

Adrian Nicholas Gachet-Racines

The University of Manchester

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EDUCATION

The University of Manchester	<i>2019 - Present</i>
Ph.D. candidate in Economics (Graduation expected in 2025)	
The University of Manchester	<i>2019-2020</i>
MSc in Economics	
The London School of Economics and Political Science	<i>2015-2016</i>
MSc in Economic History	
Universidad San Francisco de Quito	<i>2009-2013</i>
B.A in Economics	

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Growth and development, Political Economy, Public Policy Evaluation, Economic History, Applied Econometrics.

JOB MARKET PAPER

Property with different rights: The long-run effects of Ecuador's agrarian reform [Link](#)

A commonly accepted consensus is that agrarian reforms across Latin America have failed to achieve their objectives. In this paper, I argue that the reality is more nuanced: While agrarian reforms did not improve agricultural productivity across the region, they brought some improvements at the local level. These reforms typically distorted property rights structures in an attempt to control farmers' incentives. I study specifically Ecuador's agrarian reforms in the 1960s and 1970s and find that the long-term impact depends heavily on the type of policy that was enacted. While several regions were intervened in and beneficiaries were given property rights to land, I identify a case where similar areas were treated under Public Land Transfers (PLT) legislation, allowing farmers to freely choose which crops to grow, and others were considered subject to expropriation legislation, forcing farmers to grow rice. Using different data sets, I examine the impact of these policies on productivity, credit markets, efficient land use, and structural transformation. PLT led to increased productivity and crop diversification within perennial crops, along with efficient land use and rapid structural transformation. In contrast, most expropriated areas continued to focus on rice production long after restrictions were lifted, relying on informal credit markets. I argue that this is an unexplored mechanism that contributed to this path-dependent cycle. In addition, some areas in the region remain highly specialized in banana production, the dominant perennial crop before the reform, and have not diversified into other perennial crops. Comparing the two property rights regimes with a non-reform scenario, I find additional evidence that PLT promoted agricultural productivity.

WORKING PAPERS

Populism and distributive politics [Under review] [Link](#)

Populists may use past repression events to consolidate their core voters. Regions exposed to these events can gain more public sector jobs by voting for populists. I test this idea using the first election of former Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa in 2006. This election is relevant as Correa was an unknown figure in

politics who won with a new political party, without congressmen or local candidates. Between 2006 and 2010, the regime implemented aggressive changes in political institutions and rapid fiscal expansion. By exploiting differences in distances between repression episodes from 1984-1988 and local schools, and using this as an instrument for Correa's 2006 vote share, I find that the geographic allocation of bureaucrats in 2010 is explained by Correa's 2006 vote share. This result is relevant given the massive political changes occurring in the country during this period. I demonstrate that the instrument does not work through the previous election winner's vote share. Additionally, I document that central government transfers increased to municipalities with the largest vote share for Correa in 2006, indicating that this was indeed the distributive politics strategy followed during this period.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Can agrarian reform cause stunting?

What policies really reduce historical gender gaps in education? (With Daniel Baquero)

Concertaje and land reform (With Daniel Baquero and Alex Rivadeneira)

POLICY REPORTS

Apuntando Alto: Retos en la Lucha Contra la Desnutrición Crónica (World Bank).

(With Nelson Gutiérrez, Claudia Rokx, Hugo Brousset and Tomás Ciuffardi).

Gasto en desnutrición (CRISFE [Ecuadorian NGO]) (With Daniel Baquero).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Manchester

Manchester, UK

Department of Economics

2021-

Teaching Assistant

Development economics (Undergraduate) 2023

Economics for public policy (Undergraduate) 2022 & 2023

Econometrics (Undergraduate) 2021-2022

Commended prize for Excellence in Teaching Awards (2022)

Teaching Associate

Economics for public policy (Undergraduate) 2024

Econometrics (data analysis labs) (Undergraduate) 2024-2025

Macroeconomics (I-IV) (Undergraduate) 2024-2025

Universidad San Francisco de Quito

Quito, Ecuador

Department of Economics

2017-2019

Lecturer

Introduction to Economics 2017-2019

Principles of Microeconomics for Business 2017-2019

Principles of Macroeconomics for Business 2017-2019

Applied Development Economics 2019

NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Short term consultant

2016-2018

World Bank office in Quito, Ecuador

Short term temporary

2014-2015

World Bank office in Quito, Ecuador

Intern in the macroeconomic forecast division

2012

Central Bank of Ecuador

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

<i>Nominated for USFQ alumni awards</i> Universidad San Francisco de Quito	2023
<i>Hallsworth Conference Fund (£19,410) with Nuno Palma and Guillaume Blanc</i> University of Manchester	2022
<i>Ph.D. Scholarship (tuition + stipend)</i> Department of Economics, University of Manchester	2019-2024
<i>World Bank innovation award</i> Team member of the project "texting for nutrition"	2017
<i>Chevening scholarship</i> Scholarship to study MSc at the London School of Economics	2015
<i>Polytechnic school scholarship USFQ</i> Scholarship to study the master in applied mathematics at USFQ (Scholarship not taken)	2014
<i>Deloitte scholarship</i> Awarded to the top student in economics at USFQ in each cohort	2013

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024

Lancaster University, University of Manchester, Royal economic society annual conference (Belfast), Economic history society (Northumbria)

2023

Winter meeting of the econometric society, RIDGE (Medellín), Lewis lab Grad students workshop (Manchester), University of ManchesterX2, University of Liverpool

2022

University of Manchester, Applied young economists webinar (Monash/Warwick), ESPOL (Guayaquil), USFQ (Quito), University of Warwick, LACEA-LAMES

2020

University of Manchester

2018

USFQ (Quito)

2017

RIDGE (Uruguay), USFQ (Quito), ESPOL (Guayaquil)

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

<i>Co-organizer of the conference "Big counterfactuals in Macro-Political history". Manchester</i>	2023
<i>Organizer PhD students' seminars. Manchester</i>	2022-2023
<i>Co-organizer PhD Internal conference. Manchester</i>	2022-2023

COMPUTER SKILLS

Stata, R, Matlab, QGIS, Latex, Microsoft Office

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Spanish (Native), German (A2 level)

REFERENCES

- Nuno Palma. Professor. Department of Economics, University of Manchester
nuno.palma@manchester.ac.uk
- Rachel Griffith. Professor. Department of Economics, University of Manchester
rachel.griffith@manchester.ac.uk
- Guillaume Blanc. Assistant Professor. Department of Economics, University of Manchester
guillaume.blanc@manchester.ac.uk
- Samuel Pienknagura. Senior Economist. Research Department, International Monetary Fund
spienknagura@imf.org

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