

# LEGAL BARBARIANS IDENTITY, MODERN COMPARATIVE LAW, AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH

## Book Launch Event



**\*Program - Thursday, May 13th 2021**

**9:00 to 9:15 a.m.**

Welcoming remarks and structure of the book

Amaya Alvez, *Universidad de Concepción, Chile.*

**9:15 to 10:45 a.m.**

Law, Culture and Identity

Martin Ramstedt, *Instituto Internacional de Sociología Jurídica - Oñati, Spain.*

Patricia Zalamea, *Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.*

Gurpreet Mahajan, *Jawaharlal Nehru University, India.*

Gabriela Pedraza, *Universidad de los Andes, Colombia. (Moderator)*

**10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**

The Genealogy of Modern Comparative Law and the Legal Barbarian: Dominant Narrative and Counternarrative

David Landau, *Florida State University, USA.*

Francisca Pou, *Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), México.*

Liliana Obregón, *Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.*

Olga Fabiola Cabezas, *Universidad de los Andes, Colombia. (Moderator)*

\* Program subject to last minute changes.

### Description

Legal Barbarians has two general objectives that intersect and complement each other. On one hand, the book seeks to describe and analyze how modern comparative law has contributed to the construction of modern subjectivities. On the other hand, it seeks to describe and analyze how this field of law has contributed to creating conceptual geographies and ways of understand-

ding history that have influenced the legal conscience of individuals directly or indirectly, implicitly or explicitly, linked to enlightened modernity. To achieve these aims, the book is divided into five chapters. In the first chapter, the book explores the relationship between narrative and identity. More precisely, in this chapter, the book argues (i) that narratives construct and give unity to individual and collective identities; (ii) that modern law, understood as part of modern culture and not as its consequence, constructs a narrative that has contributed to the creation of the modern subject – a narrative that is built around the conceptual opposition "subject of law/legal barbarian"; and (iii) that comparative law has played a central role in the formation of this conceptual opposition.

Comparative law has been fundamental for forming the legal "self" and "other" of modernity. In the three chapters that follow, the book offers a genealogy of modern comparative law. The process of constructing the modern legal subject activated by modern comparative law is formed by three key moments: comparative instrumental studies, comparative legislative studies, and comparative law as an autonomous discipline. The analysis of each of these moments is guided by the following three thematic axes: how in each phase a legal "self" and a legal "other" are created, the conceptual geographies these stages construct, and how history, particularly legal history, is conceived in each of these moments. In the last chapter of the book, examines the theoretical perspectives that question the narrative created by comparative modern law: Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL), postcolonial studies of law, and critical comparative law.

The two panels that constitute this book launch event will examine the strengths and weaknesses of the arguments offered in *Legal Barbarians* to achieve its two key aims. The first panel will explore the relationship between law, narrative, and individual and collective subjectivities articulated in *Legal Barbarians*. The second panel will examine the genealogy of modern comparative law offered in the book. Panelists will have fifteen minutes each for their presentations. In each panel, after the presentations, Daniel Bonilla will react to the comments, questions, and critiques offered by the panelists.



Facultad  
de Derecho



 [derecho.uniandes.edu.co](http://derecho.uniandes.edu.co)

 [relexderecho@uniandes.edu.co](mailto:relexderecho@uniandes.edu.co)

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Lunes a viernes de 7:00 a.m. a 6:00 p.m.

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