

**20** AÑOS  
Dejusticia

# THE VOICES OF DEJUSTICIA



**DIRECTORY TO GET IN TOUCH  
WITH OUR EXPERT SOURCES**

**We are a legal and social studies think tank based in Bogotá, Colombia.** We are committed to strengthening the Rule of Law and promoting human rights in Colombia and the Global South.

**Our work is divided into eleven issue areas:**

- ◆ Rule of law
- ◆ Gender
- ◆ Environmental Justice
- ◆ Economic Justice
- ◆ Tax Justice
- ◆ Ethnic-racial justice
- ◆ Transitional justice
- ◆ Drug Policy
- ◆ Judicial System
- ◆ Land and Rural Communities
- ◆ Transparency, technology and digital rights

To achieve results, these issue areas are strongly interconnected with **five cross-cutting areas:**

- \* Communications
- \* Human Rights School
- \* International
- \* Litigation
- \* Regionalization

Here, you will find a directory where you can learn about our researchers' careers and areas of expertise. This will help you find suitable and specialized sources for specific studies on Colombia and the world.

**Dejusticia**

# OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

## Director:



### *Diana Esther Guzmán Rodríguez*

Diana has a PhD in Law from Stanford University and holds master's degrees in Law and Socio-Legal Research. She is a lawyer and specialist in Constitutional Law from

Universidad Nacional de Colombia, where she is also an associate professor.

**Her research focuses on:** gender, transitional justice, drug policy, tax justice and the judicial system.

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## Deputy directors:



### *Maryluz Barragán*

Maryluz is a lawyer from Universidad de Cartagena, a specialist in Administrative Law, and an LL.M. from UCLA. She has served as assistant justice of the Constitutional Court of

Colombia and coordinated the strategic litigation area at Dejusticia. She has worked for the Council of State, the Office of the Comptroller General, the Administrative Department of Public Service, and USAID. She was also a fellow at the Racial Discrimination Observatory.

**Her research focuses on:** right to defend rights, equality, strategic litigation and ethnic-racial justice.

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## Deputy directors:



### ***Paulo Ilich Bacca***

Paulo is a lawyer from Universidad Nacional de Colombia and PhD in ethnography from the University of Kent. He has worked with Indigenous organizations and universities in several countries, promoting intercultural dialogue and the decolonization of curricula. He was a postdoctoral researcher at the European Research Council and a Fulbright Fellow at Georgetown.

**His research focuses on:** interculturality, indigenous peoples' rights, environmental justice and the climate crisis.

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### ***Carolina Reyes Rey***

Carolina is a business administrator from Universidad de Bogotá, Jorge Tadeo Lozano, and a specialist in Project Assessment and Development from Universidad del Rosario. She is an expert in the financial, economic and social management of public, private and international cooperation projects.

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## *Founders who are active researchers:*



### *Rodrigo Uprimny Yepes*

Rodrigo is a lawyer, PhD in economics and professor emeritus of Universidad Nacional de Colombia. He served as assistant justice of the Constitutional Court and a member of the United

Nations ESCR Committee. He is the former director and current senior researcher at Dejusticia and specializes in human rights, transitional justice, and drug policy.

**His research focuses on:** tax justice, transitional justice, drug policy, constitutionalism, judicial system and economic, social, and cultural rights (ESCR).

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### *Mauricio García Villegas*

Mauricio holds a PhD in Political Science from Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium) and a PhD honoris causa from the École Normale Supérieure de Cachan (France). He

is a professor at the IEPRI of Universidad Nacional de Colombia, a researcher at Dejusticia and a columnist at El Espectador. He has published several books on law and politics, including *Normas de papel*, *La eficacia simbólica del derecho* and *El orden de la libertad*.

**His research focuses on:** rule of law, education, equality, constitutional law and socio-legal theory.

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# CONNECTIONS WITH THE PRESS

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**Dejusticia**

# OUR SPOKESPERSONS:



## ***On Climate Change, Democracy and Migration:***



**Sergio Chaparro,**  
international coordinator

Sergio is an economist and philosopher. He holds master's degrees in Law and Social Inequality. He coordinates Dejusticia's international advocacy and works

at the Tax Justice Network. He specializes in tax justice, climate and social rights and has been a consultant for multilateral agencies and a political adviser to the Congress of the Republic and the Council of Bogotá.

**Suggested issues:** Migration, social protest, democratic regression, tax justice and climate change.

**Email:** [schaparro@dejusticia.org](mailto:schaparro@dejusticia.org)

## ***On Gender:***



**Margarita Martínez Osorio,**  
coordinator of the Gender area

Margarita is a historian, philosopher, and candidate for a PhD in History at Indiana University. She has researched gender inequalities, sexual and

reproductive rights, and feminist political ecology.

**Suggested issues:** Gender equality, women's rights, intersections between race and gender, sexual diversity, sexual violence.

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## *On Peace and Transitional Justice:*



**Paola Molano Ayala,**  
coordinator of the Transitional  
Justice area

Paola is a lawyer and constitutional law specialist with a master's degree in International Law and Sociology. She has worked in transitional justice, women's, and LGBTIQ+ rights and was an advisor in the peace process with the FARC-EP.

**Suggested issues:** Armed conflict, peace, victims, transitional justice.

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## *On Environment and Development:*



**Natalia Katixa Escobar Viasus,**  
coordinator of the Environmental  
Justice area

Natalia is a sociologist and specialist in territorial planning. She also holds a master's degree in Human Geography. She has led research on socio-environmental conflicts in paramo ecosystems and deforestation in the Amazon region.

**Suggested issues:** Deforestation, Amazon, environmental conflicts, land use planning, environmental impact studies.

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## ***On Land and Peasantry:***



**Carlos Quesada,**  
director of the Land and  
Peasantry area

Carlos is a lawyer and holds a master's degree and a PhD from Universidad Nacional de Colombia. He is a specialist in collective and environmental rights, has legally accompanied peasant organizations and worked on the resolution of environmental conflicts.

**Suggested issues:** Territorial conflicts, rural reform, peasantry rights.

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## ***On Drug Policy:***



**Isabel Pereira Arana,**  
senior coordinator of the  
Drug Policy area

Isabel is a political scientist from Universidad de los Andes and holds a master's degree in Development Studies from IHEID in Switzerland. She is a Fellow of the Aspen Colombia Initiative 2050, coordinates the Drug Policy area at Dejusticia, and focuses on its impact on women, health and transitional justice.

**Suggested issues:** Drug policy reform, risk and harm reduction, women and drugs, public policies.

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## *On ethnic peoples and anti-discrimination:*



**Carmen Mestizo Castillo,**  
director of the Ethnic-Racial  
Justice area

Carmen holds a PhD in Law from the University of Arizona and is a lawyer from Universidad Nacional de Colombia with master's degrees in Law and History. She has worked in defense of Indigenous Peoples, women and victims of armed conflict and as a researcher and adviser in international organizations.

**Suggested issues:** Gender and race intersections and differential approaches, especially in relation to Indigenous and Afro-descendant Peoples.

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## *On Economic Justice:*



**Diana Guarnizo,**  
director of the Economic Justice area

Diana holds a PhD in Law and an LLM in International Human Rights Law from the University of Essex. She is a lawyer and specialist in Constitutional Law, she has worked with the IACHR, the Office of the Ombudsperson, and organizations such as OXFAM and the Colombian Commission of Jurists. Expert in social rights and economic justice.

**Suggested issues:** Business and rights, socioeconomic equality, public health and food policy.

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## *On Litigation:*



**Sergio Pulido,**  
**Litigation coordinator**

Sergio is a lawyer and specialist in Procedural Legal Institutions from Universidad Nacional de Colombia.

His interests include legal theory, procedural law and territorial rights. He is currently a professor of general procedural law.

**Suggested issues:** Litigation, amicus and legal actions filed by Dejusticia.

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## *On the Closure of the Civic Space:*



**Nina Chaparro González,**  
**Coordinator of the Civil Society  
Strengthening Program**

Nina is a lawyer and holds a master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Bristol. A specialist in constitutional law, she has focused on transitional justice, gender and peace education.

**Suggested issues:** Democracy, civil society in Latin America, civic spaces.

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## ***On the Judicial System:***



### **María Adelaida Ceballos Bedoya, director of the Judicial System line**

María is a lawyer from Universidad EAFIT and holds a master's degree in Sociology from Universidad Nacional de Colombia. She also has a PhD in Law

from McGill University (Canada), where she was a Vanier fellow from the Canadian government. She has taught at Universidad EAFIT and Universidad de Antioquia.

**Suggested issues:** Diversity in the judiciary branch and women deprived of liberty.

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## ***On Transparency and Technology:***



### **Vivian Newman Pont, director of the Transparency, Tech- nology and Digital Rights area**

Vivian was the director of Dejusticia between 2019 and 2022. She is a lawyer from Universidad Javeriana, holds a law

degree from Universidad of Barcelona, and has master's degrees in Public Law, Cooperation and Development, and the Fight Against Organized Crime.

**Suggested issues:** Transparency, privacy, anti-corruption, digital rights, technology.

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## ***On Tax Justice:***



**Mariana Matamoros,  
Coordinator at the Tax Justice line**

Mariana is an economist and accountant with a master's degree in Economics, specializing in finance and public policy. She has worked at

the DNP, the Ministry of Health and the Congress of the Republic.

**Suggested issues:** Taxes, tax policies, basic income, tax cooperation, care economy.

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## ***On decentralization and Empowered Communities:***



**Ivonne Elena Díaz,  
coordinator of the  
Regionalization area**

Ivonne is a philosopher with a master's degree in Philosophy, specializing in Human Rights and International

Humanitarian Law. She has worked at the Victims Unit and the Office of the Ombudsperson in Bolívar. Her interests include transitional justice, reconciliation, and peacebuilding.

**Suggested issues:** Socioeconomic inequality in the regions of Colombia.

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**Check out our digital channels:**

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