

Juan David Gelvez

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Education

University of Maryland

Ph.D., Government and Politics, (2026 expected).
Comparative Politics & Computational Methods.
M.A., Government and Politics, 2023.

Universidad de Los Andes

M.A., Public Policy (MPP), 2018.
B.S., Government and Public Affairs, 2016.

Affiliations

Inter American Development Bank

Academic Consultant
Citizen Security Division, 2025

Georgetown University

Research Fellow at the SIGLA Project
Department of Government, 2024- 2025

University of Maryland

Graduated researcher at the Interdisciplinary Laboratory of
Computational Social Science, 2021- Current

National Planning Department

Team Coordinator and Policy Analyst, 2019 - 2021

National Police Graduate School

Lecturer in Public Policy, 2020-2021

Ideas For Peace - FIP

Researcher, 2018-2019

Universidad de Los Andes

Researcher and Teacher Assistant, 2016-2018

Publications

Peer-reviewed

11. R&R. Rewards, Sanctions, and Trust in the Police: Evidence from Colombia. Policing & Society. With Cesar Mantilla and María Nieto.

10. R&R. Public Opinion on Forced Eradication: The Role of Collective Dissent and Race in Colombia. *Latin American Politics & Society*. With Juan Angulo.
9. 2025. Climate Disasters, Armed Conflict, and Forced Displacement: A 23-Year Spatial Regression Analysis in Colombia. *Social Science Quarterly*. With Leo Bauer.
8. 2025. Predicting Police and Military Violence: Evidence from Colombia and Mexico Using Machine Learning Models. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications - Nature*.
7. 2024. Incentives war: The Consequences of Announcing a Substitution Policy on Coca Cultivation in Colombia. *Journal of Illicit Economies and Development*. London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). With Matilde Angarita.
6. 2023. Temporal Twists: The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Crime Dynamics in Colombia. *International Criminology*. With Maria Nieto.
5. 2023. *Los nadies y las nadies*: The effect of peace-building on political behavior in Colombia. *Latin American Politics & Society*. With Marcus Johnson
4. 2023. De la planeación nacional a la territorial: ¿Cómo se diseña y articula la política de convivencia y seguridad ciudadana en Colombia? *Revista de Gestión y Política Pública*. CIDE, México. With Catalina Miranda and María Nieto.
3. 2022. Prediciendo el crimen en ciudades intermedias: un modelo de “machine learning” en Bucaramanga, Colombia. *URVIO- Revista Latinoamericana de Estudios de Seguridad*. FLACSO, Ecuador. With María Nieto and Rocha.
2. 2019. Trato procesal y uso de la detención preventiva en una muestra de audiencias de control de garantías en Bogotá y Cali. In *Cuadernos de Economía Universidad Nacional de Colombia*. With Rengifo, Ávila, Ramírez and Mora.
1. 2018. ¿Cuáles determinantes se relacionan con la percepción de inseguridad? Un análisis estadístico y espacial para la ciudad de Bogotá, D. C.. In *Revista Criminalidad, Policía Nacional*.

Book chapters

4. Forthcoming. National Armed Forces. In the book *Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Law and Peace*. With Catalina Miranda.
3. 2022. Sustitución de Cultivos una guerra de incentivos. In the book *Coca, Cocaína y Violencia*. Univesidad de Los Andes, Colombia. With Matilde Angarita.
2. 2022. El acuerdo de paz, la coca y las lecciones no aprendidas de la sustitución de cultivos. In the book *Coca, Cocaína y Violencia*. Univesidad de Los Andes, Colombia. With Bernal and Garzón.
1. 2020. Public Policy Analysis and Decision Making in the Military Forces: The Havana Experience. In *International Library of Policy Analysis*. Policy Press and Bristol University Press. With Mora, Bitar and Weintraub.

Selected policy and working papers

- The Electoral Cost of the War on Drugs
Best paper presented at the *Latin American Peace Science Society* 2024 Meeting
- The politics of Crime Prevention: Evidence From Colombia. Early Draft.
- The (In)visibility of Race in Colombia's Climate Disaster Assistance. Pre-analysis Plan. With Isabella Alcañiz.
- 2020. ¿Cómo prevenir el delito? Estrategias efectivas de convivencia y seguridad ciudadana
Published for Universidad de Los Andes.
- 2019. ¿Quiénes son las familias que viven en las zonas con cultivos de coca? Published for Ideas For Peace Foundation.

Awards and Fellowships

- 2025. Conley H. Dillon Award and Don C. Piper Award - University of Maryland
- 2024. Graduate Student Summer Research Fellowship at UMD (\$ 5,000); Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Award.
- 2023. Visiting guest researcher at the Department of Survey Data Curation at GESIS, Cologne. Lussier Summer Research Fellowship Award (\$ 5,000); Latin American Studies Center Research Grants; Comparative Politics field graduate student award; Summer Course Grant - IQRM.
- 2021-2022. Rapoport Family Foundation Summer Research Award (\$ 5,000); Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center Research Grants - University of Maryland (\$ 1,000); Dean's Fellowship - University of Maryland (\$ 15,000); Doctoral studies' scholarship - University of Maryland; Fundación para el Futuro de Colombia - Colfuturo.

Conferences and Workshops

- 2025: The Latin American Peace Science Society (LAPSS); Political Methodology Workshop at UMD; Climate Justice Workshop at Yale University; Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA); Environmental Politics in Latin America Writing Group; Comparative Politics Workshop at UMD; Red para el Estudio de la Economía Política de América Latina (REPAL)
- 2024: The Latin American Peace Science Society; Lussier Workshop for Research on International Conflict; Latin American Studies Association (LASA); Pre-LASA conference in Crime, Conflict, and Security Institutions; Political Economy of Climate Change and the Environment; American Political Science Association (APSA); Future of Science Initiative - U. of Mannheim; The Violence, Instability, and Peace (VIP) Workshop; Peace Science Society (PSS)- International.

- 2022-2023: GESIS Workshop on Earth Observation Data in the Social Sciences; American Society of Criminology (ASC); American Political Science Association (APSA); Junior Scholars in Quantitative Conflict; Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research (SWMMR); Red para el Estudio de la Economía Política de América Latina (REPAL); REPAL Pre-Conference Dissertation Workshop; Institute for Qualitative & Multi-Method Research (IQMR); USAID International Forum “Planeación y gestión pública de la seguridad y convivencia ciudadana en Colombia”; Washington DC Political Economy Conference 2023; Judith Reppy Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference on Peace and Conflict - Cornell University; Forum on Innovative Solutions to Strengthen Citizen Security and Access to Justice - UNDP; Comparative Politics Workshop at UMD; Network Models Workshop - American University; NYU-CESS Experimental Political Science conference.
- 2017-2019: American Society of Criminology (ASC); Latin American Studies Association (LASA); Sociedad de Criminología de América Latina (SOCLA); Seminario para la Política de Drogas de América Latina (SEPODRA).

Professional services

- Chair Search committee member at the University of Maryland.
- Referee: Comparative Political Studies; Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics; Latin American Politics & Society; Chapel Hill Expert Survey; Revista Economía, Sociedad y Territorio. Revista Gestión y Política Pública. Revista de Economía Institucional - UExternado. Dissertation committee - U.Rosario. Revista Criminalidad - Policía Nacional. Revista Derecho del Estado U.Externado. Premio Jorge Bernal.

Skills

- Languages: Spanish (native), English (advanced), Portuguese (intermediate).
- Software: RStudio, SQL, ArcGis, Stata, GeoDa, L^AT_EX, Markdown, SPSS.

Extracurricular: Barista, Scuba Diver, and Triathlete

Last updated on August 29, 2025