

Simon Ballesteros

Chicago Center on Democracy - The University of Chicago
Albert Pick Hall for International Studies
5828 S University Ave - Room 505
Chicago, IL, 60637
sballesteros@uchicago.edu - +1 (202) 361-0064

RESEARCH INTEREST	Comparative Politics; Democracy; Constitution-Making; Democratic Backsliding; Latin American Legal and Political Institutions	
ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS	Chicago Center on Democracy The University of Chicago , Chicago, IL. Postdoctoral Scholar	2025-present
EDUCATION	Georgetown University , Washington D.C. Ph.D. Government Dissertation: Explaining Variation in the Democratic Nature of Constitution-Making Processes: A Comparative Analysis Committee: Diana Kapiszewski (Chair), Marko Klašnja, and George Tsebelis	2018-2025
	University of Chile , Santiago, Chile M.A. in Economic Analysis	2013-2015
	University of Chile , Santiago, Chile B.A. in Economics	2008-2013
REFEREED PUBLICATIONS	Formal Institutions after Conflict: Rebel Ideology and Post-war Constitutional Design with L. Balcells and D. Solomon. <u>Comparative Political Studies</u>	
WORK IN PROGRESS	Institutional Foundations of Democratic Backsliding in Latin America (with M. Aguirre, D. Kapiszewski and D. Yanovich) Democracy in Constitution-making: A Global Dataset (1945-2023) Failed Constitution-making in Comparative Perspective SIGLA: A New Database of Political and Legal Institutions in Latin America (with A. Celis, J. Gelvez, D. Kapiszewski, H. Kurowski, A. Sanchez, R. Swain and H. Xuan)	
PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH	Longevity and pensions: A proposal of insurance for the fourth age . Working Paper No 441, Department of Economics, University of Chile (with Guillermo Larraín and Sebastián García)	

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2024-2025 Jill Hopper Fellowship (Full tuition and stipend for the academic year) - Department of Government, Georgetown University

2023-2024 Predoctoral Fellowship with States and Institutions of Governance in Latin America (SIGLA) database project (full tuition and stipend for the academic year) - Center for Latin American Studies, Georgetown University

2022 Georgetown Americas Institute (GAI) Student Fellows Program 2022 - Georgetown University

2022 Dissertation Research Travel Grant - Graduate School of Arts and Sciences - Georgetown University

2022 Summer Research Award - Department of Government, Georgetown University

2020 Summer Collaborative Award with Prof. Laia Balcells - Department of Government, Georgetown University

2015 Academic Excellence Award Spring, Master in Economic Analysis - University of Chile

2014 Scholarship for Graduate Studies, Master in Economic Analysis - University of Chile

CONFERENCES

2024 Annual Meeting American Political Science Association (APSA)
Paper presentation: Democratic Constitution-Making in Comparative Perspective

2024 Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Congress
Paper presentation: Political Elites' Decision-making and Democratic Constitutional Change in Chile after a Social Uprising

2024 Graduate Student Conference on Constitutional Change
Paper presentation: Democratic Constitution-Making in Comparative Perspective

2023 Chilean Congress of Political Science
Paper presentation: (i) Democratic Constitution-Making in Comparative Perspective, (ii) Failed Constitution-making: a Global Analysis.

2023 Annual Convention American Political Science Association (APSA)
Paper presentation: Rebel Ideology and Post-war Constitutional Behavior (with Laia Balcells and Daniel Solomon).

2023 World Congress International Political Science Association (IPSA)
Paper presentation: Democratic Constitution-Making in Comparative Perspective

2023 Annual Midwest Political Association Conference (MPSA)
Paper presentation: Democratic Constitution-Making in Comparative Perspective

2021 Annual Midwest Political Association Conference (MPSA)
Paper presentation: Constitution-Making after Civil Wars (with Laia Balcells)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Government - Georgetown University **2019-2021**

Graduate:

2021 Instructor - Math Camp

2020 Teaching Assistant - Math Camp

2020 Teaching Assistant - Quantitative Methods 3 (GOVT 703)

Undergraduate:

2025 Instructor - The Politics of Inclusion in Latin America (GOVT 4011)

2021 Teaching Assistant - Senior Capstone in Political Economy (PECO 401)

2020 Teaching Assistant - Comparative Political Systems (GOVT 040)
2019 Teaching Assistant - Comparative Political Systems (GOVT 040)

Department of Economics - University of Chile **2010-2014**
Undergraduate:
2014 Teaching Assistant - Economic Development
2013 Teaching Assistant - Economic Policy
2010 - 2011 Teaching Assistant - Introduction to Macroeconomics

PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Research Assistant - Laia Balcells - Georgetown University	2020 - 2023
	Research Assistant - Diana Kapiszewski - Georgetown University	2019 - 2022
	Data Analyst – Vice President of Financial Affairs University of Chile	2018
	Data Analyst – President of the University of Chile	2017
	Research Assistant - Daniel Hojman - University of Chile	2017
	Research Assistant – Guillermo Larraín - University of Chile	2015-2018
	Research Assistant - Nicolás Grau - University of Chile	2015-2016
	Research Assistant - Ricardo Ffrench-Davis - University of Chile	2014-2016
	Research Assistant – Solange Berstein	2015
	Research Assistant - Aldo González - University of Chile	2013-2014

PUBLIC OUTREACH	"Roles de género y bajas pensiones para la mujer" . CIPER, November 2016 (with Tatiana Reyes).
	"A propósito de la Comisión Bravo: El límite normativo de los expertos" . CIPER, October 2015 (with Felipe Correa).
	"AFP estatal, ley corta para el sistema de AFP y el fin de las reformas estructurales" . El Mostrador, June 2016.
	"Lo que no abordó la Comisión Bravo: la falta de legitimidad del sistema de AFP" . El Mostrador, September 2015.
	"AFP: la piedra angular del modelo concentrador de riqueza en Chile" . El Mostrador, June 2013 (with Marco Kremerman).

LANGUAGE **Spanish** (native), **English** (fluent), **Portuguese** (Beginner)

Programming: L^AT_EX, R, Stata

REFERENCES
Dr. Diana Kapiszewski
Provost's Distinguished Associate Professor
Georgetown University
dk784@georgetown.edu

Dr. Marko Klašnja
Associate Professor
Georgetown University
Marko.Klasnja@georgetown.edu

Dr. Laia Balcells
Professor

Georgetown University
lb1127@georgetown.edu