

NICOLÁS CABRA-RUIZ

ncabraruiz@gmail.com [◇](mailto:ncabraruiz@gmail.com) ncabraruiz.github.io [◇](https://ncabraruiz.github.io) Princeton, NJ

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Political Economy, Development Economics, Comparative Politics, Social and Economic History.

EDUCATION

Universidad de los Andes M.A. in Economics. GPA: 4.69/5.0; U.S. GPA: 4.0/4.0; Rank: 2/26.	<i>Dec 2022</i> Bogotá, Colombia
Universidad Nacional de Colombia B.A. in Economics. GPA: 4.4/5.0; U.S. GPA: 3.77/4.0; Rank: 2/68.	<i>Nov 2019</i> Bogotá, Colombia
Universidad Nacional de Colombia B.A. in History. GPA: 4.7/5.0; U.S. GPA: 4.0/4.0; Rank: 1/15.	<i>Dec 2025</i> Bogotá, Colombia
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam Academic Exchange (B.A. in History).	<i>Jan 2024</i> Amsterdam, Netherlands

ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Predocctoral Research Fellow - RPDE <i>Princeton University</i> PI: Dr. Micaela Sviastchi .	March 2024 - Present
Research Assistant <i>University of Minnesota</i> Conducting business and human rights data analysis, applying econometric models to firm-level datasets to examine the factors influencing large enterprises' adoption of human rights policies. PI: Dr. Tricia Olsen .	July 2024 - Sept 2024
Research Consultant <i>World Bank</i> Project: Forced Displacement, the Perpetuation of Autocratic Leaders, and Development in Origin Countries. PI: Dr. Sandra Roza and Dr. Micaela Sviastchi . [Working Paper]	Feb 2023 - Jun 2024
Researcher <i>Universidad Javeriana - Atlantic Council</i> Support survey design, enumerators training, and quantitative analysis for the project: Justice Fair Play Initiative: The key to improving justice delivery in Colombia. PI: Dr. Juan Carlos Botero . [Report]	Feb 2023 - Dec 2023
Consultant Specialist - Quantitative Methods <i>Panagora Group - USAID-MEL Activity</i> Assisted in survey design, surveyor training, and conducted field visits in Colombian Amazonian communities. Responsible for baseline data collection, cleaning, and analysis. [Report] [Paper]	Mar 2022 - Feb 2023

Predoctoral Research Fellow Jul 2021 - Feb 2023
Center of Studies on Economic Development (CEDE), Universidad de los Andes

Project: State as Society: Evidence from Colombian paramilitarism. PI: [Dr. Juan Sebastián Galán](#) and [Dr. James Robinson](#).

Research Assistant Jul 2021- Nov 2022
Universidad Javeriana - USAID

Project: Inclusive Economic Growth for Sustainable Peace? PI: [Dr. Laura Bernal](#), [Dr. Tricia Olsen](#) and [Dr. Kelly Jones](#). [\[Link\]](#)

Research Assistant Apr 2021-Jan 2022
Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis (CESTA), Stanford University

Project: Mapping Urban Change in Colombia: Violence and Resilience, 1970-2019. PI: [Dr. Zephyr Frank](#) and [Dr. Constanza Castro](#).

Research Assistant Mar 2017-May 2021
Colombian Academy of Economics Sciences

Assisted PI: [Dr. Edgar Reveiz](#), [Alcides Gómez](#) and [Dr. Francisco Thoumi](#).

Undergraduate Research Assistant Jul 2017-Dec 2017
Faculty of Economics Science, Universidad Nacional de Colombia

Undergraduate Research Assistant Jul 2017-Dec 2017
Observatory of Agricultural Policy, Universidad Nacional de Colombia

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Jones, K. W., Cabra-Ruiz, N., Correa Sánchez, N., Molina González, E., & Vélez, M. A. (2024). Land Tenure Security and Forest Cover in the Colombian Amazon. *Frontiers in Forests and Global Change*, 7, 1487898. [\[Link\]](#)

WORKING PAPERS & DATASETS

Cabra-Ruiz, N., Rozo, S. V., & Sviatschi, M. M. (2024). Forced Displacement, the Perpetuation of Autocratic Leaders, and Development in Origin Countries. *NBER Working Paper No. w33131*. In revision. [\[Link\]](#)

Cabra-Ruiz, N., Torres, S., Wills-Otero, L., & Castilla-Gutiérrez, V. (2023). Una caracterización histórica de los partidos políticos de Colombia: 1958-2022. *Documento CEDE*, (36). [\[Paper\]](#) [\[Dataset\]](#)

Cabra-Ruiz, N. (2023). El Baile Rojo: impacto de la violencia política sobre el comportamiento electoral, el caso de la Unión Patriótica (1984-2007). *Documentos CEDE* 20683, Universidad de los Andes – Facultad de Economía. [\[Link\]](#)

WORK IN PROGRESS

Olsen, T. D., Rehbein, K., Cabra-Ruiz, N., Snelson-Powell, A., & Westermann-Behaylo, M. Firm Responses to Corporate Human Rights Controversies: An Awareness, Motivation, and Capability Perspective. *Manuscript in preparation*. Draft available upon request.

POLICY REPORTS & OTHER WRITING

Vargas, J., Sviatschi, M. M., & Cabra-Ruiz, N. (2025). The Complex Link between Migration and Organized Crime in Latin America and the Caribbean. *Organized Against Crime Network – Policy Document Series*. [\[Link\]](#)

Sviatschi, M. M., Tobón, S., & Cabra-Ruiz, N. (2025). Organized Crime and Development. *VoxDevLit Literature Review*. [\[Link\]](#)

Botero, J. C., et al. (2024). Justice Fair Play Initiative: The Key to Improving Justice Delivery in Colombia. *Adrienne Arsht Latin America Center, Atlantic Council*. [\[Link\]](#)

Bernal-Bermúdez, L., Olsen, T., Jones, K., et al. (2023). Inclusive Economic Growth for Sustainable Peace? An Evaluation of Development Mechanisms and Conservation Efforts in Post-Conflict Colombia. *U.S. National Academy of Sciences & USAID*. [\[Link\]](#)

Panagora Group (2023). The Baseline for a Performance Evaluation of the Amazon Alive Activity in Colombia. *USAID/Colombia Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Activity*. [\[Link\]](#)

UNDERGRADUATE WORKING PAPERS

Bobadilla, S., Cabra, N., & Escobar, N. (2019). Café: ¿alternativa para la sustitución de cultivos de uso ilícito? *Econografos – Escuela de Economía* 017286, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, FCE-CID. [\[Link\]](#)

Cabra, N., Escobar, N., & Herrera, A. (2019). Determinantes de la violencia homicida en Bogotá 2002-2010. *Econografos – Escuela de Economía* 017223, Universidad Nacional de Colombia. [\[Link\]](#)

Cabra, N. (2019). Del papel a la sustitución de cultivos ilícitos: análisis de la implementación del punto 4 del Acuerdo de paz en el departamento del Cauca. *Econografos – Escuela de Economía* 017437, Universidad Nacional de Colombia. [\[Link\]](#)

Cabra, N. (2019). Los polos de desarrollo de François Perroux en el modelo de regionalización para Colombia (1969-1972). *Econografos – Escuela de Economía* 017392, Universidad Nacional de Colombia. [\[Link\]](#)

Cabra, N. (2019). Evaluación de la Misión Bogotá S.XXI en la cobertura de servicios públicos domésticos (1990-2017). *Econografos – Facultad de Ciencias Económicas* 017215, Universidad Nacional de Colombia. [\[Link\]](#)

Cabra, N. (2019). La globalización como proceso sinérgico en la evolución del desarrollo humano y la educación. *Econografos – Escuela de Economía* 017236, Universidad Nacional de Colombia. [\[Link\]](#)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Universidad de los Andes *Jan 2023 - July 2023*

T.A General Economic History. Lecturer: [Dr. Juan Sebastián Galán](#)

Universidad de los Andes *Jan 2021 - May 2021*

T.A Market, Freedom, and Order. Lecturer: [Dr. Jimena Hurtado](#)

Universidad de los Andes *Jan 2020 - Dec 2020*

T.A History of Economic Analysis. Lecturer: [Dr. Andrés Alvarez](#)

Universidad Nacional de Colombia *Jan 2019 - Jul 2019*

T.A History of Economic Thought. Lecturer: [Dr. Hernando Matallana](#)

Universidad Nacional de Colombia *Jan 2016 - Aug 2017*

T.A General Economic History. Lecturer: [Dr. Heraclio Bonilla Mayta](#)

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Real Analysis and Optimization (5/5)	Advanced Game Theory (Pass)
Big Data and Machine Learning (5/5)	Advanced Macroeconomics -DSGE - (4.61/5)
Advanced Econometrics (4.3/5)	Master Thesis (5/5)

AWARDS

Colombian Academy of Economic Sciences	<i>2023</i>
Invitation to become member of the Young Colombian Academy of Economic Sciences	
Universidad Nacional de Colombia	<i>2021, 2022</i>
Honor Scholarship for highest GPA in the History undergraduate program (GPA: 4.9/5.0).	
Universidad Nacional de Colombia	<i>2020</i>
Best Undergraduate Thesis in Economics Annual Prize.	
Universidad de los Andes	<i>2020</i>
Francisco Pizano de Brigard Full Scholarship for master studies in Economics.	
Ministry of National Education of Colombia	<i>2018</i>
Best results in National Exams in Economics and General Knowledge (SABER PRO) .	
Universidad Nacional de Colombia	<i>2015, 2016, 2017, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025</i>
Scholarship for academic excellence and GPA performance in the Economics and History program.	

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Latin American Studies Association (LASA)	<i>2025</i>
Presentation at the panel: “Bullets and Ballots: Insurgents and Successors in Latin America” (San Francisco, USA).	
RIDGE/LACEA	<i>2025</i>
Presentation at the Political Economy Workshop (Lima, Perú).	
Humans LACEA Network	<i>2025</i>
Presentation at the Humans LACEA Network (Ciudad de México, México).	
Critical Economics Journeys, Argentina	<i>2024</i>
Presentation at the XVII Critical Economics Journeys (Buenos Aires, Argentina).	
Colombian Academy of Economics Science	<i>2023</i>
Installation of the Colombian Young Academy of Economic Sciences (Bogotá, Colombia).	
University of Denver	<i>2023</i>
Commentator at the Korbel Research Seminar and speaker in an academic workshop at the Daniels College of Business, University of Denver, funded by USAID and the National Academy of Sciences.	
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	<i>2022</i>
XXIII version of The Latin American School of Development (Santiago, Chile).	
Critical Economic Society of Spain	<i>2018</i>
Presentation at the 16th Jornadas de Economía Crítica (León, Spain).	

SERVICE

Peer Reviewer
CEPAL Review — Journal edited by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Software: Proficient in Stata, Python, R, ArcGIS, QGIS, LaTeX and MatLab

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native), English (fluent), and French (intermediate)