

# Jose Morales-Arilla, PhD

Research Professor, Tecnológico de Monterrey's EGTP

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## EDUCATION

<b>Harvard University</b>	Cambridge, MA
<i>PhD in Public Policy - Economics Track</i>	<i>Sept. 2016 – May 2022</i>
<b>Harvard University</b>	Cambridge, MA
<i>Master in Public Administration - International Development</i>	<i>Sept. 2010 – May 2012</i>
<b>Universidad Católica Andrés Bello</b>	Caracas, Venezuela
<i>“Licenciado” in Economics</i>	<i>Sept. 2003 – March 2009</i>

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<b>Tecnológico de Monterrey</b>	June 2024- Mexico City, Mexico
<i>Research Professor at the Graduate School of Government and Public Transformation</i>	
<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b>	Aug. 2023 – May 2024
<i>Assistant Professor at the Bush School of Government and Public Service</i>	<i>College Station, TX</i>
<b>Princeton University</b>	Aug. 2022 – Aug. 2023
<i>Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Department of Politics</i>	<i>Princeton, NJ</i>
<b>Harvard University</b>	June 2022 – Aug. 2023
<i>Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Harvard’s Growth Lab</i>	<i>Cambridge, MA</i>
<b>The Brookings Institution</b>	Jan. 2021 – Jan. 2022
<i>Visiting Researcher at the Global Economy and Development Program</i>	<i>Washington, DC</i>
<b>Harvard University</b>	June 2020 – Aug. 2021
<i>Doctoral Fellow at Harvard’s Growth Lab</i>	<i>Cambridge, MA</i>
<b>Harvard University</b>	Sept. 2013 – May 2016
<i>Research Fellow at Harvard’s Growth Lab</i>	<i>Cambridge, MA</i>

## TEACHING

<b>Harvard University</b>   <i>Co-authored HKS Case “Defying the Odds: Venezuela’s 2024 Election”</i>	2025
<b>Tecnológico de Monterrey</b>   <i>Professor of EO502.5: Métodos Cuantitativos II</i>	Winter 2025
<b>Tecnológico de Monterrey</b>   <i>Professor of RE4020.1: Economía del Desarrollo</i>	Summer 2024
<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b>   <i>Professor of INTA670: Capstone Seminar on International Affairs</i>	Spring 2024
<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b>   <i>Professor of BUSH635: Quantitative Methods II</i>	Spring 2024
<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b>   <i>Professor of BUSH631: Quantitative Methods I</i>	Fall 2023
<b>Universidad Católica Andrés Bello</b>   <i>Professor of Introduction to Causal Inference (Remote)</i>	Spring 2022
<b>Harvard University</b>   <i>Teaching Fellow for Big Data for Economic and Social Problems</i>	Spring 2020
<b>Harvard University</b>   <i>Teaching Fellow for Advanced Quantitative Methods</i>	Fall 2019
<b>Harvard University</b>   <i>Teaching Fellow for Development Policy Strategy</i>	Fall 2018
<b>Harvard University</b>   <i>Co-authored HBS Case “Improving Worker Safety in the Era of Machine Learning”</i>	2017
<b>Universidad Católica Andrés Bello</b>   <i>Professor of Political Economy</i>	Fall 2012
<b>Universidad Católica Andrés Bello</b>   <i>Lecturer of Macroeconomics</i>	2009 – 2010

## SERVICE

**Referee:** Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Scientific Data, Review of World Economics, Growth & Change.

**Seminar organizer:** ITESM EGTP’s Doctoral Research Seminar, TAMU Bush School’s Quant Research Seminar.

## BOOKS, JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCE PAPERS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

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<b>From collective punishment to constraints on authority:</b> The impact of US sanctions on Venezuela Cambridge University Press	2025
<b>Escaping from hardship, searching for comfort:</b> Climate matching in refugees' destination choices. Journal of Development Economics	2025
<b>Captured participatory institutions:</b> Theory and evidence from the Consejos Comunales. American Journal of Political Science	2025
<b>GLocal:</b> A global development dataset of local administrative areas Scientific Data	2024
<b>Opponent campaign visits in dominant party regimes</b> Journal of Politics	2024
<b>Transparent corruption:</b> Connections, references and the demand for bureaucratic intermediaries Journal of Experimental Political Science	2024
<b>Export side effects of wars on organized crime:</b> The case of Mexico Journal of International Economics	2023
<b>Economic Development in Historical Political Economy</b> The Oxford Handbook of Historical Political Economy	2022
<b>Gains from globalization and protectionism:</b> AMLO v. NAFTA in the 2006 Mexican election Economics & Politics	2022
<b>Is remote work in high demand?</b> Evidence from job postings during COVID-19 COMPASS '21: ACM SIGCAS Conference on Computing and Sustainable Societies	2021

## SUBMITTED WORKING PAPERS

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<b>Autocrats in crisis mode:</b> Strategic favoritism during economic shocks.
<b>Proximity as a Substitute of Contract Enforcement in Specialized Trade</b>
<b>Vulnerability, fear of discrimination and clientelism:</b> Organizer identity and the backfire of solidarity.
<b>Direct flights, trade and specialization</b>
<b>Coalition trimming in spiraling economies:</b> The case of Venezuela's Oil Czar.

## ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

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<b>Remoteness and transformation:</b> Why isolated economies can't develop complex productive capabilities
<b>Defend the palace:</b> Autocratic favors for and within capital cities.
<b>The political economy of disaster relief:</b> Theory and evidence on favoritism during national calamities.
<b>Elite redistribution and regime resilience:</b> Appointments and contracts during Venezuela's economic collapse.
<b>Captured participatory institutions as usurpation devices:</b> The case of Venezuela's Consejos Comunales.
<b>The individual effects of political discrimination:</b> Evidence from 2003's <i>Maisanta</i> List in Venezuela.
<b>Do ICC investigations prevent human rights violations?</b> Evidence from Venezuela's political crisis.
<b>Return migration across generations:</b> Evidence from Venezuela's refugee shock.

## AWARDS

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<b>Mercatus Center   James Buchanan Fellowship</b>	2022 – 2023
<b>Mercatus Center   Oskar Morgenstern Fellowship</b>	2020 – 2021
<b>Mercatus Center   Adam Smith Fellowship</b>	2019 – 2020
<b>Harvard University   HKS Distinction in Student Teaching</b>	2019
<b>Harvard University   HKS Distinction in Student Teaching</b>	2018
<b>Harvard University   PhD Program Financial Package Award</b>	2016
<b>Harvard - MIT   Winner of the II Annual Energy Case Competition</b>	2012
<b>Harvard Kennedy School   Frederick Fisher Memorial Prize for Second-Year Policy Analysis</b>	2012
<b>Harvard Kennedy School   MPAID Honorable Mention for Second-Year Policy Analysis</b>	2012
<b>Harvard Kennedy School   HIID Full Tuition Scholarship</b>	2010
<b>Universidad Católica Andrés Bello   Integral Student Honor</b>	2008
<b>Universidad Católica Andrés Bello   Member of UCAB's 10th Honors' Class</b>	2006 – 2007

## CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

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<b>LACEA-LAMES Annual Meeting:</b> “Vulnerability, fear of retaliation and clientelism”	Nov 2025
<b>REPAL Latam Political Economy Conference 2025:</b> “Captured Participatory Institutions”	June 2025
<b>ITESM Forum:</b> “Mexico as a Migration Origin, Destination and Transit Route”	March 2025
<b>Southern Economic Association Conference:</b> “Escaping from hardship, searching for comfort:”	Nov. 2024
<b>LACEA-LAMES Annual Meeting:</b> “Direct Flights, Trade and Specialization”	Nov. 2024
<b>ITAM’s Economic Research Seminar:</b> “Escaping from hardship, searching for comfort:”	Sept. 2024
<b>IDB’s Governance and Development Seminar:</b> “Vulnerability, fear of retaliation and clientelism”	Apr. 2024
<b>Southern Economic Association Conference:</b> “Transparent corruption”	Nov. 2023
<b>Southern Economic Association Conference:</b> “Vulnerability, fear of retaliation and clientelism”	Nov. 2023
<b>NEUDC Conference at Yale University:</b> “Autocrats in crisis mode”	Nov 2022
<b>LACEA-LAMES Annual Meeting:</b> “Autocrats in crisis mode”	Nov 2022
<b>FDZ Rhur at RWI - Causal Inference with Spatial Data:</b> “Autocrats in crisis mode”	May 2022
<b>ACM COMPASS - Computing and Sustainable Societies:</b> “Is remote work in high demand?”	June 2021
<b>Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev):</b> “The economic victims of violence”	March 2021
<b>Southern Economic Association Conference:</b> “Gains from globalization and economic nationalism”	Nov. 2019
<b>Southern Economic Association Conference:</b> “The economic victims of violence”	Nov. 2019
<b>Southern Economic Association Conference:</b> “Solidarity against the machine”	Nov. 2019

## POLICY ANALYSES AND DATA VISUALIZATION TOOLS

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<b>Mexico Private Country Sector Diagnostic:</b> Sector assessment of the Mexican Autoparts Industry.	IFC, 2025
<b>Predicción y pronóstico temprano de actividad económica:</b> Data satelital y administrativa para proyectar el crecimiento trimestral de El Salvador.	ITESM, 2025
<b>La Complejidad Económica de El Salvador:</b> Usando proximidades tecnológicas para identificar oportunidades de diversificación productiva	ITESM, 2024
<b>Prosperity over conflict:</b> Leveraging economic interdependence for offshore energy developments in the Levant.	Mosbacher, 2024
<b>Economic Integration of Venezuelan Immigrants in Colombia:</b> A Policy Roadmap.	CGD, 2022
<b>Remote work wanted?</b> Analyzing online job postings during COVID-19.	Brookings, 2021
<b>Impact of the 2017 sanctions on Venezuela:</b> Revisiting the evidence.	Brookings, 2019
<b>Sanctions on Venezuela:</b> Cause or consequence of the crisis?	Prodavinci, 2019
<b>Economic Complexity and Technological Relatedness:</b> Findings for American Cities.	Brookings, 2019
<b>Growing Cities That Work for All:</b> A Capabilities Approach to Regional Competitiveness.	Brookings, 2019
<b>There is a Future After Cars:</b> Economic growth analysis for Hermosillo.	CID-Harvard, 2018
<b>Tabasco:</b> Reporte de Complejidad Económica.	CID-Harvard, 2018
<b>Campeche:</b> Reporte de Complejidad Económica.	CID-Harvard, 2018
<b>Baja California:</b> Reporte de Complejidad Económica.	CID-Harvard, 2018
<b>Diversificación y desarrollo en Venezuela:</b> ¿Qué hacer si el petróleo ya no basta?	Prodavinci, 2018
<b>Panama beyond the Canal:</b> Technological proximity and opportunities for diversification.	CID-Harvard, 2017
<b>Economic Complexity in Panama:</b> Assessing opportunities for productive diversification.	CID-Harvard, 2016
<b>Reforma económica de Venezuela:</b> Pobreza, Misiones y protección social.	CID-Harvard, 2016
<b>Rethinking the Taboo:</b> Gasoline Subsidies in Venezuela.	MPAID-Harvard, 2012
<b>Direct Distribution of Oil Revenues in Venezuela:</b> A Viable Alternative?	CGD, 2012
<b>Data visualization tools:</b> GLocal Dataset, Metroverse, The Atlas of Economic Complexity, and Subnational Atlases of Economic Complexity for Mexico, Colombia and Peru.	CID-Harvard, 2014-2024

## LEADERSHIP

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<b>Harvard University</b>   <i>Vice-President of the Harvard Venezuelan Student Association</i>	2020 – 2021
<b>Harvard Kennedy School</b>   <i>President of the Venezuelan Caucus</i>	2010 – 2011
<b>IESA-UCAB</b>   <i>Graduate of the 1st “Lidera” Youth Leadership Program</i>	2009 – 2010
<b>Comunidad de Debate</b>   <i>NGO’s Founding President</i>	2007 – 2010
<b>Universidad Católica Andrés Bello</b>   <i>Student Elected Representative</i>	2007 – 2008

## MISCELLANEOUS

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**Nationalities:** Venezuelan and Spanish.

**Languages:** Spanish, English and Portuguese.

**Research Software:** Stata, R, Python, Matlab, ArcGIS, Gephi, LaTeX.

**Opinion:** Commentator for Project Syndicate, Caracas Chronicles, Prodavinci and other media outlets.

## REFERENCES

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Ricardo Hausmann - ricardo\_hausmann@hks.harvard.edu  
Edward Glaeser - eglaeser@harvard.edu  
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