

Francisca Castro

CONTACT INFORMATION	International Security and Development Center Gerichtstraße 49 13347 Berlin Germany	✉ castro@isdc.org Website: francisca-castro.com ☎ 0000-0002-9547-0130 🌐 @fcastrog
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Protests, social movements, state repression, intra-state conflict, political violence, causal inference	
POSITIONS	International Security & Development Center , Germany Postdoctoral Researcher 2024 - Current Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin , Germany Doctoral Fellow 2020 - 2024	
EDUCATION	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin , Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences (BGSS) Ph.D. Political Science (Dr. phil., <i>summa cum laude</i>) 2025 Committee Members: Anselm Hager (Chair), Vera Tröger, Hanna Schwander Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile , Santiago, Chile M.A. Sociology 2017 B.A. Sociology 2015 B.A. Political Science 2014 University of California , Los Angeles Academic Exchange 2012	
PUBLICATIONS	Castro F., Oser, J., Feitosa, F. & Grinberg, N. External Cues and Policy Preferences: Rethinking the Drivers of Policy Positions. Accepted for publication at <i>International Journal of Public Opinion and Research</i> . Castro, F. 2025. Deterrence or Defiance? How Severity and Selectivity Shape Protest Responses to Repression. <i>Mobilization</i> , 30(4). https://doi.org/10.17813/1086-671X-30-4-387 Castro, F. & Retamal, R. 2024. Does Electoral Behavior Change After a Protest Cycle? Evidence from Chile and Bolivia. <i>Electoral Studies</i> , 89 (June). https://doi.org/10.1016/j.electstud.2024.102777 Rivera, V. & Castro, F. 2021. Between Social Protests and a Global Pandemic: Working Transitions under the Economic Effects of COVID-19. <i>Social Sciences</i> , 10(4), p.145 Acevedo, C. & Castro, F. 2015. State Capacity: Perceptions within Chile, in Vanderbilt University (Ed.), <i>Political Culture in Times of Change</i> , Santiago: Latin American Public Opinion Project	
WORKING PAPERS	“Social Media and Social Movements: Visualizing the Canonical Literature of the Field and the Evolution of Scholarly Interests over Two Decades” (with Aya Shoshan & Jennifer Oser). <i>Under Review</i>	

“The Mobilizing Potential of Mass Migration: Experimental Evidence from Honduras” (with Jesse Acevedo). *Revise & Resubmit, The Journal of Politics*

“Violent Conflict and Forced Displacement: Evidence on Social Behavior and Economic Well-Being Among Refugees in Jordan” (with Tilman Brück, Hadi Jaafar and Wolfgang Stojetz). *Under Review*

“Pathways of Negotiated Radicalization: Evidence from Hong Kong and Chile” (with Samson Yuen). *Under Review*

“Understanding Extreme Attitudes: Identity Politics and Social Polarization in Kyrgyzstan” (with Damir Esenaliev, Philipp Schröder, Wolfgang Stojetz and Tilman Brück). *Under Review*

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Guerrilla Shadows on Gender: The Lingering Effects of Peru’s Internal Armed Conflict on Women’s Political Aspirations”

- Partially funded by WarEffects Global Fellows Network

“Countering the Erosion of Trust: Mitigating the Impact of Electoral Fraud Allegations”

- Funded by the Electoral Integrity Project Fellowship

“Does Social Mobilization on Contentious Issues Affect Citizens’ Evaluations of Political Elites?” (with Jennifer Oser)

- Partially funded by APSA Women, Gender & Politics Small Research Grant and Erasmus+ Program, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

“Backlash or Chilling Effect? Attacks on Environmental Activists and Support for Climate Action” (with Winnie Xia)

- Funded by Aarhus University Small Grant

“Abortion Laws and Institutional Trust: Insights from Mexico’s Legal Shifts” (with Frida Nilsson)

“Political Participation and Mass-Elite Congruence in Latin America” (with Jesper Lindqvist and Jennifer Oser)

“Memory Sites and Political Preferences: Do Former Dictatorship Detention Centers Influence Far-Right Voting?”

AWARDS AND FUNDING

External Funding

Aarhus University Small Grant (with Winnie Xia), 2025, DDK 38,000

WarEffects Global Fellowship, 2025, €1,500

Politics & Gender Conference Travel Grant, 2025 (Declined)

DAAD Kongressreisenprogramm, 2025 (Declined)

Electoral Integrity Project Junior Fellowship, 2025, CAD \$1,000

DAAD Mobility with partner countries (KA171), 2024-2027, €20,000

WCPS Travel Assistance at APSA, 2024, USD \$300

Midwest Women’s Caucus Graduate Travel Award, 2024 (Declined)

International Studies Association Travel Grant, 2024 (Declined)

APSA Comparative Politics Section Support Grant, 2023, USD \$500

APSA Women, Gender & Politics Research Small Research Grants, 2023, USD \$1,000

DAAD Kongressreisenprogramm, 2023, €1,863

Travel Grant “Conflict & Change” PhD Workshop, UCL, 2023, £250

Travel Grant “New Challenges to Democracy” Workshop, University of Montreal, 2022, CAD\$1,000

Student Sponsorship, Center for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies, 2017, USD \$1,650

LASA Travel Grant, 2017, USD \$490

Center for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies Scholarship, 2016-2017, USD \$3,300
 Double Major Scholarship, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 2012-2016, USD \$27,391
 Calbuco Found Scholarship, 2016-2017, USD \$13,915
 University of Bath Travel Grant, November 2015, USD \$1,662
 Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BARI) Scholarship, June 2015, USD \$287
 Academic Scholarship, Telefónica Chile S.A, 2010, 2014, and 2015, USD \$13,696

Internal Funding

Women's Fund, Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University, 2023, €281
 Budget Commission, Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University, 2023, €355
 Budget Commission, Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University, 2022, €1,125
 Budget Commission, Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University, 2022, €450
 Kultur-, Sozial- und Bildungswissenschaftliche Fakultät Funding, Humboldt University, 2021, €417
 Women's Fund, Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University, 2021, €634
 Budget Commission, Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University, 2021, €1,550
 Kultur-, Sozial- und Bildungswissenschaftliche Fakultät Funding, Humboldt University, 2020, €600
 Academic Exchange Scholarship, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 2012, USD \$3,085

ACADEMIC TRAINING

Summer School for Women* in Political Methodology, Basel, Switzerland
 Web Scraping, Text Analysis, Word Embeddings and Images as Data July, 2023

Dynamics Research Training Group, Berlin, Germany
 Image Analysis June, 2023
 Advances in Differences-in-Differences Designs November, 2022

GESIS Leibniz Institut für Sozialwissenschaften, Cologne, Germany
 Advanced Bayesian Statistical Modelling in R and Stan October, 2022

Hertie School, Berlin, Germany
 Introduction to Teaching in Higher Education March, 2022

University of Essex, UK
Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis July, 2021
 Introduction to Quantitative Text Analysis
 Panel Data Analysis For Comparative Research

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

ERC Starting Grant Project “Participation and Representation in the Digital Age (PRD)”
Postdoctoral Researcher September, 2023 - present
 European Research Council Starting Grant
 PI: Prof. Jennifer Oser

Institute of Sociology, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile
Research Assistant May - December 2017
 FONDECYT Project 1160921 “The moral economy of meritocracy and redistributive preferences”

Institute of Political Science, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile
Research Assistant December, 2015 - April, 2016
 Project “Public Support for Regional Integration in Latin America”

Research Assistant March, 2013 - March, 2015

FONDECYT Project 1130897 “Web in movement: the students’ movement in Chile and the use of the internet”

Technical Staff September, 2014 - October, 2015
FONDECYT Project 11130538 “Opening the Black Box for Territorial Party Contestation: The Impact of Subnational Politics in the Americas”

Coordinator Latin American Public Opinion Project July - December 2014
Millennium Nucleus of Stateness and Democracy in Latin America, Project NS100015

Thesis Student March - December 2013
FONDECYT Project 1130897 “Web in movement: the students’ movement in Chile and the use of the internet”

School of Political Science, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile

Technical Staff March - August, 2015
Millennium Nucleus about Critical Citizenship, Polarization of Inequalities, and Institutions: Political Representation of Chile in a Comparative Perspective

Technical Staff August, 2014 - March, 2015
FONDECYT Project 1140101 “Populism, Constitutionalism and the Politics of Representation: Cross-Regional Patterns”

FIELDWORK Argentina (October 2023); Republic of Congo (July 2024), Perú (August 2025)

TEACHING

Hertie School of Government, Berlin, Germany
Laboratory Assistant, Statistics II (MA Level), Summer Semester 2023
Laboratory Assistant, Statistics I (MA Level), Winter Semester 2021 & 2023

Humboldt University, Institute of Social Sciences, Berlin, Germany
Lecturer, Comparative Politics and International Relations (BA Basic Course), Winter Semester 2020-2024
Lecturer, Collective Political Violence (BA Specialization Seminar), Summer Semester 2021 & 2023
• Nominated for the Prize for Good Teaching 2023, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Lecturer, Conflict in Latin America: A Century of Turmoil (BA Specialization Seminar), Summer Semester 2024

Universidad de Talca, School of Public Policy and Public Administration, Chile
Teaching Assistant, Methods for Quantitative Research, 1st Semester 2017

Pontificia Universidad Católica, Institute of Political Science, Chile
Teaching Assistant, Politics and Social Movements, 2nd Semester 2016
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Political Theory, 2nd Semester 2013 and 2014

Pontificia Universidad Católica, Institute of Sociology, Chile
Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Public Opinion, 1st Semester 2017
Teaching Assistant, Gender Studies, 2nd Semester 2016
Teaching Assistant, Methods for Social Sciences II, 1st Semester 2016
Teaching Assistant, Political Sociology, 1st Semester 2016
Teaching Assistant, Qualitative Methods, 1st Semester 2015
Teaching Assistant, Formation and Development of Modern Society, 1st Semester 2014
Teaching Assistant, Formation and Development of Modern Culture, 2nd Semester 2013 and 2014

CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

2025 MPSA Annual Meeting (Online); WIDER Development Conference (Helsinki, Finland); Jan

Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference (Barcelona, Spain); EPSA Conference (Madrid, Spain); Fragile Lives Conference (Berlin, Germany); Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan).

2024 APSA Virtual Research Meeting (Online); MPSA Annual Meeting; EPSA Conference (Cologne, Germany); APSA Annual Meeting (Philadelphia, USA); Fragile Lives Conference (Berlin, Germany).

2023 6th International Conference on the Political Economy of Democracy and Dictatorship (Münster, Germany); APSA Annual Meeting (Los Angeles, USA); Annual Conference of the Institute for Social Movement and Protest Studies (Berlin, Germany).

2022 APSA Annual Meeting (Montreal, Canada); Elections, Public Opinion and Parties Conference (Newcastle, UK); EPSA Conference (Prague, Czech Republic); MPSA Annual Meeting (Chicago, USA).

2021 Society for Latin American Studies (SLAS) Annual Conference (Online); MPSA Annual Meeting (Online).

2018 Latin American Studies Association Congress (Barcelona, Spain).

2017 9th Chilean Congress of Sociology (Talca, Chile); Latin American Sociological Association Congress (Montevideo, Uruguay).

WORKSHOPS & INVITED TALKS

How to Measure Violence (Guest Lecture). Identity, Order, and Violence in the Post-Cold War. Open Society University Network (OSUN) Online Course, October 2024.

Political Participation and Congruence. Multi-Data Perspectives on Democracy Workshop, GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, July 2024.

The Backlash Effect of State Coercion: Protest Resilience Under Costly and Targeted Repression. Democratic Resilience Workshop, Centre for Elections, Democracy, Accountability and Representation (CEDAR), University of Birmingham, April 2024.

Negotiated Radicalization in Mass Mobilizations: Evidence from Hong Kong and Chile. Conceptualization of Protest Camps Logistic, Free University Berlin, March 2024.

Guerrilla Shadows on Gender: The Lingering Effects of Shining Path Violence on Women's Political Aspirations. War Effects: The Micro-Level Effects of Civil Wars on Multiple Dimensions of Women's Empowerment, University of Bergen, October 2023.

Exploring the Mobilization Dynamics of Mass Emigration: Experimental Findings from Honduras. Yet They Persist: Democracies in an Age of Autocratization, University of Milan, June 2023.

Exploring the Mobilization Dynamics of Mass Emigration: Experimental Findings from Honduras. Quantitative Political Economy Workshop, King's College London, May 2023.

The backlash effect of state coercion: Protest resilience under visible, costly, and targeted repression. Conflict & Change Annual PhD Workshop, University College London, February 2023.

Exploring the Mobilization Dynamics of Mass Emigration: Experimental Findings from Honduras. Comparative Politics Colloquium, University of Hamburg, February 2023.

The backlash effect of state coercion: Protest resilience under visible, costly, and targeted repression. WZB Colloquium, December 2022.

Can transitional justice improve regime perceptions? Attitudinal changes after reconciliation processes. Comparative Politics Colloquium, University of Hamburg, July 2022.

Do protests change voting behavior? Electoral trends in the aftermath of contention. WZB Colloquium, June 2022.

Do protests change voting behavior? Electoral trends in the aftermath of contention. Political Behavior Workshop Berlin-Hamburg, May 2022.

The backlash of state coercion: Varieties of repression and their effect on mobilization. Gender and Political Participation Graduate Working Group, March 2022.

The relationship between Transitional Justice and Corruption: A Cross National Analysis. Internal Colloquium, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, October 2021.

Chilean student movement: Impacts and Consequences. Social movements and the state in the context of the ‘left turn’ in Latin America, University of Bath, United Kingdom, December 2015.

Alternative ways to denounce: The role of YouTube videos in the Chilean students’ protests. Social Movements in Movement: Concepts and Methods for the study of social movements in Latin America, Universidad de La República, Montevideo, Uruguay, June 2015.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Peer Review: The Journal of Politics; European Journal of Political Research; Political Behavior; British Journal of Political Science; Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties; Electoral Studies; Journal of Peace Research; Party Politics; Representation.

Memberships: American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, European Political Science Association, Latin American Studies Association, Women in Conflict Studies, Estudios de Género y Violencia en América Latina (eGAL) Network.

Departmental/University Service: Organizer of Empirical Political Science in Progress Colloquium, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (2022)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Statistical Software: R, Python, Stata
- Other Software: L^AT_EX, Qualtrics, QuestionPro, UCINET, NVivo, MaxQDA
- Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), German (TELC B1), Korean (basic)
- Citizenship: Chilean, German