

CATALINA VEGA MÉNDEZ



ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Predoctoral Research Fellow

*Florida International University, Miami, FL
The Green School of International and Public Affairs*

August 2024- Present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Fields: Comparative Politics, Latin American Politics, and International Relations
Dissertation: Venezuelan Migration and Voting Patterns: Threat Perceptions in Colombia
Committee Members: Giancarlo Visconti (Co-Chair), James McCann (Co-Chair), Mollie J. Cohen
Ann M. Clark and Natasha T. Duncan

Expected: May 2025

M.A. in Political Science

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

August 2019- May 2021

B.A. in Political Science

Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá D.C., Colombia

January 2015- December 2019

PEER-REVIEW PUBLICATIONS

Vega-Méndez, Catalina., & Visconti, Giancarlo. (2021). "Does Immigration Increase Concerns about the Provision of Public Services? Evidence from Colombia." *Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública*, 10(1), 79-103.

- *Winner of Maria Braun award for the best paper published in Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública (RLOP) in 2021*

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

Chaves-González, Diego, Mora, María Jesús, Banulescu-Bogdan, Natalia, and **Vega-Méndez, Catalina.** "Colombia's Evolving Approach to Immigrant Integration: An Institutional Mapping." Washington, DC, and Bogota: MPI and U.S. Agency for International Development.

WORKING PAPERS

Visconti, Giancarlo., & Vega-Méndez, Catalina. (2024). "Immigration and Nationalistic Attitudes: Panel Evidence from Chile." *Under Review.*

Vega-Méndez, Catalina.(2023). "From Demographic Changes to Ballot Boxes: Examining the Nexus of Venezuelan Migration and Local Voting Patterns in Colombia."

Vega-Méndez, Catalina.(2024). "Legacies of violence: How does exposure to armed conflict moderate hostile attitudes towards migrants? Evidence from Colombia."

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Governments of the World

*Purdue University
Summer 2023*

Teaching Assistant

*Governments of the World
Comparative Environmental Policy and Politics
International Organizations*

*Purdue University
Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021
Spring 2020
Spring 2021*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Associate

Department of Politics and International Relations, Florida International University
Supervisor: Dr. Barry S. Levitt

August 2024 - Present

Graduate Research Assistant
Department of Political Science, Purdue University
Supervisor: Dr. Mollie Cohen

May 2024 - August 2024

Research Intern
Latin America and the Caribbean Team, Migration Policy Institute
Supervisor: Diego Chaves-Gonzales

May 2022 - December 2022

Graduate Research Assistant
Purdue Honors College, Purdue University
Supervisor: Dr. Natasha T. Duncan

August 2021 - 2023

Graduate Research Assistant
Purdue Policy Research Institute (PPRI), Purdue University
Supervisor: Dr. Stacey Connaughton

May 2020 - August 2020

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

External

Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University, 2023-2024.

Travel grant, American Political Science Association, 2021.

Maria Braun award for the best paper published in Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública (RLOP) in 2021.

Internal

Best Prospectus Award, Political Science Department, Purdue University, 2023.

Field Paper to Journal Submission Award, Political Science Department, Purdue University, 2022.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publication Award, Political Science Department, Purdue University, 2022.

PROMISE Travel Award, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University, 2022, 2023 & 2024.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“From Demographic Changes to Ballot Boxes: Examining the Nexus of Venezuelan Migration and Local Voting Patterns in Colombia.” A paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, 2024.

“Does Immigration Increase Nationalism? The Effect of a Sudden Demographic Change on Attitudes and Behaviors.” A coauthored paper with Giancarlo Visconti presented at the Latin American Studies Association in Vancouver, Canada, 2023.

“Peacekeeping and Public Opinion: How UN peacekeepers Affect Violence Perceptions.” A Co-authored paper with Sky Kunkel presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, Montreal, Canada, 2023.

“Exposure to Political Violence and Preferences after Peace Agreement: Evidence from Colombia.” A paper presented at the American Political Science Association, Montreal, Canada, 2022.

“Politicized Spaces and the Media: Studying the Venezuelan Migratory Crisis in Colombia.” A paper presented at the American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA, 2021.

INVITED TALKS

Inter-American Course on Migration and Protection, 5th Edition. OAS and the University of Notre Dame’s Keough School of Global Affairs. Washington D.C, (2024).

The Methodology Center at Purdue (MCAP). Purdue University. West Lafayette, (2024).

PSRW. Purdue University. West Lafayette, (2023).

Migration Policy Institute. Washington D.C. (2022).

Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Bogota D.C. (2022).

SERVICE

Political Science Graduate Student Association. Recruitment and Mentorship Chair. 2020-2021.

SKILLS

Programs: R (*advanced*), Stata (*intermediate*), L^AT_EX (*intermediate*), Qualtrics (*intermediate*), Python (*basic*).
Languages: Spanish (*native*), English (*fluent*), French (*basic*).

MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association
International Studies Association
Latin American Studies Association

REFERENCES

- **Giancarlo Visconti:** Assistant Professor, Government and Politics, University of Maryland.
gvis@umd.edu
- **James A. McCann:** Professor, Department of Political Science, Purdue University.
mccannj@purdue.edu
- **Mollie Cohen:** Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Purdue University.
mjcohen@purdue.edu