Juan José Vásquez-Pacheco

AI Governance Researcher | Legal & Institutional Governance: Algorithmic Sovereignty, Digital Conflict Transformation & Global South Frameworks

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RESEARCH FOCUS

AI Governance researcher examining the intersection of **algorithmic sovereignty**, **digital conflict transformation**, and **Global South frameworks**. My work analyzes how Eurocentric AI policies impact developing economies, proposing mechanisms for international cooperation that mitigate structural violence in digital systems. Drawing on **institutional governance experience** with UN agencies, I aim to operationalize "epistemic sovereignty" in global AI treaties.

EDUCATION

Erasmus Mundus European Master's in Law, Data and Artificial Intelligence | 2024–2026 (In Progress)
Dublin City University, Dublin | Universidad de León, Spain | Università di Pisa, Italy
- Specialization in AI governance, data protection, and digital rights. Key coursework: EU Data Protection Law, Comparative Digital Law (Privacy, Data, AI), Data Governance, AI Law and Ethics, Fundamental Digital Rights, Freedom of Information and Data Protection, Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies.

PRIO Summer School on Peace Research | June 2025
University of Oslo, Norway
- Focused on advanced methodologies and theories in peace and conflict studies.

MA in Conflict Resolution, Peace and Development | 2017
University for Peace (UN-Mandated), San José, Costa Rica
- Interdisciplinary training in conflict resolution, international law, and development in the Global South.

Bachelor's Degree in Law | 2016
Universidad de Costa Rica, San Ramón
- Focused coursework in technology, e-commerce, and telecommunications.

Bachelor Studies in Psychology | 2016
Universidad de Costa Rica, San Ramón

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Visiting Professor, Department of Regional Studies | *University for Peace, San José, Costa Rica* | 2024–Present
- Teach courses on peace innovation and technology, conflict resolution, and international governance.
- Supervise and mentor MA thesis projects on peace, conflict, and technology topics.

Institutional Governance & Legal Advisor | *University for Peace, San José, Costa Rica* | 2018–2024
- Coordinated MA programs across departments ensuring academic standards and operational efficiency.
- Oversaw institutional legal matters and accreditation compliance. Drafted and negotiated 100+ agreements with 12+ UN agencies (UNHCR, UNESCO, UNITAR, UNODC, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women, UNU, IOM, IAEA, UN Resident Coordinator Offices).
- Supervised 30+ MA thesis projects.
- Led institutional research project with German Cooperation Agency (GIZ) on legal studies policy.

	• Facilitated international conferences (UPMUNC). • Designed and delivered workshops on international law, conflict resolution, and mediation. • International speaker at World Compliance Forum on AI and compliance. **Legal Clinics Assistant** | *University of Costa Rica, San Ramón* | 2015–2016 • Supervised students on legal cases (gender violence, civil matters). Conducted statistical analysis of case patterns and outcomes, informing clinic operational improvements including mediation service development.
CONSULTANCY	**Advisor and Mediator**, UN Costa Rica Resident Coordinator's Office (2023): Facilitated dialogue between youth collectives and UN system to resolve conflicts and foster collaboration. **Professor and Coordinator**, Inclusive Leadership for the SDGs | UNDP Venezuela (2021–2022): Designed and delivered course for 30 Venezuelan political leaders across political spectrum, promoting SDG alignment. **Professor and Coordinator**, Citizen Participation and Advocacy | UNDP Honduras (2021): Delivered course and MOOC (500 participants) on advocacy and social oversight for women and youth networks.
PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH OUTPUTS	Vásquez Pacheco, J. J. (2024). **UPEACE is already a sort of lab**. In J. C. Sainz-Borgo (Ed.), Peace Innovation: Reflections and Ideas (pp. 47–58). UPEACE Press. Vásquez Pacheco, J. & Quirós Torres, P. (2022). **¿Quién vigila a los vigilantes? Legal analysis of regulatory governance in Costa Rica.** Universidad de Costa Rica. Vásquez Pacheco, J. & Marenco Silva, E. (2017). **Legal Studies in Costa Rican Universities**. University for Peace and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit. **Working Papers**: Technodiversity and Digital Decolonization in Global AI Governance (with S. Frank Matinou & J. F. Castro Orozco); Algorithmic Profiling, Dark Patterns, and Behavioral Manipulation under EU Law.
LANGUAGES	Spanish (Native) | English (Advanced) | Portuguese (Intermediate) | French (Intermediate) | Chinese (Basic)
CERTIFICATIONS	**Mediation & Conflict Resolution Certification** | Costa Rican Legal Bar (2017) **Humanitarian Project Management Certification** | PDM4NGOs International (2017) **Institute for Economics & Peace Ambassador Certificate** (2025) **Elements of AI: Introduction to AI** | University of Helsinki (In Progress)