YANILDA MARIA GONZÁLEZ

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Ford Foundation Associate Professor of Public Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (2026-present)

Ford Foundation Assistant Professor of Public Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (2020-2026)

Assistant Professor, School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago (2016-2020)

Democracy Postdoctoral Fellow, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (2014-2016)

EDUCATION

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
Ph.D., Politics and Social Policy (2014)
M.A., Politics (2011)

New York University, New York, NY
B.A., Politics and Latin American Studies, 2005
Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Authoritarian Police in Democracy: Contested Security in Latin America, 2021, Cambridge University Press

- Gregory Luebbert Prize for Best Book in Comparative Politics, American Political Science Association (2022)
- Donna Lee Van Cott Award for Best Book on Latin American Politics and Institutions, Latin American Studies Association (2022)
- Reviewed in *Perspectives on Politics*, *American Journal of Sociology, Democratization, Latin American Research Review, Bulletin of Latin American Research, Theoretical Criminology*, *Policing*, *Global Americans*, *ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America*, *Espacio Abierto* (Venezuela), *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*
- Featured in *The New York Times*' *The Interpreter*, "Summer Reading", June 1, 2022
- Featured in "Author Exchange" in *APSA Democracy and Autocracy Section Newsletter*

Peer-reviewed articles

[8] "Contesting Repression in Divided Democracies: Can Counternarratives Reduce Support for Police Violence?" (with Natán Skigin) *Forthcoming at American Journal of Political Science*

[7] "Who Governs Policing? Mayors' Strategic Linkages to Police in Latin American Cities" (with Jessica Zarkin). 2025. *Comparative Political Studies* 58(7): 1389-1427.

[6] "Policing, Democratic Participation, and Reproduction of Asymmetric Citizenship." 2023. *American Political Science Review* 117(1): 263-279. (with Lindsay Mayka)

[5] "Reforming to Avoid Reform: Strategic Policy Substitution and the Reform Gap in Policing." 2023. *Perspectives on Politics* 21(1): 59-77.

[4] "Participation as a Safety Valve: Police Reform Through Participatory Security in Latin America." 2019. *Latin American Politics and Society* 61(2): 68-92.

[3] "The Social Origins of Institutional Weakness and Change: Preferences, Power, and Police Reform." 2019. *World Politics* 71(1): 44-87.

[2] "'What citizens can see of the state': Police and the construction of democratic citizenship in Latin America." 2017. *Theoretical Criminology* 21(3): 494-511.

[1] "Varieties of Participatory Security: Assessing Community Participation in Policing in Latin America." 2016. *Public Administration and Development*, 36: 132- 143.

Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

[3] *Vozes da dor, da luta e da Resistência das Mulheres/Mães de Vítimas da Violência de Estado no Brasil, Relatório Final*[Voices of Pain, Struggle and Resistance of Mothers of Victims of State Violence in Brazil, Final Report]. July 2024. Federal University of São Paulo. (with Débora Maria da Silva, Raiane Assumpção, Edna Carla Souza Cavalcante, Nivia Raposo, Rute Fiuza, Aline Rocco and Valéria Oliveira) [Available in Portuguese: https://tinyurl.com/VozesBrasil]

[2] "Beyond the Ballot Box: A Conversation About Democracy and Policing in the United States." 2023. *Annual Review of Political Science* 26(1): 1-32. (with Hakeem Jefferson, José Luis Gandara, Cathy J. Cohen, Rebecca U. Thorpe, and Vesla M. Weaver)

[1] "The Swinging Pendulum of Police Reform in the Americas." 2019. *Current History* 118 (811): 291-297.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Book manuscripts

Rebuilding Citizenship After State Violence (Manuscript in preparation; anticipated submission date: Summer 2026)

Knowledge from the Frontlines: Participatory Approaches to the Study of Violence (Edited volume in preparation, co-edited with Anjuli Fahlberg)

Under review

[2] "Rebuilding Citizenship After State Violence: How Perpetrator and Victims' Identities Shape Mobilization", Revise and Resubmit at *Comparative Politics*

[1] "Administrative Justice: Policy Design for the Inclusion of Marginalized Groups" (with Angela García and Marci Ybarra), under review at *Law & Society Review*

Manuscripts in progress

[5] Political Violence as a Vocation: How Politicians Shape Citizens' Demand for Repression (with Natán Skigin)

[4] "Politics Under Fire: Threats and Violence Against Women in Politics" (with Justin de Benedictis-Kessner)

[3] "Unpacking Victimization: How Victims' Proximity to Violence and Perpetrator Type Shape Civic Engagement" (with Natán Skigin)

[2] "Enforcement, Citizenship Status, and the Construction of Identity in Dominican Republic" (with Danielle Clealand)

[1] "In Our Own Voices: Participatory Methods, Emotional Sensibility, and the Study of State Violence" (with Débora Maria da Silva, Raiane Assumpção, Edna Carla Souza Cavalcante, Nivia Raposo, Rute Fiuza, Aline Rocco and Valéria Oliveira)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Awards

2024 Fray Antón de Montesinos Award, Nacional Commission for Human Rights -Dominican Republic
2022 Gregory Luebbert Prize for Best Book in Comparative Politics, American Political Science Association

2022 Donna Lee Van Cott Award for Best Book on Latin American Politics and Institutions, Latin American Studies Association
2022 Clarence Stone Scholar Award, American Political Science Association
2017 William Pollak Award for Excellence in Teaching, School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago
2005 Sherborne Vernon Damerel Memorial Award, College of Arts and Science, New York University

Grants

2024 Bloomberg Center for Cities, Harvard University, "Politics Under Fire: Threats and Violence Against Women Mayors" (with Justin de Benedictis-Kessner). $50,000
2024 Bloomberg Center for Cities, Harvard University, "Resilient Citizenships: Community responses to police violence." $50,000
2023 National Science Foundation RAPID Grant (with Danielle Clealand). $50,000
2021 Sawyer Seminar Grant, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (with Alejandro de la Fuente)
2020 Russell Sage Foundation, Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Program Grant (with Angela García and Marci Ybarra). $34,736
2020 University of Chicago Big Ideas Generator Seed Grant (with Angela García and Marci Ybarra). $40,000
2020 University of Chicago Women's Board COVID-19 Response Grant (with Angela García and Marci Ybarra). $25,000
2020 University of Michigan Poverty Solutions Midwest Mobility from Poverty Network Grant (with Angela García and Marci Ybarra). $25,000
2018 Chicago Community Trust, Responsive Grant (with Angela García and Marci Ybarra). $60,000
2018 Center for Health Administration Studies, Seed Grant, University of Chicago (with Angela García and Marci Ybarra). $25,000
2018 Pozen Family Center for Human Rights, Faulty Research Project Award, University of Chicago (with Angela García and Marci Ybarra). $19,000
2017 Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society Collaborative Research Grant, University of Chicago (with Jessica Baker and Adom Getachew). $25,000

Fellowships

2014-2016 Democracy Postdoctoral Fellow, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
2011 Drugs, Security, and Democracy Dissertation Fellowship, Social Science Re- search Council and Open Society Foundations
2006 Fulbright Fellow. Buenos Aires, Argentina 2006

POLICY ENGAGEMENT

Co-author of Submission to the UN Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

- "The Right to Reparations of Families of Victims of State Violence." Input to the Draft UN Declaration on the Promotion and Full Respect of the Human Rights of People of African Descent (with Aline Lúcia de Rocco Gomes, Andréa Arruda Paula, Cristiane Uchôa Pinheiro, Danielle Braga, Débora Maria da Silva, Enedina do Amparo Alves, Isabela Olivieri Lopes, Raiane Patrícia S. Assumpção, Roberta Marina dos Santos, Valéria Aparecida De Oliveira Silva).

Contributor to Policy Brief on specialized units for comprehensive support for victims of state violence in São Paulo, Brazil (2022)

- "Contribuições para Implantação dos Núcleos Especializados de Atendimento Integral às Vítimas de Violência Estatal: Nota Técnica." Center for Forensic Anthropology and Archeology, Federal University of São Paulo (with Aline Lúcia de Rocco Gomes, Andréa Arruda Paula, Cristiane Uchôa Pinheiro, Danielle Braga, Débora Maria da Silva, Enedina do Amparo Alves, Isabela Olivieri Lopes, Raiane Patrícia S. Assumpção, Roberta Marina dos Santos, Valéria Aparecida De Oliveira Silva).

Member, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Ad hoc Committee on Evidence to Advance Reform in the Global Security and Justice Sectors (2021-2022).

- Contributor to five Consensus Study Reports: *Police Training to Promote the Rule of Law and Protect the Population*, *Policies and Practices to Minimize Police Use of Force Internationally*, *Policing to Promote the Rule of Law and Protect the Population: An Evidence-Based Approach*, *Developing Police Practices that Build Legitimacy*, *Police Strategies to Control High-Level Corruption: A Global Perspective*

Co-author of policy brief on Chicago's CityKey municipal ID program

- García, Angela, Yanilda González, Marci Ybarra, with Frania Mendoza Lua and Yuan Lin. "The CityKey Enrollee Survey: One-Year Results." Submitted to the Office of the City Clerk, City of Chicago
    - Cited in support of Illinois SB2460 (2021), which allows municipal ID as an accepted form of identification to access state benefits and facilities

Policy Briefings/Talks

- Presentation at "Mães por Direitos" [Mothers for Rights] workshop at Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Brazil (July 2025)
- Presentation on "Reconstructing citizenship after state violence: Anti-racist public policies in practice" for 100 Brazilian public servants participants in the course "Public Policies in Brazil- Certificate in Afro-Latin American Studies" (May 2025)
- Presentation of survey findings, "The impact on mothers' narratives against police violence" to Brazilian social movement leaders, São Paulo, Brazil (May 2025)
- Presentation of participatory-action research project "Voices of Pain, Struggle, and Resistance of Mothers of Victims of State Violence in Brazil," Ministério dos Direitos Humanos (Brazilian Ministry of Human Rights) (August 2023)
- Boston City Hall Lunch & Learn Series (April 2023)

- Book Presentation to the Colombian National Police's "Hablemos de policía" series (July 2021)
- Escola do Parlamento, Câmara Municipal de São Paulo [São Paulo City Council] (June 2021)
- "Retos y perspectivas de una reforma policial," Public hearing organized by Senador Iván Cepeda, Colombia (July 2021)
- "Letalidade policial no Estado do Rio de Janeiro," Public hearing, Brazilian Supreme Court (April 2021)
- "Seletividade do sistema: Da abordagem à condenação," Associação Brasileira dos Magistrados [Brazilian Judges Association] (December 2020)
- "Critical Conversations: Policing, Democracy, and the Rule of Law," Stanford University (November 2020)
- Chicago Office of the Inspector General, Public Safety Division (September 2019)
- Crucial Conversations Series, NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board (December 2018)
- "Why Police Reform Often Fails," University Institute of the Argentine Federal Police, Buenos Aires, Argentina (August 2017)

INVITED TALKS

- 2025: Comparative Politics Workshop; University of Southern California
- 2024: Center for Africana Studies Speaker Series, Johns Hopkins University; Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Program Speaker Series, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2023: Center for Philosophy, Politics and Economics Workshop, Brown University; Political Violence and its Legacies Workshop, Yale University; Fundação Getúlio Vargas Law School, São Paulo, Brazil; Comparative Politics seminar, Columbia University; "Policing the World" Conference, University of Chicago;
- 2022: Development Seminar, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Brown University; Kellogg Institute Seminar, University of Notre Dame; Book talk, Boston University
- 2021: "Democracia y Transformación Integral de la Policía Nacional," Universidad Javeriana, Colombia; "Cafecito sereno" seminar series, Programa de Seguridad Ciudadana, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico; Militarization and Police Brutality in Latin America, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Notre Dame; "Clase Abierta", Universidad Nacional de Colombia-Sede Medellín; Political Science Workshop (PSAC), Cornell University; "Democracy in Latin America: Discrimination and Police Violence," University of Victoria, Canada; "Destructive and Generative Ruptures in Latin America and the Caribbean" Conference, University of Maryland; "Formación política y Fuerzas Armadas en Colombia," Cátedra Nacional Sentidos plurales de la paz, Universidad Nacional de Colombia; Book talk, Justice Collaboratory, Yale University; Hunt Lecture, Colby College; "Police Violence in Comparative Perspective," Afro-Americas in Dialogue Series, Columbia University;
- 2020: "Foro Nueva Constitución y Derechos Humanos," Universidad de Chile; "Protesta Social en Colombia: Democratizar la Policía," Universidad de los Andes, Colombia; "The

Paradox of the Rational Use of Police Force," Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia; "Race and Police Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean," Marxe Global Insights, Baruch College, CUNY; Political Science Department Colloquium Series, Florida International University

- 2019: American Bar Foundation Research Seminar; Latin America Workshop, Northwestern University;
- 2018: Urban Inequality Workshop, Boston University; Societies Under Stress Workshop: Investigating the Relationship between Welfare and Penal Policies, The Ohio State University

TEACHING

Harvard Kennedy School

DPI-200	Politics and Ethics in Unstable Times (Spring 2022, 2023, 2024)
SUP-710	Policing, Citizenship and Inequality in Comparative Perspective (Spring 2022, 2023)

School of Social Service Administration (now Crown Family School), University of Chicago

SSA 478	Human Rights Policy and Practice (Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2019)
SSA 619	Policing, Citizenship and Inequality in Comparative Perspective (Fall 2016, Winter 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019)
SSA 300 (Winter)	Social Intervention: Policies and Programs II (2017)
SSA 300 (Fall)	Social Intervention: Policies and Programs I (2016, 2018)

STUDENT ADVISING AND MENTORING

Doctoral student advisees/dissertation committees
Melissa Severino, HKS Public Policy
Francesca Arruda Amaral, HKS Public Policy
Jessica Van Meir, HKS Public Policy
Santiago Virgüez, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Celina Doria (University of Chicago, assistant professor at University of Wisconsin-Madison)
Anne Ruelle (University of Chicago)

HKS PAE Advisees

2024-2025	Mariana Canet
2023-2024	Jeremy Giles; Diksha Kataria
2022-2023	Justine Baillart
2021-2022	Valerie Moreyra and Mayra Hoyos; Isabella Rozzino; Isabel Mejía Fontanot
2020-2021	Gabriel Parra, Andrea Neyra, and Alfredo Graffe; Alexis Alvarez Franco and Mayumi Cornejo

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2023-2024	Junior International Relations Faculty Search Committee, HKS
2023-2024	Junior Summer Institute/PPIA selection committee, HKS
2023-2024	Junior Afro-Latin American Studies Faculty Search Committee, AAAS/FAS
2022-2023	Junior Afro-Latin American Studies Faculty Search Committee, AAAS/FAS
2022-2023	Candid and Constructive Conversations Working Group Member, HKS
2021-	HKS Carr-Ryan Center for Human Rights Faculty Committee

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2024-2025	Qualitative and Multi-Method Research Section EC, APSA
2022-2023	Luebbert Book Award Committee, APSA
2022-2023	Donna Lee Van Cott Book Award Committee, LASA

Peer Reviewer for Academic Journals

American Political Science Review, Bulletin of Latin American Research, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Current Sociology, Ethnography, Governance, International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Latin American Studies, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, Journal of Race, Ethnicity and Politics, Latin American Politics and Society, Latin American Research Review, Law and Society Review, Memory Studies, Perspectives on Politics, Policing & Society, Security Dialogue, Social Service Review, Theoretical Criminology, World Development, World Politics