

Brian Palmer-Rubin

Department of Political Science and International Relations
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative politics, interest representation, political economy of development, patronage and clientelism, transparency and accountability, experimental and multi-method research design, Latin America

EMPLOYMENT

University of Southern California, 2023-present
Associate Professor, Dept. of Political Science and International Relations
Visiting Associate Professor (untenured), 2023-2024
Director of Graduate Studies, 2024-present

Marquette University, 2018-2023
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science
Director, International Affairs Program (2022-2023)

Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE), 2017-2018
Visiting Professor, Dept. of Public Administration

Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government, 2015-2017
Democracy Postdoctoral Fellow, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley
Ph.D., Political Science, 2015 (M.A. 2009); Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Methodology

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
M.A. (honors), Latin American Studies, 2009

Pomona College
B.A., Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (departmental citation), 2004

BOOK

Brian Palmer-Rubin. *Evading the Patronage Trap: Interest Representation in Mexico*.
University of Michigan Press, August 2022
–2016 Harold D. Lasswell Award for best dissertation in public policy, APSA

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Brian Palmer-Rubin and Steven Samford. “Embedded Multinationals: When MNCs Choose Voice over Exit.” Forthcoming, *World Politics*.

Brian Palmer-Rubin, Jéssica E. Tapia Reyes, Daniel Berliner, Aaron Erlich, and Benjamin E. Bagozzi. “Accountability in Time: Evolution and Expertise in Participatory Institutions.” *World Politics* 77.3:

468-514, 2025.

–Winner, 2022 Latin American Political Institutions Section (LASA) Best Paper Award

–Honorable Mention, 2019 Mexico Section (LASA) Social Sciences Article Award

Aaron Erlich, Stefano Dantas, Benjamin E. Bagozzi, Daniel Berliner, and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Multi-Label Prediction for Political Text-as-Data.” *Political Analysis* 30.4: 463-480, 2022.

Brian Palmer-Rubin and Ruth Berins Collier. “Work and Demand Making: Productionist and Consumptionist Politics in Latin America.” *Comparative Political Studies* 55.10: 1631-1662, 2022.

Sarah Ellington, Benjamin E. Bagozzi, Daniel Berliner, **Brian Palmer-Rubin**, and Aaron Erlich. “Measuring Human Rights Abuse from Access-to-Information Requests.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 66.2: 357-384, 2022.

Aaron Erlich, Daniel Berliner, **Brian Palmer-Rubin**, and Benjamin E. Bagozzi. “Media Attention and Bureaucratic Responsiveness.” *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 31.4: 687-703, 2021.

Daniel Berliner, Benjamin E. Bagozzi, **Brian Palmer-Rubin**, and Aaron Erlich. “The Political Logic of Government Disclosure: Evidence from Information Requests in Mexico.” *Journal of Politics* 83.1: 229-245, 2021.

Brian Palmer-Rubin, Candelaria Garay, and Mathias Poertner. “Incentives for Organizational Participation: A Recruitment Experiment in Mexico.” *Comparative Political Studies* 54.1: 110-143, 2021.

Candelaria Garay, **Brian Palmer-Rubin**, and Mathias Poertner. “Organizational and Partisan Brokerage of Social Benefits: Evidence from Social Policy Linkages in Mexico” (with Candelaria Garay and Mathias Poertner). *World Development* 136, 2020.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “Evading the Patronage Trap: Organizational Capacity and Demand-Making in Mexico.” *Comparative Political Studies* 52.13-14: 2097-2134, 2019.

–Honorable Mention, 2019 Mexico Section (LASA) Social Sciences Essay Award

Daniel Berliner, Benjamin E. Bagozzi, and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “What Information Do Citizens Want? Evidence from One Million Public Information Requests in Mexico.” *World Development* 109: 222-235, 2018.

Anne Meng and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Gerrymandering Opposition: Minority-Concentrated Districts and Electoral Competition in Mexico.” *Studies in Comparative International Development* 52.1: 64-86, 2017.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “Interest Organizations and Distributive Politics: Small-Business Subsidies in Mexico.” *World Development* 84: 97-117, 2016.

–Winner, 2016 Mexico Section (LASA) Social Sciences Essay Award

Alisha Holland and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Beyond the Machine: Clientelist Brokers and Interest Organizations in Latin America.” *Comparative Political Studies* 48.9: 1186-1223, 2015.

–Winner, 2013 Latin American Political Institutions Section (LASA) Best Paper Award

Jonathan Fox, Libby Haight, and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Delivering Transparency: To What Degree Does the Mexican Government Respond to Public Information Requests?” *Gestión y Política Pública* 20.1: 3-61, 2011.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “After Corporatism: Party Linkages with Popular-Sector Organizations in Neoliberal Latin America.” In Diana Kapiszewski, Steven Levitsky, and Deborah Yashar (eds.) *The Inclusionary Turn in Contemporary Latin America*. Cambridge Univ. Press, pp. 327-361, 2021.

Simeon Nichter and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Clientelism, Declared Support, and Mexico’s 2012 Campaign.” In Jorge I. Domínguez, Kenneth F. Greene, Chappell H. Lawson, and Alejandro Moreno (eds.) *Mexico’s Evolving Democracy: A Comparative Study of the 2012 Elections*. Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, pp. 200-226, 2015.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Mathias Poertner, Candelaria Garay, and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Mass Politics 2.0: Organizations and Political Identity in Latin America.” Under review.

—*Honorable Mention, 2023 Kendra Koivu Paper Award, QMMR Section (APSA)*

David Foust and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Empowering Workers but not Unions: Neopopulist Labor Inclusion in Mexico.” Under review.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “The Fruits of Our Labor: Inclusive Upgrading in Mexican Agriculture.” (Book project.)

Brian Palmer-Rubin, Mariana Rangel Padilla and Steven Samford. “Business Embeddedness in the North American Economic Community.” (Book project.)

Alexander Jelloian and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Social Capital and Rural Upgrading: Cocoa in West Africa.”

Iskar Waluyo, Mauricio Galeano, and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Mapping Berry Expansion in Mexico.”

James Korman, Benjamin E. Bagozzi, Daniel Berliner, Aaron Erlich, and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “Covert Non-Responsiveness: Security and Citizen-State Interactions in Mexico.”

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “Social Capital and Smallholder Adaptation to Export Agriculture in Mexico.”

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “Community and Craft: Traditional Governance in the Mezcal Industry.”

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “The Causal Logic of Traps in Political Science Research.”

OTHER PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND POPULAR PRESS

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “The Berry Revolution: Non-Traditional Agriculture and Economic Opportunity in Mexico” *ReVista, Harvard Review of Latin America*, 2024.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. Book Review in *ReVista, Harvard Review of Latin America*: O’Neil, Shannon. *The Globalization Myth: Why Regions Matter*, 2023.

Daniel Berliner, **Brian Palmer-Rubin**, Jéscica E. Tapia Reyes, Benjamin E. Bagozzi, and Aaron Erlich. “Big Data and Access to Information in Mexico” Policy report and accompanying [website](#), April 2022.

Jésica E. Tapia Reyes, **Brian Palmer-Rubin**, Daniel Berliner, Benjamin E. Bagozzi, and Aaron Erlich. “¿A quién le sirve la transparencia en México?” [For whom does transparency work in Mexico?] *Nexos*, April 22, 2021.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. Book Review in *Governance*: Thomson, Henry. *Food and Power: Regime Type, Agricultural Policy, and Political Stability*, 2020.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “Mexico’s President Elect has Offered Two Important Clues about NAFTA.” *Monkey Cage*, July 16, 2018.

Brian Palmer-Rubin and Ana Joaquina Ruiz. “¿Cuáles son las implicaciones de la transparencia?” In Claudia Maldonado Trujillo and Cristina Galíndez Hernández (eds.) *Aprendizaje y Cooperación Sur-Sur para la Innovación: El Papel de los Actores Subnacionales*. CIDE-Centro CLEAR para América Latina: 279-98, 2013.

Anne Meng and **Brian Palmer-Rubin**. “A Case for Case Studies: A Multi-Method Strategy for Ecological Inference.” *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* 10.2: 21-26, 2012.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “Manual for Monitoring Federalized Agricultural Spending.” *Subsidios al Campo en México Working Paper No. 6*, 2012.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “Small-Producer Access to Decentralized Agricultural Subsidies in Mexico: Alianza para el Campo.” Woodrow Wilson Center Mexican Rural Development Research Report No. 6, 2010.

Brian Palmer-Rubin. “Is Decentralization the Answer? Lessons from Alianza para el Campo.” In Jonathan Fox and Libby Haight (eds.) *Subsidizing Inequality: Mexican Corn Policy Since NAFTA*, Woodrow Wilson Center: 153-61, 2010.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Faculty Research Grant, Center for International Studies, USC 2023, 2024.
Koivu Paper Award, Qual. and Multi-Method Research Section, APSA, 2023 (honorable mention)
Plischke Faculty Research Award, Marquette Univ. Dept. of Political Science, 2022
Best Paper Award, Latin American Political Institutions Section, LASA, 2013, 2022
Center for Transnational Justice Summer Research Fellowship, Marquette Univ., 2022
Summer Faculty Fellowship and Regular Research Grant, Marquette Univ., 2019, 2021
Center for Transnational Justice Course Development Grant, Marquette Univ., 2020
Center for Peacemaking Rynne Research Fellowship, Marquette Univ., 2020
CLACS Research Travel Award, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Harold D. Lasswell Award, for best dissertation in public policy, APSA, 2016
Best Social Sciences Essay Award, Mexico Section, LASA, 2016, 2019 (honorable mention)
Democracy Postdoctoral Fellowship, Ash Center, Harvard Kennedy School, 2015-2017
Predoctoral Fellowship, Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, UC San Diego, 2014-2015
Grassroots Development Dissertation Fellowship, Inter-American Foundation, 2012-2013
International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council, 2011-2012
Tinker Research Grant, UC Berkeley Center for Latin American Studies, 2010
Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation, 2009
Honorable Mention, Alfonso Caso Metal of Honor, for distinction in M.A. at UNAM, 2009
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS), for language study in Brazil, 2009 (declined)
Fulbright Garcia-Robles Graduate Degree Grant, for M.A. in Mexico, 2007-2008
Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, for study in Bolivia, 2005-2006
Senior Thesis Honors, Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE), Pomona College, 2004
Politeia Prize, departmental award in the PPE program, Pomona College, 2004

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Professional Meetings: *American Political Science Assoc.*: 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024; *Latin American Studies Assoc.*: 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025; *Latin American Political Economy Research Network (REPAL)*: 2014, 2016, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025; *Midwest Political Science Assoc.*: 2018, 2021, 2023; *Western Political Science Assoc.*: 2019; *International Political Science Assoc.*: 2025

Friends of ITAM Political Economy Workshop, ITAM, August 16, 2025
Comparative Politics Workshop, Center for Intl. Studies (USC), November 1, 2023; January 22, 2025
Claremont Graduate University, Division of Politics and Economics, December 3, 2024
Southwest Multi-Method Research Workshop, UC Riverside, October 17, 2024
SoCal Political Institutions and Political Economy, Claremont Graduate Univ., March 22, 2024
Comparative Politics Workshop, Univ. of Chicago, March 22, 2023
David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard Univ., April 5, 2016; January 31, 2023
Conferencia Nacional de Datos Abiertos, INAI, Mexico City, June 27, 2022
Milwaukee Area Political Science Seminar, UW-Milwaukee, April 9, 2020; September 9, 2022
Seminario de Relaciones Internacionales, Tecnológico de Monterrey, June 3, 2022
Instituto de Investigación en Rendición de Cuentas, Univ. de Guadalajara, June 1, 2022
Seminario de Estudios Regionales, Univ. de Guadalajara, May 27, 2022
Instituto Nacional de Acceso a la Información (INAI), Mexico City, April 27, 2022
Quality of Government Institute, Univ. of Gothenburg, March 23, 2022
Southwest Multi-Method Research Workshop, Northwestern Univ., November 4, 2021
Clientelism as Electoral Linkage Mechanism Workshop, Duke Univ., December 9, 2020
Academia against Corruption in the Americas, Tecnológico de Monterrey, May 18, 2020
Instituto Nacional de Acceso a la Información (INAI), Mexico City, February 25, 2020
Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference (LASPP), Univ. of Pittsburgh, March 30, 2019
Political Science from Mexico Workshop, ITAM, Mexico City, May 18, 2018
Workshop on Access to Information in Mexico, CIDE, Mexico City, April 17, 2018
Seminar in Public Policy “ConCIDencias,” CIDE, Mexico City, December 4, 2017
Economics Seminar, Iberoamericana University, Mexico City, December 1, 2017
Political Science Seminar, ITAM, Mexico City, November 9, 2017
Harvard-David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Mexico City, August 3, 2017
School of Politics and Global Studies, Arizona State Univ., March 27, 2017
Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Brown Univ., October 4, 2016
Latin American Working Group, MIT, October 20, 2015
Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, UC San Diego, April 9, 2015
Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 25, 2014
Comparative Politics Colloquium, UC Berkeley, April 19, 2013; November 22, 2013
Regional Center for Learning on Evaluation and Results, CIDE, Sept. 3, 2012
Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research Workshop, June 24, 2012
Café Fundar, Fundar Centro de Análisis e Investigación, April 25, 2012
Seminario de Política y Gobierno, CIDE, March 14, 2012

TEACHING

University of Southern California, Dept. of Political Science and International Relations

- International Political Economy of Development*, Fall 2023
- The Politics of Food*, Spring 2024, Summer 2024, Summer 2025
- Qualitative Research Design* (Ph.D. level), Spring 2024, Spring 2025

Marquette University, Dept. of Political Science

- Comparative Politics*, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Summer 2021, Summer 2022
- Political Economy of Development*, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021
- Writing and Argumentation in Poli. Sci.: Politics of Food*, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022

-*Contemporary Political Research* (MA level), Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022
-*International Affairs Capstone*, Spring 2023

CIDE Dept. of Public Administration, Visiting Professor

-*Accountability and Development Policy*, Spring 2018

UC, Berkeley Dept. of Political Science, Graduate Student Instructor

-*The Promise and Legacy of the Mexican Revolution*, Professor: Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, Spring 2010
-*Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Political Science*, Professor: Laura Stoker, Fall 2010
-*Varieties of Capitalism: Political-Economic Systems of the World*, Professor: Steven Vogel, Spring 2011

ADDITIONAL TRAINING, SKILLS, AND SERVICE

Director of Graduate Studies, Dept. of Political Science and International Relations, USC, 2024-present
Coordinator, Center for International Studies Comparative Politics Workshop, USC, 2024-present
Program Co-Chair, Latin American Political Economy Network (REPAL) Annual Conference, 2024
Consultative Council Member, National Access to Information Institute (Mexico), PlanDAI, 2022-2024
Executive Committee, Latin American Political Institutions Section, LASA, 2021-2024
Coordinator, Milwaukee Area Political Science Seminar, 2019-2023
Mexico Country Expert, Varieties of Democracy, 2018-present
Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques, Ann Arbor, Mich., 2011
Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse, NY, 2010

Language: Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (reading)

Software: R, Stata, Qualtrics, NVivo, QGIS, Python, L^AT_EX

Referee for: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Carta Económica Regional*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Comparative Politics*, *Estudios Mexicanos / Mexican Studies*, *Governance*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Politics*, *Latin American Politics and Society*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Palgrave Macmillan*, *Política y Gobierno*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *Political Studies*, *Polity*, *Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Sociology of Development*, *Studies in Comparative International Development*, *World Development*, *World Politics*