I examine the political economy of the provision of public goods in contexts of violence. I argue that in contexts of great uncertainty due to violence the emergence of strongholds led by paramilitaries (non-state armed groups friendly with the private sector) can increase private provision of public goods. In these contexts, paramilitaries build symbiotic relationships with politicians, enabling private provisioning by acting as gatekeepers to the national government’s development projects and providing safety on the ground for the provision of public infrastructure. Building a novel dataset on 25 years of road provision in Colombia, I find via an OLS fixed effects analysis that paramilitary control of state institutions increases private provisioning of roads through public-private partnerships (PPPs). Additionally, I analyze the impact of transparency and pork-barreling in PPP contracts. I argue that transparency in PPPs can reduce inefficiencies in state procurement. However, the benefits of transparency disappear when PPPs are used for pork-barreling. Creating a novel data set on these contracts for public infrastructure and relying on survival analysis, I find that pork-barreling makes PPP contracts up to seven times more likely to be renegotiated and therefore more prone to cost overrun and extended provision deadlines. This dissertation bridges the literature in political science and public policy to understand the interactions between the public and private sectors in public good provisioning, and the impact of such interactions on social welfare.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Other Publications


**Research Experience**


**Fieldwork**


Angulo Amaya, M. “Estimating Corruption: Reality Checks and Factual Beliefs.”


Angulo Amaya, MC. and Edward Littlefield. “State Legitimacy and Political Violence: Understanding Nationalism in Colombia.”

**Conferences**

American Political Science Association-APSA (Online) 2020

Midwest Political Science Association-MPSA (Conference Canceled) 2020

The Public and Democracy in the Americas-LAPO 2019

Latin American Political Science Association-ALACIP 2019

Latin American Social Studies-LASA 2019

Midwest Political Science Association-MPSA 2019

**Teaching Experience**

**Co-Instructor**

University of Wisconsin–Madison

- Introduction to Comparative Politics–Online Summer 2019, Summer 2020

**Teaching Assistships**

University of Wisconsin–Madison

- Introduction to Comparative Politics Fall 2020, Spring 2019, Fall 2018
- Research Methods Spring 2018
- Introduction to International Studies Fall 2017

Universidad de los Andes

- Contemporary Theories in Social Sciences Fall 2012

**Primary Instructor**

University Sergio Arboleda

- Research Methods Spring 2016
- American Foreign Policy Spring 2016

Universidad de San Buenaventura

- Public Administration Fall 2015
- Public Management Fall 2015
**Service**

*Department*
Coordinator, UW–Madison Latin American Colloquium 2017-18

*Journal Referee*
Political Behavior
Géneros: Multidisciplinary Journal of Gender Studies

**Fellowships, Grants**

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<tr>
<td>UW–Madison University Fellowship</td>
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<td>UW–Madison Graduate School Student Research Grants Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>UW–Madison Political Science Summer Funding Initiative</td>
<td>2017, 2019, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>UW–Madison LACIS-Tinker Foundation Fieldwork Grant</td>
<td>2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>UW–Madison Stanoch Research Award</td>
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**Skills**

Stata, R, QGIS, Spanish.

**Affiliations**

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<tr>
<td>Member, American Political Science Association</td>
<td>2020–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member, Midwest Political Science Association</td>
<td>2019–</td>
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**References**

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Scott Gehlbach, Department of Political Science and Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago, gehlbach@uchicago.edu
Nils Ringe, Department of Political Science, UW–Madison, ringe@wisc.edu

(Updated 12/2020)