

Dr. César Estrada
CV
estrada.csr@gmail.com

César Estrada is a public servant and conflict analysis scholar specialized in the study of criminal violence and the design of violence prevention and peacebuilding practices. With a disciplinary training in international relations, political science, development studies and sociology of violence, Dr. Estrada has experience in academic research and government practice on the analysis of criminal conflicts and the implementation of public policies in Mexico.

CURRENT POSITIONS

- 01/2022–present **Director of Operations and Monitoring**
Responsible of criminal analysis reports, and the design and implementation of violence prevention and peacebuilding policies.
Unit of Policies and Strategies for Peacebuilding
Mexico’s Secretariat for Security and Civilian Protection (SSPC)
- 01/2021–present **Adjunct Lecturer**
Undergraduate program of International Relations
Department of Sociopolitical and Legal Studies
**Western Institute of Technology and Higher Education (ITESO),
Guadalajara, Mexico**

EDUCATION

- 2020 **Ph.D. Conflict Analysis and Resolution**
Dissertation: *Genocidal Mexico: The Unfolding of Mass Violence, Radical Categorization, and the Narratives of the “War on Drugs”*
The Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution
George Mason University, Arlington, VA. USA
- 2014 **M.S. International Cooperation for Development**
Instituto Mora. Mexico City, Mexico
- 2012 **B.A. International Relations**
El Colegio de San Luis, Mexico

EXPERIENCE

- 08/2021–12/2021 **Visiting Research Fellow**
Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies & Kellogg Institute for International Studies
Keough School of Global Affairs
University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA

02/2021–08/2021 **Director of Operations and Monitoring**
Unit of Policies and Strategies for Peacebuilding
Mexico's Secretariat for Security and Civilian Protection (SSPC)

During my tenure, I was in charge of overseeing and coordinating efforts of the local boards for peace and security in at least nine states and over fifty regions in the center and northwest of the country. Among other tasks, I participated in the elaboration of reports and special projects for the National Security Cabinet.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023 (fall) **Adjunct Lecturer**
International Problems (undergraduate program of International Relations)
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)

2023 (summer) **Adjunct Lecturer**
International Problems (undergraduate program of International Relations)
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)

2023 (spring) **Adjunct Lecturer**
International Problems (undergraduate program of International Relations)
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)

2022 (fall) **Adjunct Lecturer**
International Problems (undergraduate program of International Relations)
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)

2022 (spring) **Adjunct Lecturer**
International Problems (undergraduate program of International Relations)
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)

2021 (fall) **Adjunct Lecturer**
International Problems (undergraduate program of International Relations)
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)

2021 (spring) **Adjunct Lecturer**
International Problems (undergraduate program of International Relations)
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)

2020 (summer) **Graduate Lecturer**
Human Rights and Inequality (undergraduate/graduate course) Main Instructor: Dr. Dan Jacob
Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution
George Mason University

2019 (fall) **Lecturer.**
Critical Approaches to Violence in Mexico (undergraduate course)
El Colegio de San Luis, Mexico

2019 (spring) **Graduate Lecturer**
Culture, Identity, and Conflict (Peacebuilding Fellows Program)
Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution

- 2018 (fall) **George Mason University**
Graduate Lecturer
Simulation in Global Conflict Resolution (undergraduate course)
Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution
George Mason University
- 2018 (fall) **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Culture, Identity, and Conflict (undergraduate course), with Prof. Karina Korostelina
Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution
George Mason University
- 2016 (summer) **Lecturer.**
Narratives on Violence in Mexico (undergraduate seminar)
El Colegio de San Luis, Mexico

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERINCE

- 2019-2020 **Graduate Research Fellow.**
The Raphaël Lemkin Genocide Prevention Program (GMU)
- 2013-2014 **Internship on Gender, Child Migration, and Human Trafficking.**
 International Organization for Migrations (**IOM**)
 Mexico City
- 2013 (summer) **Research Assistantship on Human Trafficking.**
 Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (**FLACSO**)
 Mexico City
- 2010 (winter) **Research Assistantship on Political Violence.**
Autonomous University of Madrid,
 Madrid, Spain

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Published:

Estrada, César (2012). “La Iniciativa Mérida y el combate al narcotráfico: Cooperación bajo concepciones inadecuadas” (“The Merida Initiative and combating drug trafficking: Cooperation under inadequate conceptions”), in *Revista de El Colegio de San Luis, Nueva época*, year II, no. 3, January-June, pp. 266-279.

Under review:

Estrada, César “Violencia Genocida durante los Conflictos Criminales: Lecciones desde México” [*Genocidal Violence during Criminal Conflicts: Lessons from Mexico*]. Under consideration by *Espiral Estudios sobre Estado y sociedad* (eISSN: 2594-021X) [Submitted on April 6th, 2023].

Work in Progress:

Estrada, César. “Dynamics of and responses to criminal violence in San Luis Potosí, 2018-2023” (*Dinámicas y respuestas a la violencia criminal en San Luis Potosí 2018-2023*) [to be submitted as a chapter in the book *Violence in Northern Mexico*, edited by Universidad Iberoamericana].

Estrada, César. “Narrativas de paz en contextos de la guerra contra las drogas: Lecciones de la ‘Paz con justicia y bienestar’ en México y la ‘Paz Total’ en Colombia” [paper will be submitted to *Revista de Ciencia Política*].

Estrada, César. “Organized crime, securitization policies and dehumanizing narratives in Central Mexico: A study of extreme violence in the state of Guanajuato” [paper will be submitted to *Global Crime*].

Book Project: *Genocidal Violence in the War on Drugs: The construction of the killable and the struggles for peace in Mexico*

I am working on a book-length manuscript, largely based on the research I conducted for my doctoral dissertation, as a critical examination of the crisis of violence in contemporary Mexico seen through the analytical perspective of genocide studies.

OPINION ARTICLES

Estrada, César (September 10, 2020). “Fosas clandestinas y re-narrar el horror en México”, in *A dónde van los desaparecidos*. [See here](#).

Estrada, César (January 26, 2015). “A 70 años de Auschwitz. Nunca más con nadie”, in *La Silla Rota*.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

2022 C. Estrada, A. Vázquez, E. Prado, M. del Valle & S. Meza "Construyendo la Paz: de lo individual a lo colectivo" ["Building Peace: from the individual to the collective"], *Jornada por la Paz con Justicia en México*, ITESO, Guadalajara, México (August, 2022)

2019 C. Estrada. “The Narrative Logics of Mass Violence: A case study in central Mexico”. *Latin American Studies Association*. Boston, USA (May 2019)

2019 C. Estrada. “Narratives of Mass Violence: Widespread Killings, Militarization, and Social Fear in Central Mexico”. *International Studies Association*. 60th Annual Convention. Toronto, CA (March 2019). (Panel co-organizer)

2018 C. Estrada. “Killable Youth in Contemporary Systems of Mass Violence”. *Law & Society Association 2018 Annual Meeting*. Toronto, CA (June 2018)

2018 C. Estrada. “Disappearances and Clandestine Graves in Mexico”. *International Studies Association*, 59th Annual Convention. San Francisco, California. (April 2018)

2017 C. Estrada “Narrativas sobre la Violencia: Un análisis del potencial de las narrativas sobre el sufrimiento humano para deslegitimar la violencia masiva en México (2010-2016)”. 4th Latinamerican and Caribbean Congress of Social Sciences, FLACSO. Salamanca, Spain. (July 2017)

- 2017 C. Estrada “Narratives amidst Mass Violence in Mexico: Collective judgments in the aftermath of atrocities”. *Law & Society Association*, 2017 Annual Meeting. Mexico City (June 2017)
- 2013 C. Estrada “International Responses on Human Trafficking: the need for a multidimensional approach in Mexico”. *Mexican Association of International Studies (AMEI)* 27th Annual Meeting. Oaxaca, Mexico (October 2013)

SPEAKER AND LEADING INSTRUCTOR IN WORKSHOPS

- 2021 In February, April, and June I led the workshop called “The Unit for Policies and Strategies for Peacebuilding with States and Regions” during the 8th, 9th, and 10th editions of the Course on Intelligence for Public and Citizen Security, taught to security and intelligence agents at the School of Intelligence for National Security, National Intelligence Center (CNI), Mexico’s Government.
- 02/2020 Instructor during the Certificate Course at El Colegio de San Luis, Mexico, “Violence, Insecurity, and Public Discourse in Mexico”, for undergraduate and graduate students, and public servants.

SCHOLARSHIPS & RESEARCH GRANTS

Research Grants and Scholarships:

- 2020 George Mason University Dissertation Completion Grant (spring)
- 2018 George Mason University Summer Research Fellowship. Dissertation Research (summer)
- 2017 GMU School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution Faculty Scholarship Award (fall)
- 2015 Four-year Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACyT) Doctoral Fellowship
- 2012 Two-year Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACyT) Graduate Fellowship

Travel Grants:

- 2019 GMU School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution. Travel Grant. International Studies Association 60th Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada
- 2018 Holodomor Research and Education Consortium. Travel Grant. Genocide in the Twentieth-Century History Conference, University of Alberta Toronto, Canada
- 2018 GMU Graduate Student Travel Fund. Travel Grant. Law and Society Association Annual Meeting Toronto, Canada
- 2017 GMU Graduate Student Travel Fund. FLACSO 4th Latin American and Caribbean Congress of Social Sciences. Travel Grant. University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain
- 2010 El Colegio de San Luis. Research Assistantship and Mobility Grant. Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain

MEDIA APPEARANCE

- 2020 “Violencia y Discurso Político en México.” *Mundo de Negocios* magazine, March/April 2020. SLP. Mexico (April)

2019 “Violencia en México y transición política.” *EntreVoces*, Radio Program of El Colegio de San Luis (September)

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERINCE

2013-2014 Internship on Gender, Child Migration, and Human Trafficking. International Organization for Migrations (IOM), Mexico City
2013 Research Assistantship on Human Trafficking. Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), Mexico City (summer)
2010 Research Assistantship on Political Violence. Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain (winter)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal Reviewer

Narrative & Conflict: Explorations in Theory and Practice

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Studies
Association (ISA) Law and
Society Association (LSA)
Latin American Studies Association (LASA)

LANGUAGES

Spanish: Native speaker; English: Fluent (speaking, reading, writing); French: Reading

REFERENCES

Dr. Sara Cobb
Professor^[SEP]
Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution
George Mason University
Vernon Smith Hall, 5078^[SEP]
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Arlington, VA 22201^[SEP]+1 (703)-993-4452
scobb@gmu.edu
Dr. Douglas Irvin-Erickson
Assistant Professor
Director, Raphaël Lemkin Genocide Prevention Program
Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution
George Mason University
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Arlington, VA 22201^[SEP]+1 (703) 993-4437
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Dr. Froylán Enciso Higuera
Head of the Unit of Policies and Strategies for Peacebuilding
Secretariat of Security and Civilian Protection
Government of Mexico
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