Incentives and Responses after Intrastate Wars”
International Studies Association Dissertation Completion Fellow
Saperstein Research Fellow, Wayne State University

M.A., Global Studies May 2021
Rotary Peace Fellow, The Rotary Foundation

Universidad Nacional de Colombia Bogota, Colombia
M.A., Political Studies May 2008
Outstanding Graduate Student Fellowship, Universidad Nacional de Colombia

B.A., Political Science June 2003

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Security, Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding, Transitional Justice, International Development, Governance and Crime, Applied Quantitative Methods, Latin American Politics.

RESEARCH

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“The Economic Spoiler’s Incentive: How Consent-Based Counternarcotics Policy Fueled Violence in Post-Conflict Colombia” *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*. November, 2025.

“Building Partner Capacity: US Aid to Security Sector Actors” (with Patricia Sullivan and Nathan Marx). *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. Volume 69, no. 6 (2025): 1033–1058.

“Rediscovering Europe? The Aid Dilemmas During and After the Plan Colombia” (with Francisco Gutierrez Sanin). *Conflict, Security & Development*. Volume 8, no. 1 (2008): 71-107.

Under Review

“Pacifying Elites, Endangering Communities: A Dual-Arena Theory of Post-Conflict Violence.”

In Progress

“Dual Arenas of Violence: Elite Bargaining, Local Insecurity, and the Conditions for Comprehensive Peace in Ongoing Civil Wars”

“Peace at the Center, Neglect at the Margins: A Synthetic Control Analysis of International Aid in Post-Agreement Colombia.”

“The Violent Spillover of Peace: Unintended Cross-Border Consequences of Peace Agreements in Colombia and Central America.”

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

External

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, The International Studies Association	2025
Research Fellowship, Saperstein Symposium, Wayne State University	2025
Travel Grant ISA Conference 2026, The International Studies Association	2025
Rotary Peace Fellowship, The Rotary Foundation	2019-2021
Peace and Security Top-Level Global Seminar, The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency -SIDA	2009

Internal

The Philip and Jane Hammer Fund for Public Policy	2025
Experiential Learning Award	2025
The Graduate Student Transportation Grant	2025
Mellon Conference Travel Award, Institute for the Study of the Americas	2024
Stephens Family Fund for Graduate Student Excellence	2022
Professor Award for Outstanding Performance, Universidad Santo Tomas	2009
Outstanding Graduate Student Fellowship, Universidad Nacional de Colombia	2005-2007

PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

“*A Dual-Arena: The Divergent Effects of Transitional Justice on Post-Conflict Violence.*”

- Peace Science Society (International), University of Central Florida. November 2025.
- International Studies Association & International Security Studies Section, Johns Hopkins University. October 2025.
- Triangle Institute for Security Studies-New Faces, Duke & University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. September 2025.

“*The effects of Transitional Justice in Post-conflict violence.*”

- Southern Workshop in Empirical Political Science (SoWEPS-8), University of Kentucky. April 2025.

“*Targeting Peace: Civilian Risk and the Unintended Consequences of Counternarcotics Reform in Colombia.*”

- International Studies Association, University of Pittsburgh. October 2024.
- Carolinas Conflict Consortium, UNC-Chapel Hill. April 2024.

“*Post-Conflict and Murder in Colombia 2012-2020: Local Farmers on the Horns of a Dilemma.*”

- North Carolina Political Science Association, UNC-Wilmington. March 2023.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Teaching Fellow

Global Policy Issues Spring 2025, Spring 2024

Teaching Assistant

Data Literacy Fall 2025, Spring 2026

Global Policy Issues Fall 2024, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021

Making Public Policy Spring 2022

Instructor of Record (Undergraduate and Graduate Levels in Colombia)

Humanitarian Action, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (U & G) 2011 – 2016

Political Theory and Law, Universidad Santo Tomas (U) 2009 – 2010

Security Policies (G), Escuela de Estudios Superiores de Policía 2009 – 2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RTI International, <i>International Conflict and Transition Intern</i>	Summer 2020
USAID Chemonics International, <i>Prevention Component Coordinator</i>	2016 - 2019
United Nations Development Program, <i>Specialist in Transitional Justice</i>	2009 - 2016
United Nations Development Program, <i>Consultant</i>	2009
Defensoría del Pueblo Colombia, <i>Research Assistant</i>	2005 - 2008
Presidencia de la Republica de Colombia, <i>Research Assistant</i>	2005
Defensoría del Pueblo Colombia, <i>Regional Coordinator</i>	2004 - 2005
Universidad de la Paz-MSD-CREDHOS, <i>Human Rights Researcher</i>	2003 - 2004

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIP

Ad Hoc Peer Reviewer

International Journal of Drug Policy, Present

Volunteer Mentor

American Political Science Association (APSA), APSA mentoring program, Present

University Service:

Senator, Graduate and Professional Student Government, UNC-Chapel Hill (2020-2021).

Professional Memberships:

American Political Science Association (APSA), International Studies Association (ISA), Peace Science Society (PSS), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), Triangle Institute for Security Studies (TISS), Institute for the Study of the Americas (UNC).

SKILLS

Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Proficient)

Quantitative Methods: Causal Inference (Difference-in-Differences, Synthetic Control), Interrupted Time Series (ITS), Advanced Regression.

Software: Stata, R.