

# Adam Ratzlaff

11200 SW 8th Street, SIPA 213  
Miami, FL 33199

(505)429-3663  
[aratzlaf@gmail.com](mailto:aratzlaf@gmail.com)

---

---

**Last Updated: October 26, 2023**

## Education

- Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University** Aug. 2017-  
Present  
*Ph.D. Candidate (ABD) in International Relations*  
Fields of Study: Global Institutions and Issues & Foreign Policy and Security Studies  
Dissertation: *The Organization of American States & 20 Years of Contested Democratic Norms in the Americas* (anticipated defense 2024)  
*Graduate Certificate in Latin American and Caribbean Studies*  
Miami, FL
- Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver** Sept. 2015-  
June 2017  
*M.A. in International Studies*  
Field: International Politics  
Concentrations: Latin America, Democratization, and Quantitative Methods  
Sié Fellow- Full Tuition Scholarship and Leadership Development Program  
Denver, CO
- Tulane University** Aug. 2009-  
May 2013  
*B.A. in International Relations, Economics and Latin American Studies*  
Triple major  
New Orleans, LA
- Rotary Foreign Exchange Student** Aug. 2008-  
July 2009  
Minas Gerais, Brazil
- 

## Teaching Experience

**Florida International University, Department of Politics and International Relations**  
*Instructor of Record* | Miami, FL

- Courses taught:
  - INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations (Spring 2020)
  - INR 3081: Contemporary International Problems- Online (Summer 2022)
  - INR 3703: International Political Economy (Fall 2019, Spring 2022)

**Florida International University, Department of Politics and International Relations**  
*Teaching Assistant* | Miami, FL

- Courses assisted:
  - INR 3102: American Foreign Policy, Professor Thomas Breslin (Spring 2019)
  - INR 3102: American Foreign Policy, Professor Alexander Barder (Fall 2018)
  - INR 4013: Development of International Relations Thought, Professor Alexander Barder (Fall 2018)
  - INR 4707: Political Economy of China, Professor Jin “Julie” Zeng (Summer 2018, Summer 2019)
  - INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations, Professor Naisy Sarduy (Fall 2017, Spring 2018)

**Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver**  
*Teaching Assistant* | Denver, CO

- Courses assisted:
    - INTS 4700: U.S. Foreign Policy, Professor Thomas J. Farer (Fall 2016)
- 

## Publications and Research

### Peer-Reviewed Academic Journal Articles

Ratzlaff, Adam. 2023. “Birds of a Feather?: Lessons on U.S. Cultural Diplomacy from Walt Disney during the Good Neighbor Policy.” *International Journal of Cultural Policy*, vol. 29 (4): pp. 415-430.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10286632.2022.2078317>.

## Book Chapters

Aranda, Rodrigo and Adam Ratzlaff. 2018. "Analyzing the Impact of Fiscal Policy on Ethno-Racial Inequality." In Lustig, Nora, ed. 2018. *Commitment to Equity Handbook: A Guide to Estimating the Impact of Fiscal Policy on Inequality and Poverty*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press and Tulane University: pp. 447-474. Free version available at: <http://commitmenttoequity.org/publications-ceq-handbook>.

\* Republished in 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (2023).

Ratzlaff, Adam. 2017. "Illiberal Democracies and Constitutional Coups?: The Shifting Nature of Democratic Erosion in Latin America and the Need for New OAS Response Mechanisms." In Hyles, Joshua, ed. 2017. *Inter-American Relations— Past, Present, and Future Trends*. United Kingdom: Cambridge Scholars Publishing: pp. 29-54.

## Reports

Ratzlaff, Adam. 2023. *Challenges and Opportunities for Regional Organizations in Addressing the Venezuela Crisis and Beyond*. Washington, DC: Global Americans. Available at: <https://theglobalamericans.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Challenges-and-Opportunities-for-Regional-Organizations.pdf>.

Ratzlaff, Adam. 2022. *IX Summit of the Americas*. Washington, DC: Diplomatic Courier. Available at: <https://www.diplomaticcourier.com/issue/ix-summit-of-the-americas>.

Lustig, Nora, Judith Morrison, and Adam Ratzlaff. 2019. *Splitting the Bill: Taxing and Spending to Close Ethnic and Racial Gaps in Latin America*. Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank. Available at: <https://publications.iadb.org/handle/11319/9318?locale-attribute=en>. (Also Available in Spanish).

Florida International University and the Global Americans. 2018. *South America by 2030: Political, Economic and Security Outlook*. Miami, FL: Florida International University. Available at: [https://theglobalamericans.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/DOD\\_South-America\\_FINAL.pdf](https://theglobalamericans.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/DOD_South-America_FINAL.pdf).

Florida International University and the Global Americans. 2018. *Central America 2030: Political, Economic and Security Outlook*. Miami, FL: Florida International University. Available at: [https://theglobalamericans.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/DOD\\_Central-America.pdf](https://theglobalamericans.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/DOD_Central-America.pdf).

Florida International University and the Global Americans. 2018. *The Caribbean Basin 2030: Political, Economic and Security Outlook*. Miami, FL: Florida International University. Available at: [https://theglobalamericans.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/DOD\\_Caribbean.pdf](https://theglobalamericans.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/DOD_Caribbean.pdf).

World Bank. 2015. *Poverty and Shared Prosperity in Brazil's Metropolitan Regions: Taking Stock and Identifying Priorities*. Washington, DC: World Bank. Available at: <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/22316>.

World Bank. 2014. "Social Gains in the Balance: A Fiscal Policy Challenge for Latin America and the Caribbean." *Poverty and Labor Brief*. Washington, DC: World Bank. Available at: <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2014/02/19567116/social-gains-balance-fiscal-policy-challenge-latin-america-caribbean>. (Also available in Spanish).

## Student Journals

Ratzlaff, Adam. 2018. "Unlocking Potential: Affirmative Action Policies and Pitfalls in India and Brazil." *Paterson Review of International Affairs*, vol. 17: pp. 23-44. Available at: <https://carleton.ca/npsia/wp-content/uploads/PRIA-2018.pdf>.

Ratzlaff, Adam and Jennifer Zavala. 2017. "Building Bridges and Burning Ties: Potential Futures of Chinese Foreign Aid, Government-Sponsored Investment Activity and Inter-Governmental Loans in Latin America." *Journal of International Policy Solutions*, vol. 19: pp. 26-37. Available at: [https://media.wix.com/ugd/34a50a\\_8aaa42a6f38c446db69c3449af19a6ae.pdf](https://media.wix.com/ugd/34a50a_8aaa42a6f38c446db69c3449af19a6ae.pdf).

Ratzlaff, Adam. 2014. "Good Neighbors and the Second World War: A Strategic Analysis of US-Brazilian Relations on the Eve of World War II." *Hemispheres: The Tufts University Journal of International Affairs* vol. 37: pp 55-74. Available at: [http://tuftshemispheres.files.wordpress.com/2014/04/241071-hemispheres\\_vol37\\_2014.pdf](http://tuftshemispheres.files.wordpress.com/2014/04/241071-hemispheres_vol37_2014.pdf).

## Policy Briefs and Technical Notes

Salzburg Global Seminar. 2022. *Currents of Change: Redefining Cultural Diplomacy for the Future We Need*. Salzburg, Austria: Salzburg Global Seminar. Available at: [https://www.salzburgglobal.org/multi-year-series/culture/pageId/10088#tab\\_2](https://www.salzburgglobal.org/multi-year-series/culture/pageId/10088#tab_2).

Martinez-Aguilar, Sandra, Adam Ratzlaff, Maynor Cabrera, Cristina Carrera and Sean Higgins. 2018. "Checking Protocol." Online-Companion to Lustig, Nora, ed. 2018. *Commitment to Equity Handbook: A Guide to Estimating the Impact of Fiscal Policy on Inequality and Poverty*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press and Tulane University. Available at: <http://commitmenttoequity.org/publications-ceq-handbook>.

Morrison, Judith, Adam Ratzlaff, Marco Rojas, Miguel Jaramillo, Cesar Lins, and Maria Olga Peña. 2017. *Counting Ethnicity and Race: Harmonizing Race and Ethnicity Data in Latin America (2000-2016)*. Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank. Available at: <https://publications.iadb.org/bitstream/handle/11319/8718/Counting-Ethnicity-and-Race-Harmonizing-Race-and-Ethnicity-Data-in-Latin-America-2000-2016.pdf?sequence=3>.

Inter-American Development Bank. 2015. "Policy Recommendations for Improving Afro-Brazilian Representation and Retention in the Public Service." Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank. Available at: <https://www.iadb.org/en/gdi>.

Inter-American Development Bank. 2014. "Counting Bolivia's Indigenous Peoples." Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank. Also available in Spanish. Available at: <https://www.iadb.org/en/gdi>.

Inter-American Development Bank. 2014. "Counting Chile's Indigenous Peoples." Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank. Also available in Spanish. Available at: <https://www.iadb.org/en/gdi>.

## Conference Presentations

*A Culture of Inter-American Institutionalism: Forum Shopping and Institution Formation in the Americas*. International Studies Association (ISA) National Convention. Panel: International Organizations, Regime Complexity and Interorganizational Relations II. March, 2022.

*The Once and Future of the Americas?: Comparing the Pan-American Conferences and the Summits of the Americas*. Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS). Panel: The Inter-American System. March, 2022.

*Towards a New Analytic Framework for U.S.-Latin American Foreign Policy*. 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the Americas, University of Georgia. Panel: Regional Politics and Foreign Policy. February, 2021.

*Norm Perversion and Weaponization: The Organization of American States and the Contestation of Democratic Norms in the Americas*. Southeastern Council on Latin American Studies. Panel: Perspectives on U.S.-Latin American Relations. March, 2020.

*When Pawns Remain Pawns: The 'Country of the Future' and Overextension*. 2019 ISSS-IS Joint Annual Conference. Panel: When Pawns Become Queens. October, 2019

\* Served as Co-Chair for Panel.

*Stillborn Conferences and the Western Hemisphere Idea: Comparing U.S. Attempts at Forging Pan-American Cooperation in 1889 and 1994*. CLAS Tri-University Graduate Student Conference on Latin American Studies. Panel: Politics and Society. March, 2019.

*Birds of a Feather?: Lessons on U.S. Cultural Diplomacy from Walt Disney during the Good Neighbor Policy*. Florida Political Science Association Conference. Panel: Foreign and Security Policies. March, 2019.

*Supporters or Satisfiers: Socio-Economic Class Divisions and Perspectives on Democracy in Latin America*. Florida Political Science Association Conference. Panel: Democracy and Political Instability. March, 2019.

*The Obama Administration's Cuban Policy Shift: A Levels-of-Analysis Assessment of the U.S.-Cuban Détente*. Twelfth Conference on Cuban and Cuban-American Studies. Panel: Cuba under the Castros: Civil Society, Dissidence, Diaspora, and Détente. February, 2019.

*China's New Deal: Foreign "Aid" and Keynesian Fiscal Policy in a Globalized World*. International Studies Association (ISA) - North East Conference. Panel: Foreign Aid in a World of Hierarchy. November, 2018.

*The Organization of American States and Changing Incentives for Democratic Breakdowns*. FLACSO-ISA Joint International Conference. Panel: Democratic Aberrations & Challenges. July, 2018.

*Meu Bom Vizinho, Walt: The Strategic Importance of Walt Disney to the Good Neighbor Policy*. CLAS Tri-University Graduate Student Conference on Latin American Studies. Panel: The American Hemisphere: US-LAC Connections. March, 2018.

*Potential Futures of Chinese Foreign Aid, Government-Sponsored Investment Activity and Inter-Governmental Loans in Latin America*. Tulane University Latin American Graduate Organization (LAGO) Conference: Knowledge and Power. Co-Authored with Jennifer Zavala. Panel: Transnational Mobility: Investments, Immigrants, and Ideas. January, 2017.

*Illiberal Democracies and Constitutional Coups?: The Shifting Nature of Democratic Erosion in Latin America and the Need for New OAS Response Mechanisms*. Eugene Scassa Mock Organization of American States (ESMOAS) Academic Conference. Panel: The OAS Role In Hemispheric Relations. November, 2016.

*Class Divisions and Support for Democracy in Latin America*. VII World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR) Latin America Conference. Panel: Nuevas herramientas para el análisis político alrededor del mundo. October, 2016.

\*Served as moderator for the panel.

*Castro in the Middle: Cuban Capitalism and the Return of Fidelismo*. Tulane Undergraduate Conference on Latin America (TUCLA). December, 2012.

### Research Assistantships

#### Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University

- Professor Frank O. Mora, Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center (Jan. 2020-April 2020)
- Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy (June 2018-July 2018)

#### Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver

- Professor Aaron Schneider (May 2016-June 2017)
- Professor Thomas J. Farer (Dec. 2015-June 2017)
- Sié Chéou-Kang Center, Private Security Monitor (Sept. 2015-July 2016)
- Korbel Latin America Center (Feb. 2016-June 2016)

#### Tulane University

- Commitment to Equity Project (CEQ) (May 2012-May 2013)

### Academic Service

Cities and Great Power Conference, hosted by *Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales* (CARI), City of Buenos Aires, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs, and *Diplomatic Courier*. March, 2021. Served as Panel Moderator for the panel “Global Cities and the ‘New Normal’ From Latin America’s Perspective: Challenges and Future Perspectives.”

President of the Politics and International Relations Graduate Student Organization (PIRGSO), Florida International University, 2019-2020.

McNair Scholars Undergraduate Research Conference. October, 2018. Served as judge for oral presentations.

VII World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR) Latin America Conference. October, 2016. Served as moderator for the panel “Nuevas herramientas para el análisis político alrededor del mundo.”

### Relevant Professional Experience

#### Global Americans

*Deputy Director* | Washington, DC

Oct. 2022-  
July 2023

#### Commitment to Equity Institute (CEQ)

*Non-Resident Research Associate* | New Orleans, LA

June 2016-  
Present

#### World in 2050

*Editor & Analyst* | Washington, DC

Jan. 2022-  
Oct. 2022

#### Diplomatic Courier

*Special Series and Contributing Editor* | Washington, DC

June 2020-  
Oct. 2022

---

<b>U.S. Department of State</b> <i>Consultant on Summit of the Americas</i>   Washington, DC	May 2022
<b>Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Gender and Diversity Division (SCL/GDI)</b> <i>Remote Consultant</i>   Washington, DC	June 2020- May 2022
<b>Young Professionals in Foreign Policy (YFPF), Charged Affairs</b> <i>Senior Staff Writer</i>   Washington, DC	May 2019- May 2020
<b>Young Professionals in Foreign Policy (YFPF), Charged Affairs</b> <i>Staff Writer</i>   Washington, DC	Dec. 2016- May 2019
<b>Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Gender and Diversity Division (SCL/GDI)</b> <i>Remote Consultant</i>   Washington, DC	Sept. 2015- Aug. 2017
<b>Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Gender and Diversity Division (SCL/GDI)</b> <i>Consultant</i>   Washington, DC	Apr. 2014- Aug. 2015
<b>Southern Pulse Correspondents</b> <i>Contributing Editor</i>   Washington, DC	Jan. 2014- Apr. 2014
<b>World Bank, Latin America and Caribbean Poverty, Gender and Equity Unit (LCSP)</b> <i>Economic Research Analyst</i>   Washington, DC	July 2013- Apr. 2014
<b>United States Senate, Senator Tom Udall (D-NM)</b> <i>Constituent Services Intern</i>   Santa Fe, NM	June 2011- Aug. 2011

---

## Mentoring

- Worked with students in my International Political Economy (INR 3703) classes to edit and publish op-eds that they had prepared as part of their coursework. These resulted in the following student publications.
  - Izaguirre, Valeria. 2022. “Nicaragua Needs Education, Not Thought Control.” *Diplomatic Courier*. Available at: <https://www.diplomaticcourier.com/posts/nicaragua-needs-education-not-thought-control>.
  - Balceiro, Marian. 2022. “The Cruise Industry Hinders Caribbean Development.” *Diplomatic Courier*. Available at: <https://www.diplomaticcourier.com/posts/the-cruise-industry-hinders-caribbean-development>.
  - Uvivo, Stephanie. 2022. “To Save the Niger Delta, Lawsuits are Not Enough.” *Diplomatic Courier*. Available at: <https://www.diplomaticcourier.com/posts/to-save-the-niger-delta-lawsuits-are-not-enough>.
  - Brandolt, Vincent. 2021. “The Brazilian Sneeze that Might Put Argentina in the ICU.” *Diplomatic Courier*. Available at: <https://www.diplomaticcourier.com/posts/the-brazilian-sneeze-that-might-put-argentina-in-the-icu>.
  - Pecorelli, Sabrina. 2020. “The Hidden Ingredient in Chocolate: Africa’s Child Slaves.” *Charged Affairs*.
  - Anton, Pierina. 2020. “Reimagining the Value of Indigenous Education.” *Charged Affairs*.
  - Salcedo, Juan. 2019. “Global Trade’s Shifting Tides This Holiday Season.” *Charged Affairs*.
- Hosted and/or spoke at op-ed writing workshops for:
  - Graduate Student groups within the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs (November 2019; February 2020)
  - Florida International University’s Master in Global Affairs Professionalization Seminar (December 2019)
  - Florida International University’s Diplomacy Lab (February 2020)
  - The Eugene Scassa Model Organization of American States Conference (September 2020)
  - Florida International University’s International Relations Undergraduate Honor Society, Sigma Iota Rho (October 2020)
  - American University’s A Better U Workshop Series (October 2020)
  - Dr. Bibek Chand’s Security Studies courses, University of North Georgia (March 2021)
  - Dr. Louisa Diaz-Kope’s Senior Capstone Course, University of North Georgia (February 2022)

---

## Community and Class Outreach

### Op-Eds and Blogs (Full List Available Upon Request)

Ratzlaff is the author of over 80 blogs and op-eds in a number of policy and academic sources including *The National Interest*, *Global Americans*, *Diplomatic Courier*, *The Geopolitics*, *Charged Affairs*, *The Crossley Center*, *Southern Pulse Correspondents*, *Voxeu.org*, and the Inter-American Development Bank's *¿Y Si Hablamos de Igualdad?*. Some examples include:

Ratzlaff, Adam and Emma Woods. 2021. "The First Rule of Countering Influence: Don't Talk About Countering Influence." *Global Security Review*. Available at: <https://globalsecurityreview.com/the-first-rule-of-countering-influence-dont-talk-about-it/>.

Ratzlaff, Adam. 2021. "Putting the Summits of the Americas in Historic Perspective." *Global Americans*. Available at: <https://theglobalamericans.org/2021/01/putting-the-summits-of-the-americas-in-historic-perspective/>.

Ratzlaff, Adam and Pierina Anton. 2020. "Trump Can Counter China's Influence Operations In Latin America." *The National Interest*. Available at: <https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/trump-can-counter-chinas-influence-operations-latin-america-144302>.

### Media Appearances

Comments and commentary featured in news sources, written and video, for organizations including: *Voice of America*, *Huffington Post*, and *InfoBae*.

### Public Presentations and Guest Lectures

*Pop Culture and International Relations Coffee Chat*. Invited Speaker at discussion hosted by Florida International's Sigma Iota Rho Honor Society and the Politics and International Relations Graduate Student Organization. January, 2022.

*Regional Integration and Cooperation in Latin America & the Caribbean*. Guest lecture for Prof. Pablo Duran's Latin American Politics Course, Florida International University. November 2020.

*Brazil: Country of the Future?* Lecture to Dr. Orçun Selçuk's course (POLS 238: Latin American Politics), Luther College. April, 2020.

*International Relations, Your Society, and Your Vote*. Men Going Home Program, Dr. Regina B. Shearn Corrections Transition Program, Everglades Correctional Facility. April, 2019.

*International Political Economy: Introduction to Trade Policy*. INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations, Dr. Naisy Sarduy, Florida International University. April, 2019.

*International Political Economy: Trade Policy*. INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations, Dr. Naisy Sarduy, Florida International University. November, 2018.

*International Political Economy: Global Economic Governance and Monetary Policy*. INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations, Dr. Naisy Sarduy, Florida International University. November, 2018.

*U.S.-Latin American Relations: A Brief Primer* (As Teaching Assistant). INR 3102: U.S. Foreign Policy, Dr. Alexander Barder, Florida International University. October, 2018.

*International Political Economy: Trade Policy* (As Teaching Assistant). INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations, Dr. Naisy Sarduy, Florida International University. April, 2018.

*International Political Economy: Global Economic Governance and Monetary Policy* (As Teaching Assistant). INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations, Dr. Naisy Sarduy, Florida International University. April, 2018.

*International Development: A Brief Introduction* (As Teaching Assistant). INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations, Dr. Naisy Sarduy, Florida International University. November, 2017.

---

## Additional Skills

- Public Speaking
  - Microsoft Office Suite
  - Presentation Design (PowerPoint and Prezi)
  - Translations
  - Editing
  - Communications
  - Data Visualization (Excel, Tableau, etc.)
  - Statistical Analysis (Stata and Excel)
  - Forecasting
- 

## Languages

- English (Native)
  - Portuguese (Speak, read, write)
  - Spanish (Speak, read, write)
- 

## Awards and Distinctions

- Best Graduate Instructor (2019-2020), Department of Politics and International Relations, Florida International University
  - Excellence in Service Award (2019-2020), Department of Politics and International Relations, Florida International University
  - Best Teaching Assistant (2018-2019), Department of Politics and International Relations, Florida International University
  - Excellence in Service Award (2018-2019), Department of Politics and International Relations, Florida International University
  - Passed with Distinction all three sections of Comprehensive exams (Core, International Issues & Institutions, and Foreign Policy & Security Studies), Florida International University (2019)
  - Sié Chéou-Kang Fellowship, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver (2015-2017): Leadership Program and full tuition scholarship
  - Spot Award, World Bank (2014)
  - Pelican Award, Department of Housing and Residence Life (HRL), Tulane University (2012)
  - Resident Advisor of the Year, Department of Housing and Residence Life (HRL), Tulane University (2011)
  - National Silver Emblem in Marketing, Future Farmers of America (2007)
- 

## Organizations

- Salzburg Global Seminar (2022-Present)
  - Salzburg Global Fellow
- Politics and International Relations Graduate Student Organization (PIRGSO)- Florida International University
  - President (2019-2020)
- Young Professionals in Foreign Policy (2015-Present)
  - Latin American Discussion Group Member (2021-Present)
  - *Charged Affairs* Senior Staff Writer (2019-2020)
  - *Charged Affairs* Staff Writer (2016-2019)
- International Studies Association (2017-Present)
- Florida Political Science Association (2017-Present)
- Academy of Political Science (2016-2018)
- Korbel Latin American Studies Association- Josef Korbel School of International Studies (2015-2017)
  - President (2016-2017)
- Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies (2016-2017)
- Washington Model Organization of American States, Haitian Delegation- Tulane University (2012)
- Foreign Film Society- Tulane University (2009-2013)
  - Co-President (2010-2013)
- FFA- Robertson High School (2006-2008)