

# Manuel A. Meléndez-Sánchez

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## Main Research Interests

Politics of crime and violence; democracy and democratization; political parties; political economy of development; Latin America.

## Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, Harvard University, 2017–Present.

M.Sc. in Politics Research, University of Oxford, 2016–17.

A.B. in Government and Latin American Studies, Harvard University, 2011–16.

## Publications

### *Work in Progress*

“Criminal Electioneering: How and Why Criminal Groups Influence Elections.”

“Brand Balancing and Party Survival: Theory with Evidence from Latin America.”

“Violent Crime and Police Recruiting: Evidence from El Salvador” (with Matthew Pecenco and Carlos Schmidt-Padilla).

### *Other Writing*

“El Salvador Without Amnesty” (with Ben Raderstorf), *Inter-American Dialogue Voces Blog*. July 21, 2016.

“The Salvadoran Right Since 2009: How ARENA Has Adapted to Life in the Opposition,” *ReVista: The Harvard Review of Latin America* 15(3). Spring 2016.

“A National Held Hostage” (with Ben Raderstorf), *Inter-American Dialogue Voces Blog*. August 5, 2015.

“El Salvador Can Shine Again’: An Interview with Francisco Flores Pérez,” *Harvard International Review* 34(4). Spring 2013.

“Venezuela’s Regional Agenda Will Take the Backseat,” *The Harvard Crimson* (special feature on post-Chávez Venezuela). May 4, 2013.

## Research Experience

### *Research Assistance*

Professor Steven Levitsky, Harvard University, June 2015–Present.

Professor Horacio Larreguy, Harvard University, June–October 2017.

Salvadoran Foundation for Economic and Social Development (FUSADES), January–May 2016.

Professor Daniel Ziblatt, Harvard University, June–December 2015.

UN Economic Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean (CEPAL), June–August 2013.

Chilean Ministry of Finance (Ministerio de Hacienda), June–August 2012.

### *Consulting*

United States Agency for International Development (USAID), August–December 2017.

### *Fieldwork*

San Salvador, El Salvador (12 months); Santiago, Chile (8 months); Mexico City, Mexico (2 months).

### *Additional Training*

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Syracuse University, 2019.

## Grants and Awards

Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics, Department of Economics, Harvard University, 2018.

Summer Research Travel Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, 2018.

Conference Travel Fund, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, 2017 and 2019.

Oxford-Weidenfeld and Hoffmann Scholarship, University of Oxford, 2016-17.

James R. and Isabel D. Hammond Award, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, 2015.

Williams/Lodge Government and Public Affairs Research Fellowship, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 2014-15.

## Presentations, Panels, and Workshops

2019: David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies; Latin American Studies Association (LASA) International Congress; El Salvador Political Economy Workshop; American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting.\*

2018: Harvard Political Violence Workshop; Harvard-MIT Latin America Discussion Group; Latin American Studies Association (LASA) International Congress; Harvard Graduate Political Economy Workshop; Harvard Political Economy of Development Workshop.

2017: London School of Economics; Embassy of El Salvador in the UK; Canning House; Latino Impact Summit.

2015: Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

\* Scheduled.

## Academic and Departmental Service

Student Coordinator, Political Violence Workshop, Harvard University, 2019–Present.

Co-President, Graduate Student Association, Department of Government, Harvard University, 2019–Present.

Student Advisory Group Member, Weatherhead Research Cluster on Global Populism/Challenges to Democracy, Harvard University, 2018–Present.

Student Coordinator, Comparative Politics Speaker Series, Harvard University, 2018–2019.

Diversity Committee Member, Graduate Student Association, Department of Government, Harvard University, 2018–2019.

## Teaching and Advising

### *Teaching*

Government 2005: Formal Political Analysis I, Professor William Clark, Fall 2019.

- This is a graduate seminar on microeconomic modeling, covering price theory, decision theory, social choice theory, and game theory.

Government 62: Research Practice in Qualitative Methods, Professor Frances Hagopian, Spring 2020.

- This course introduces undergraduate students to basic principles and tools of qualitative research in the social sciences.

### *Advising*

Non-Resident Tutor, Leverett House, Harvard College, 2018–Present.

Peer Advisor, Department of Government, Harvard University, 2018–Present.

Undergraduate Thesis Advisor, Harvard College, 2018–2019.

## Visiting Positions

Visiting Scholar, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), June–August 2018.

Visiting Fellow, Salvadoran Foundation for Economic and Social Development (FUSADES), January–May 2016.

## Additional Information

*Affiliations:* American Political Science Association (APSA), Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS), Latin American Studies Association (LASA).

*Languages:* Spanish (native proficiency), English (bilingual proficiency), Portuguese (reading proficiency).

*Software:* ArcGIS, Giphy, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, R, Stata.

*References:* Available upon request.