

October 2023

CESAR VILLEGAS

Wooten Hall 173A ◊ cesarvillegas@my.unt.edu
Department of Political Science ◊ University of North Texas
Wooten Hall ◊ Denton, Texas 76201

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Comparative Political Economy

EDUCATION

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg May 2020
M.A. in Political Science

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg May 2018
B.A. in Political Science (*Suma Cum Laude*)
Minor in Legal Studies Minor in Management

EXPERIENCE

UNT Political Science Department August 2023- December 2023
Teaching Assistant (PSCI 2315) Denton, TX

UNT Political Science Department (Dr. Valerie Martinez-Ebers) August 2022 - May 2023
Graduate Assistant Denton, TX

UNT Political Science Department (Dr. Regina Branton) January 2022 - May 2022
Graduate Research Assistant Denton, TX

UNT Political Science Department (Dr. Regina Branton) August 2021 - December 2021
Graduate Teaching Assistant Denton, TX

UNT Political Science Department (Dr. Phil Paolino) January 2021 - May 2021
Graduate Teaching Assistant Denton, TX

UNT Political Science Department (Dr. John Ishiyama) August 2020 - December 2020
Graduate Teaching Assistant Denton, TX

PUBLICATIONS

Kim, Dongkyu, Mi-son Kim, and Cesar Villegas, "*Organized Labor Strikes and Social Spending in Latin America: The Synchronizing Effect of Mass Protest,*" *Latin American Politics & Society*

There has been contesting theories and evidence about the relationship between democracy and social spending in Latin America. Analyzing the effects of protest on social spending, Tenorio (2014) recently shows that collective protest of organized labor increases social welfare spending while mass protests do not have a comparable effect on human capital spending in Latin American democracies. Democracy in this region does not work for the general public. We reexamine the analysis and demonstrate that the study suffers from the omitted variable bias problem. The positive effect of mass protests on human capital spending, for either public health or education, are to be observed by including variables about regime transition periods, the concurrent episodes of social protests, and different types of mass protests. With these variables, our analysis shows that the violent mass protest, riots, has a positive,

MASTER'S THESIS

Rights over Investment: Impact of Labor Rights on Foreign Investment in Latin America

The argument proposed in this paper then is that while labor rights increase production costs for multinational corporations, the literature does not consider how this cost would not deter foreign investment into Latin American countries. This analysis will contribute to the current debate by considering the impact of labor rights as a potential determinant of FDI. Using cross-sectional time-series data on both de jure and de facto Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining rights, along with FDI of Latin American countries, initial findings suggest that while labor rights may have no discernable short-term effect, long term it can increase Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America countries. The long-term impact on FDI from increased labor rights supports the argument that proximity to the United States and the activist who seek increased protections have a substantial positive impact on FDI in Latin American countries.

PRESENTATIONS

- Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)** January 2022
Co-presenter
"Organized Labor Strikes and Social Spending in Latin America: The Synchronizing Effect of Mass Protest,"
- Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)** January 2019
Co-presenter
"Global Production and Labor Rights in Developing Countries"
- Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA)** April 2019
Co-presenter
"Global Production and Labor Rights in Developing Countries"

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Crossing Latinidades Summer Institute** June 2023
UIC Political Science Department Chicago, IL
- Kuehne Fellowship** August 2020-
UNT Political Science Department Denton, TX
- Voertman Fellowship** August 2020-
UNT Political Science Department Denton, TX

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Languages	Spanish and English fluency (verbal and written)
Statistical Software	SPSS, SATA
Document Preparation	Microsoft Office, L ^A T _E X

REFERENCES

- Dr. Glen Biglaiser** Glen.Biglaiser@unt.edu
Committee Chair
- Dr. John Ishiyama** John.Ishiyama@unt.edu
Committee Member

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Dr. Dongkyu Kim

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