

SANTIAGO MARTÍNEZ NEIRA

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Born in Bogotá, Colombia

EDUCATION

- LLM in International Legal Studies, **Washington College of Law - American University**, Washington, DC
Geneva Summer Program on International Organizations, Law and Diplomacy
Highest grade in the course “Advanced Human Rights”, taught by Prof. Juan Méndez
Courses: Comparative Environmental Law; Response of International Law to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; International Labor Organization: Decent Work Agenda; Advanced Human Rights Seminar; among others.
- Master of Laws (M2) in Comparative Public Law, **Université Toulouse 1 Capitole**, Toulouse; **University of Costa Rica**, San José
- Bachelor of Laws, **University of los Andes**, Bogotá
Director of the Student Journal of the Law Faculty, Periódico *Alderecho*
- Bachelor of Music (emphasis on cello), **University of los Andes**, Bogotá
- XLIII Course on International Law, **Organization of American States**, Rio de Janeiro

AWARDS

- Merit-based scholarship for the LLM (covering 85% of graduate program)
- Outstanding Master’s thesis at the Master of Laws (M2)
Thesis: Substantial influence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on the European Court of Human Rights regarding the scope of protection of the right to personal integrity

ORGANIZATIONS

- Member of the Colombia Board of Lawyers, admitted in 2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Consultant at the **Inter-American Commission on Human Rights** October 2019 – Present
Responsible for the Special Follow-up Mechanism for Venezuela (MESEVE).
- Consultant at the **Robert Kennedy Human Rights** September 2019
Collaborated on a report about short-term disappearances in Venezuela.
- Consultant at the **International Commission of Jurists** January 2019 – June 2019
Drafted a report about the creation and development of the National Constituent Assembly of Venezuela, presented before the Organization of American States (Washington, DC) and the United Nations (Geneva) during the summer of 2019. Organized a workshop with civil society from Venezuela on judicial reform and transitional justice, in order to assist stakeholders in restructuring this country’s judicial system.
- Consultant at the **Due Process of Law Foundation** January 2019 – June 2019
Worked on anti-corruption efforts in Venezuela, focusing on the impact of corruption on human rights. The purpose of this project was to reframe alleged crimes against humanity within a broad context of corruption, in order to advise the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. Moreover, participated in the drafting of grant proposals on hybrid mechanisms to document and prosecute corruption.
- Research Assistant at the **Anti-Torture Initiative** July 2018 – December 2018
Performed extensive legal research and supported the drafting of supplements to the Istanbul Protocol (Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment).
- Intern at the **Inter-American Commission on Human Rights** January 2018 – May 2018
Drafted merits report on cases for submission before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.
- Dean’s Fellow at the **Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law** August 2017 – April 2018
Performed extensive research on due process of law standards developed within the Inter-American Human Rights System and the Universal Human Rights System. Drafted chapters to update a book on the matter, to be published in partnership with the City of Buenos Aires.
- Researcher at the **University of los Andes** January 2017 – May 2017

Performed extensive research on legal safeguards, accountability and governance related to natural resources connected with gold mining in Cajamarca, Colombia, based on fieldwork.

- Visiting professional at the **Inter-American Court of Human Rights** May 2016 – September 2016
Supported the Secretariat by drafting substantive reports on various topics, such as: Indigenous Peoples; Prior Consultation; Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Conventionality Control; Domestic Impact of the Inter-American Case-Law; and Judicial Dialogue. Drafted Jurisprudence Bulletins.
- Paralegal at **VGCD** July 2014 – December 2014
Drafted reports and briefs for lawsuits, as well as assisted in the preparation for hearings before the Circuit Court of Bogotá for Labor Cases and the Superior Tribunal of Bogotá.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Adjunct Professor at **University of los Andes** January 2017 – May 2017
Taught a class about the Inter-American Human Rights System at the Law School.

LANGUAGES

- **Spanish** (Native)
- **English** (Proficient)
- **Portuguese** (Proficient)
- **French** (Intermediate)

SELECTED WORKS

- Roht-Arriaza, Naomi; Martínez, Santiago. *Grand Corruption and the International Criminal Court in the 'Venezuela Situation'*. *Oxford Journal of International Criminal Justice*, Volume 17, Issue 5, December 2019, Pages 1057–1082, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jicj/mqz038>
- Martínez, Santiago; Vogelfanger, Alan. *One year later, Arpaio's pardon still constitutes a violation of International Law*. *Human Rights Brief*, Special Issue, August 25, 2018.

PUBLICATIONS

- “¿Quién interpreta a la Corte IDH?: la aplicación del control de convencionalidad en Colombia”. Blog: *Agenda Estado de Derecho*. Forthcoming: accepted for publication.
- “¿Un nuevo autogolpe?”, Blog: *Due Process of Law Foundation*, February 5, 2019.
- “Tarde pero oportuno”, Blog: *Due Process of Law Foundation*, August 28, 2018.
- “Indultos infames, obligaciones internacionales y doctrina de la cuestión política” Blog: *+Justicia*, April 11, 2018.
- “Un resultado contundente: El agua vale más que el oro” Blog: *Due Process of Law*, October 31, 2017.

OTHER

- Co-authored the 2021 Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition hypothetical case, American University.