

Beatriz Magaloni

Graham H. Stuart Professor of International Relations — Stanford University

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Education

Duke University

- Ph.D., Political Science *May 1998*
- M.A., Political Science (with distinction) *May 1993*

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) *1985–1989*

- Law Degree, with High Honors

Appointments

Graham H. Stuart Professor of International Relations, Stanford University *2021–present*

Professor of Political Science, Stanford University *2018–present*

Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies *2009–present*

Affiliated Faculty, Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law *2009–present*

Affiliated Faculty, Center for International Security and Cooperation *2015–present*

Affiliated Faculty, Stanford Center on Global Poverty and Development

Affiliated Faculty, Center for Latin American Studies, Stanford University

Founder and Director, Poverty, Violence, and Governance Lab *2011–present*

Non-resident Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace *2021–present*

Associate Professor of Political Science, Stanford University *2009–2017*

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Stanford University *1999–2008*

Adjunct Professor of Political Science, UCLA *2000–2001*

Professor of Political Science, ITAM *1996–1999*

Professional Associate, Center for Research and Development (CIDAC) *1996–1999*

Awards and Honors

Boris Mints Award *2024*

- For work on autocracies and their resurgence on a global scale.

Stockholm Prize in Criminology *2023*

- For work on police violence and criminal governance — the most prestigious award in the field, often regarded as the Nobel of criminology.

Heinz I. Eulau Award — Best article in the *American Political Science Review* *2021*

- “Killing in the Slums: The Problems of Social Order, Criminal Governance and Police Violence in Rio de Janeiro” (with Edgar Franco and Vanessa Melo).
- Leon D. Epstein Outstanding Book Award, American Political Science Association 2007
- *Voting for Autocracy: Hegemonic Party Survival and its Demise in Mexico*.
- Best Book Award, Comparative Democratization Section, APSA 2007
- Best Paper in Political Economy, APSA 2001
- “Tragic Brilliance and Federalism in Mexico” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Barry Weingast).
- Gabriel Almond Award — Best Dissertation in Comparative Politics 1998
- “The Dynamics of Dominant Party Decline: The Mexican Transition to Multipartyism”.
- W. Glenn Campbell & Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellow; Susan Louise Dyer Peace Fellowship, Hoover Institution 2006–2007
- Visiting Fellow, Harvard University 1996–1997
- Dissertation Grant, Institute for the Study of World Politics 1993–1994
- Distinction in Preliminary Examination, Duke University 1993
- Fulbright Fellowship, U.S. Department of State 1990–1992
- Ford–MacArthur Fellowship 1990–1992
- High Honors, ITAM 1990

Publications: Books

- *Voting for Autocracy: Hegemonic Party Survival and its Demise in Mexico*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- *The Politics of Poverty Relief: Strategies of Vote Buying and Social Policies in Mexico*. Cambridge University Press, 2016 (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Federico Estévez).
- *Determinantes do Uso da Força Policial no Rio de Janeiro*. Rio de Janeiro: UFRJ, 2016 (with Ignacio Cano).

Journal Articles

- “Punitive Policing in the Americas” (with Kim Juárez). *Annual Review of Criminology* (forthcoming).
- “Fabricated Justice: How Due Process Reform Enables Evidence Manipulation” (with Esteban Salmón). *World Development* 199 (2026): 107222.
- “Delivering for Democracy: Why Results Matter” (with Francis Fukuyama and Chris Dann). *Journal of Democracy* 36, no. 2 (2025): 5–19.
- “The 2023 Stockholm Prize: Challenges in Creating Humane and Equitable Policing — a Focus on the Global South.” *Criminology & Public Policy* 23 (2024): 3–25.
- “Warriors and Vigilantes as Police Officers: Evidence from a Field Experiment with Body-Cameras in Rio de Janeiro” (with Vanessa Melo and Gustavo Robles). *Cambridge Journal of Evidence-Based Policing* 7, no. 1 (2023): 2.

- “Killing in the Slums: Social Order, Criminal Governance and Police Violence in Rio de Janeiro” (with Edgar Franco and Vanessa Melo). *American Political Science Review* 114, no. 2 (2020): 552–72.
- “Institutionalized Police Brutality: Torture, the Militarization of Security and the Reform of Inquisitorial Justice in Mexico” (with Luis Rodriguez). *American Political Science Review* 114, no. 4 (2020). Featured in the APSR blog “Conversations with Authors,” Dec. 15, 2020.
- “Legislatures and Policy Making in Authoritarian Regimes” (with Scott Williamson). *Comparative Political Studies* (2020).
- “Living in Fear: The Dynamics of Extortion in Mexico’s Drug War” (with Gustavo Robles, Aila Matanock, Vidal Romero and Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). *Comparative Political Studies* 53, no. 7 (2020): 1124–74.
- “Public Good Provision and Traditional Governance in Indigenous Communities in Oaxaca, Mexico” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Alex Ruiz). *Comparative Political Studies* 52, no. 12 (2019): 1841–80.
- “Torture as a Method of Criminal Investigation: The Case of Mexico” (with Ana Laura Magaloni and Zaira Razu). *Política y Gobierno* 25, no. 2 (2018).
- “How the Mexican Drug War Affects Kids and Schools: Evidence on Effects and Mechanisms” (with Brenda Jarillo, Edgar Franco and Gustavo Robles). *International Journal of Educational Development* 51 (2016): 135–46.
- “Authoritarian Survival and Poverty Traps: Land Reform in Mexico” (with Michael Albertus, Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Barry Weingast). *World Development* 77 (2016): 154–70.
- “The Beheading of Criminal Organizations and the Dynamics of Violence in Mexico” (with Gabriela Calderón, Gustavo Robles and Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 59, no. 8 (2015): 1455–85.
- “Presidential Approval and Public Security in Mexico’s War on Crime” (with Vidal Romero and Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). *Latin American Politics and Society* 58, no. 2 (2016): 100–23.
- “The Mexican War on Drugs: Crime and the Limits of Government Persuasion” (with Vidal Romero and Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* 27, no. 1 (2015).
- “Traditional Governance, Citizen Engagement, and Local Public Goods: Evidence from Mexico.” *World Development* 53 (2014): 80–93.
- “The Game of Electoral Fraud and the Ousting of Authoritarian Rule.” *American Journal of Political Science* 54, no. 3 (2010).
- “Political Order and One-Party Rule” (with Ruth Kricheli). *Annual Review of Political Science* 13 (2010).
- “Credible Power-Sharing and the Longevity of Authoritarian Rule.” *Comparative Political Studies* 41, no. 4–5 (2008).
- “Aiding Latin America’s Poor” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). *Journal of Democracy* 20, no. 4 (2009).
- “Partisan Cleavages, State Retrenchment and Free Trade: Latin America in the 1990s” (with Vidal Romero). *Latin American Research Review* (2008).
- “Party Dominance and the Logic of Electoral Design in Mexico’s Transition to Democracy” (with

Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 13, no. 3 (2001): 271–93.

- “Dominancia de Partido y Dilemas Duvergerianos en las Elecciones Federales de 1994.” *Política y Gobierno* 3, no. 2 (1996).
- “Elección Racional y Voto Estratégico: Algunas Aplicaciones al Caso Mexicano.” *Política y Gobierno* 1, no. 2 (1994).

Journal Articles Under Review

- “Order Beyond the State: Indigenous Political Autonomy and Organized Crime in Rural Mexico” (with Kristóf Gosztönyi and Sarah Thompson). *American Political Science Review*.

Book Chapters

- “Caught in the Crossfire: The Geography of Extortion and Police Corruption in Mexico” (with Vidal Romero and Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). In S. Rose-Ackerman & P. Lagunes (eds.), *Greed, Corruption, and the Modern State*. Edward Elgar, 2015.
- “The Impact of Violence in the Mexican 2012 Presidential Elections” (with Edgar Franco and Jorge Olarte). In J. Domínguez et al., *Mexico’s Evolving Democracy*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014.
- “Legalist vs. Interpretivist: The Supreme Court and the Democratic Transition in Mexico” (with Ariana Sánchez and Eric Magar). In G. Helmke & J. Rios-Figueroa (eds.), *Courts in Latin America*. Cambridge University Press, 2011.
- “Autocratic Political Order and the Role of Courts: The Case of Mexico.” In T. Ginsburg & T. Moustafa (eds.), *Rule by Law*. Cambridge University Press, 2008.
- “Welfare Benefits, Canvassing and Campaign Handouts” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Federico Estévez). In J. Domínguez, C. Lawson & A. Moreno (eds.), *Consolidating Mexico’s Democracy*. Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 2006.
- “A House Divided Against Itself: How the PRI Survives after 2000” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Federico Estévez). In J. Wong & E. Friedman (eds.), *Learning to Lose*. Routledge, 2008.
- “Clientelism and Portfolio Diversification: A Model of Electoral Investment with Applications to Mexico” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Federico Estévez). In H. Kitschelt & S. Wilkinson (eds.), *Patrons or Policies*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- “The Demise of Mexico’s One-Party Dominant Regime.” In S. Mainwaring & F. Hagopian (eds.), *The Third Wave of Democratization in Latin America*. Cambridge Univ. Press, 2005.
- “Designing Electoral Rules by a Dominant Party” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). In J. Colomer (ed.), *Handbook of Electoral System Choice*. Palgrave-Macmillan, 2004.
- “Democratization, Judicial and Law Enforcement Institutions, and the Rule of Law in Mexico” (with Guillermo Zepeda). In K. Middlebrook (ed.), *Dilemmas of Political Change in Mexico*. UCSD / Univ. of London, 2004.
- “Strategic Coordination in the 2000 Mexican Presidential Race” (with Alejandro Poiré). In J. Domínguez & C. Lawson (eds.), *Mexico’s Pivotal Elections*. Stanford University Press, 2004.
- “Issues, the Vote and the Mandate for Change” (with Alejandro Poiré). In J. Domínguez & C. Law-

son (eds.), *Mexico's Pivotal Elections*. Stanford University Press, 2004.

- “Authoritarianism, Democracy and the Supreme Court.” In S. Mainwaring & C. Welna (eds.), *Democratic Accountability in Latin America*. Oxford University Press, 2003.
- “Catching-All-Souls: The PAN and the Politics of Catholicism in Mexico” (with Alejandro Moreno). In T. Scully & S. Mainwaring (eds.), *Christian Democracy in Latin America*. Stanford University Press, 2003.
- “El Poder Judicial en el Siglo XX.” In S. Loaeza (coord.), *Gran Historia de México Ilustrada*, Tomo V. Planeta, 2002.
- “Is the PRI Fading? Economic Performance, Electoral Accountability and Voting Behavior.” In J. Domínguez & A. Poiré (eds.), *The New Mexican Party System*. Routledge, 1999.
- “Autoridad Presupuestal del Poder Legislativo en México” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). *Política y Gobierno*, 1999.

Work in Progress

- “Stationary Bandits or Stationary Predators? How Criminal Governance Shapes Violence Against Civilians” (with Edgar Franco-Vivanco).
- “Armed Governance and Territorial Democracy: Evidence from Post-Accord Colombia” (with Sam Ritholtz and Alberto Diaz-Cayeros).
- “One Democracy, Many Prices: How Citizens Evaluate Elections, Civil Liberties, and Rule of Law” (with Carlos Schmidt-Padilla).
- “Democracy or Delivery? Experimental Evidence from Six Latin American Countries” (with Chris Michael Dann and Tara Hein).
- “Trading Off Democracy for Security? Evidence from Six Latin American Countries” (with Hanna Folsz and Tara Hein).
- “Due Process, Rights, and Democratic Constraints on Support for Illiberal Crime Policies: Evidence from Six Latin American Countries” (with Hanna Folsz and Tara Hein).
- “Political Attitudes, Empathy, and Persuasion under the Régimen de Excepción in El Salvador” (with Carlos Schmidt-Padilla and Kim Juárez).
- “Unconstrained Power to Kill: Police Ideology and the Use of Lethal Force in Rio de Janeiro” (with Edgar Franco-Vivanco and Isabella Montini).
- “State-Criminal Alliances and Human Rights Abuses: Evidence from Rio de Janeiro Militias” (with Edgar Franco).
- “Can Non-Immigrant Guest Worker Programs Help Escape Violence and Poverty Traps? A Multi-year RCT Evaluation in the U.S. and Mexico” (co-PI Melanie Morten).
- “Waging War on Women: How Cartel Turf Wars Shape Gender-based Violence in Mexico” (with Kim Juárez and María Curiel).
- “Machismo Undone? A Randomized Controlled Trial of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Activating Social Networks” (with Madison Dalton, Kim Juárez and Sarah Thompson).
- “Police Violence, Organizational Networks and the Killer State in Rio de Janeiro.”

- “Paying Police to Stop Killing: The Impact of the Pay-for-Performance Reward System in Rio de Janeiro” (with Emily Russel and Carlos Schmitt-Padilla).

Public Writing and Commentary

- “Does the Bukele Model Have a Future? El Salvador’s Police State Will Soon Face a Reckoning” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). *Foreign Affairs*, September 2025.

Policy Reports and White Papers

- “What Works to Prevent Violence Among Youth.” Academic leadership: Thomas Abt, Christopher Blattman, Beatriz Magaloni and Santiago Tobón. Commissioned by USAID to J-PAL-LAC.
- “Violent Crime as a Development Challenge: Causes and Menu of Interventions.” White paper prepared for the *World Bank*.
- “Strengthening Life Skills for Youth in Places of Violence” (with Stephanie Gimenez and Veriene Melo).
- “Field Visit to Academia Malala: Preliminary Observations from the Patronato de la Costa de Hermosillo” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros). PovGov Field Brief, Stanford University, 2026.
- “Evaluación de Impacto de Jóvenes con Porvenir” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Brenda Jarillo). *México Evalúa*, 2017.
- “Favela Residents’ Perceptions About Public Security and Policing in Rio de Janeiro” (with Observatório de Favelas and Redes da Maré), 2017.

Grants

Stanford Center on Global Poverty and Development — Guestworker Migration Initiative (with Melanie Morten)	\$1,400,000
Stanford Impact Labs — Guestworker Migration Initiative (with Melanie Morten)	\$300,000
National Science Foundation, Law and Society — “Immigration Law as Development Policy: Mexican Guestworkers and the H-2A Visa Program” (with Melanie Morten)	\$460,000
Inter-American Development Bank — CBT-based Intervention for Gender-based Violence Prevention (with Beatriz Serra and Tommy Murphy)	\$50,000
Stanford Center on Global Poverty and Development — Gender-based Violence in the Developing World (with Lisa Blaydes)	\$300,000
Stanford Center on Global Poverty and Development — Gender-based Violence in the Developing World (with Lisa Blaydes and James Fearon)	\$200,000
U.S. State Department, INL — Police Professionalization and Citizen Trust in Mexico (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros)	\$450,259
U.S. State Department, INL — Police Professionalization and Citizen Trust in Mexico (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros)	\$4,845,479
Global Development and Poverty Initiative, Stanford SEED — Poverty, Violence and Security	\$925,000

DoD Minerva Research Initiative (FA9550-09-0314) — Crime, Violence and Governance in Mexico	\$150,003
IRiSS Faculty Seed Grant — Police Retraining and Monitoring in Rio de Janeiro	\$7,000
Global Underdevelopment Action Fund, FSI Stanford — Indigenous Governance in Oaxaca, Mexico	\$38,100
Inter-American Development Bank — Economic Consequences of Drug Violence in Mexico	\$30,000
Inter-American Development Bank — Police Violence in Rio de Janeiro	\$30,000

Other Professional Activities

- Founder and Director of the Poverty, Violence, and Governance Lab (PovGov), dedicated to studying lawlessness, violence, human rights abuses, and ways to restrain them.
- Invited researcher in J-PAL’s Crime and Violence Initiative.
- Co-organizer of “Riesgos Globales: Biodiversidad, Seguridad y Gobernanza en Latinoamérica” (with Alberto Diaz-Cayeros and Vidal Romero, ITAM; ANUIES; U.S. Embassy in Mexico), summer courses at Stanford, 2015–2019.
- Member of the Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC); country lead scholar for Mexico.
- Affiliate of the Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA), University of California.
- Contracted by the World Bank to write a white paper on urban crime.
- Former member of the World Justice Project Rule of Law Research Consortium (RLRC).
- Member of the editorial board of *World Development*, 2015–2017.
- Former member of the editorial board of *Política y Gobierno*.
- Provides expert testimony in deportation and asylum cases in U.S. immigration courts.

Service for Journals

Referee for the *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Economic Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Comparative Politics*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Politics*, *Latin American Research Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Perspectives on Politics*, the National Science Foundation, Cambridge University Press, *World Development*, and *World Politics*.

University Service

- Comparative Politics Search Committee, 2024–2025.
- Committee to promote Vicky Fouka for Tenure, 2023.
- P&P Committee (elected), Department of Political Science, 2010–12.
- Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Political Science, 2008–2012.
- Faculty Search Committee (South Asia), Department of Political Science, 2015–16.
- Chair, Committee to promote Lisa Blaydes for Tenure, 2013–14; reappointment committee, 2012–13.
- Faculty Search Committee (IR/CP), Department of Political Science, 2007–08.
- Faculty Committee to re-think the undergraduate program, 2010–11.

- Comparative Politics Workshop Co-coordinator, 2003–05.
- Graduate Admissions Committee, 2010–11, 2012–13 & 2016–17.

Associational Activities

- Chair, Luebbert Article Committee (best paper in comparative politics), 2016–2017.
- Chair, Michael Wallerstein Prize for Best Published Paper in Political Economy, APSA, 2012.
- Nominating Committee, APSA Comparative Politics Section, 2011–12.
- Co-organizer, Comparative Politics of Developing Countries Section, APSA, 2011.
- Gabriel Almond Award Committee, Comparative Politics Section, APSA, 2010.

Other Activities

- Consultant to the Mexican Comisión Nacional de Seguridad, 2017–2018.
- Consultant to the Mexican Secretariat of Government, 2011.
- Consultant to the Secretariat of Government, State of Nuevo León, 2019.