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**Summary** Harvard-educated scholar, thought leader, and public policy adviser who uses data analysis and research to better understand Mexico's most critical social issues and to advocate innovative solutions to them. I work with prominent public and corporate leaders to uncover surprising policy realities using data.

## Education

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY** Cambridge, MA  
**PhD/MA in Government, 2013** **Major:** Social Policy and Inequality

- Conducted research on inequality, criminal violence, and political corruption in Mexico.
- Awards: American Political Science Association's [Leonard D. White Award](#) for the best public administration dissertation; profiled as one of [Harvard's 15 stellar graduates](#) by the Harvard Gazette.

**ITAM** Mexico City, MX  
**Bachelor of Arts, 2005** **Major:** Political Science; Graduated top 1% of class

**Executive:** **HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL & INSEAD. Business & leadership executive education.**  
 (2020 &-2022, Cambridge, MA & Fontainebleau, France)

## Professional Experience

2016-on **Non-profit entrepreneur & data analyst** International

- Conducts data-driven journalism and public policy analysis on Mexico's public regulations and political affairs. Sample projects: Geocoded Mexico's boroughs by socioeconomic status; predicted association between Mexico's overcrowded housing and COVID-19 mortality; identified consumption patterns of Mexico's middle class and their use of cash transfers.
- Author of Amazon's bestseller *"No es normal. The rigged game that fuels Mexican inequality and how to change it"* an essay that examines how to create a more equitable and prosperous Mexico. Awarded the "Latin American Leadership Award" by The Global School of Social Leaders in Vienna.
- Columnist at *El País* (European newspaper; since 2019) and *Milenio* (Mexican newspaper; since 2022). Selected as a [Young Global Leader 2020-2025](#) by the World Economic Forum.

2009-on **Academic, HARVARD UNIVERSITY & PURDUE UNIVERSITY** USA

- Instructor, Harvard Summer School (since 2017) and Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Executive Education (2011–2013). Visiting Assistant Professor, Harvard University (2019) and Purdue University (2017–2018). Teaching Assistant, Harvard University (2009–2010).
- Classes taught: Introduction to public policy; Advanced quantitative methods for social scientists; Inequality and corruption; US-Mexico politics; Corruption in Latin America; Mexican politics.
- Author of academic papers published in prestigious scientific journals examining corporate interests in social welfare, welfare fraud, and human resource management as a tool for reducing corruption.

2014-2015 **Founding CEO, MEXICO ¿CÓMO VAMOS? (MCV)** Mexico City, MX

- Managed think tank to research Mexico's subnational economy. Increased MCV's market value by 529%.
- [Profiled by \*The Economist\*](#) as Mexico's "mover and shaker" for designing and implementing an anti-corruption campaign that helped lead to a large-scale federal anti-corruption reform in Mexico.
- Honored as a "top-impact data generator" by Mexico's Social Policy Evaluation Council for designing a cross-state panel to measure economic performance.

2011, 2013 **Policy Adviser, MEXICO'S FEDERAL GOVERNMENT** Mexico City, MX

- Partnered with the IADB to design a national pension reform and unemployment insurance.
- Developed a Bayesian crime index to evaluate the impact of security policies in Mexico.
- Represented the Minister of Finance at the National Security Council and cabinet meetings.

2006-2007 **Deputy Director, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT** Mexico City, MX

- Reported best poverty-relief practices.
- Wrote an annual report on Children's Human Rights that was delivered to the United Nations.

2003-2005 **Research Assistant, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY** Mexico City, MX

- Assessed Mexico's political risks to allocate USAID's funding.
- Collected data and conducted field research in Oaxacan indigenous counties.

**Languages:** R, English (advanced), and Spanish (native).

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**Publications (selected)**

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**Books & chapters**

- *Así no es. Don't believe everything you hear about meritocracy, the middle class, classism, wages, and incomes* (with Raymundo Campos-Vázquez). Penguin Random House (2024) [in Spanish]
- *No es normal. The rigged game that fuels Mexican inequality and how to change it*. Penguin Random House (2023) [in Spanish].
- “A plan for eradicating poverty among working people in Mexico”, *¡Súbanle! Salario digno*. (2023) [in Spanish].
- *The Missing Reform: Strengthening Rule of Law in Mexico*. (ed. with Wood) Wilson Center Press (2018).

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**Policy reports**

- *ECLAC: Evolution of Mexico's business elite and its impact on income inequality* (2023).
- *Oxfam: The mining fund: a federal tax to reduce Mexico's inequality that lost its course* (2021).
- *UN Habitat: Overcrowded housing and COVID-19 mortality* (2021).
- *The World Bank: Developing proxies for poverty means testing in Haiti* (2016).
- *The Wilson Center: How innovation happens in Mexico. It should and could happen more* (2018).
- *México Cómo Vamos: Inequality; Informality; Reducing poverty in Mexico; Advancing local economies* (2015).

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**Peer-Reviewed**

- “Corporate interest on social welfare” (with Holland) *Comparative Political Studies* (2022).
- “Welfare fraud's enforcement” (with Headworth) *Law & Policy* (2021).
- “Human resource management as a tool to reduce corruption” (with Nieto) *Public Administration* (2020).
- “Cash transfers' effect on government support: the case of Fiji” (with Ivaschenko & Doyle) *Disasters* (2019).
- “Violence and forced migration” *Handbook of Latin American Politics* (2018).
- “Multicultural institutions, distributional politics & mobilization” *LATAM Pol. & Society* (with Eisenstadt) (2014).

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**Conferences (selected)**

- *Mexico's federal congressional hearing: Reducing the workday from 48 to 40 hours*. (2023) (Mexico City, MX)
- *Harvard University: How has Lopez Obrador Affected Mexico's Democracy?* (2023) (Cambridge, MA).
- *Wilson Center: AMLO's visit to the U.S.* (2022) (Washington, DC).
- *UCSD: Why Mexico is so unequal?* (2021) (San Diego, CA).
- *United Nations, Public Service Forum: Using data to reduce corruption* (2018) (Marrakech, Morocco).
- *The World Bank: Cash transfers' effect on government support: Evidence from Fiji* (2018) (Washington, DC).

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**Press**

- *El País: How did Mexico reduce economic inequality?* (2024).
- *America's Quarterly: The real reasons for AMLO's popularity* (2023).
- *The Harvard Review of Latin America: What's the middle class in Mexico?* (2022).
- *The New York Times: Women are fed up and the president doesn't get it* (2021).
- *The Intercept: Workers pinned between US business interests and obsessive austerity* (2020).
- *Kennedy School Review: Who started the Mexican drug war?* (Cover article; 2013).

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**TV and Radio:**

- National TV Talk Show; *La Hora de Opinar*, Political analyst (2018-2021).
- 103.3FM; *Anchorwomen* with Ruiz-Healy, (Mex; Weekly, 2 hrs., National Radio, 2014-2016).
- Bloomberg TV; *Regional economy analyst* (Mex; Weekly, 2014-2015).

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**Fellowships:** Young Global Leader, WEF 2020-2025, Wilson Center 2015-2017, Guggenheim 2014, Stanford 2012 (declined), Harvard Real Estate Inst. 2009, Harvard Kennedy School 2010, DR. Center. for Latin American Studies 2011, Weatherhead Center for Int. Affairs 2010, Inst. for Quantitative Soc. Sciences 2011, USD 2009, UCSD 2009-2010.

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**Scholarships:** International Women's Forum 2019-2022, Mexico's National Council of Science and Technology 2008-2013, Harvard University 2008-2013, Fulbright Scholar 2008 (declined).

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**Volunteer Experiences:** Admissions Committee to Harvard College (interviewer) 2013-today; Democracia Deliberada 2017-2018, Mexico's National Anti-Corruption System 2016-2019; Open Source Creation 2012; Harvard Mexican Association (campaign) 2012, (treasurer) 2008; United Nations Counter-Terrorism Office (intern) 2008; ITAM's Pol. Science Student Assoc. (coordinator) 2002, ITAM's Newspaper & Literary Mag. (editor) 2002.

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**Professional References:** Steve Levitsky (Harvard University; [levitsky@harvard.edu](mailto:levitsky@harvard.edu)); David Shirk (University of San Diego; [dshirk@sandiego.edu](mailto:dshirk@sandiego.edu)); Jan Martínez Ahrens (El País; [jahrens@elpais.es](mailto:jahrens@elpais.es)).