

Francisco J. Urbina

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Current position

Visiting Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies and concurrent professor, Law School, University of Notre Dame (Spring 2022)

Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Santiago, Chile) (since August 2014, on leave from July 2019 until July 2021).

Previous position

Human Rights Attaché to the Mission of Chile to the Organization of American States (OAS) (from July 2019 until July 2021).

Studies

Oxford University

- Doctorate (D.Phil.) in Law (2013).
- Master of Studies (M.St.) in Legal Research (2011).

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

- Licentiate in Law in 2007 (summa cum laude).
- Minor in Philosophy

Academic Publications

Books

- *A Critique of Proportionality and Balancing* (Cambridge University Press, 2017)

Reviews:

- Review of Constitutional Studies 23 (2018) 225-233 (Jud Mathews)
- U. Toronto Fac. L. Rev. 77 (2019) 44-58 (Kerry Sun)

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- Constitutional Commentary 33 (2018) 129-143 (Richard Stacey)
 - Jurisprudence 11 (2020) 316-324 (R. Sanchez Brigido)
 - International Journal of Constitutional Law 18 1 (2020) 297–302 (R. Gallegos)
- *Legislated Rights: Securing Human Rights Through Legislation* [In co-authorship with Grégoire Webber, Paul Yowell, Richard Ekins, Maris Köpcke-Tinturé, and Brad Miller] (Cambridge University Press, 2018).

Reviews:

- Journal book symposium (forthcoming): Jurisprudence (papers by Timothy Endicott, Lulu Weis, Dimitrios Tsarapatsanis).
- Journal book symposium: (2020) 21 Jerusalem Review of Legal Studies 66-170 (papers by Vicki Jackson, Lech Garlick, James Kelly, Ittai Bar-Siman-Tov, and Yaniv Roznai)
- Journal book symposium: (2018) 10 Faulkner Law Review 1-169 (papers by Victoria Nourse, Adam MacLeod, Andy Orlee, and Robert Lowry Clinton)
- Online book symposium: Judicial Power Project ([online](#) 14 February 2019) (papers by the Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, the Honourable Dyson Heydon, the Honourable Sir Ross Cranston, and Chief Justice Glenn Joyal, with an introduction and reply by Grégoire Webber and Paul Yowell)
- Oxford Journal of Legal Studies 39 (2019) 209-228 (Ioanna Tourkochoriti)
- Cambridge Law Journal 78 (2019) 674-677 (Thomas Adams)
- Law & Philosophy 38 (2019) 221-225 (Brian Bix)
- Law Quarterly Review 135 (2019) 338-340 (Lord Sales)
- Public Law [2019] 233-237 (Robert Grealley)
- Modern Law Review 82 (2019) 577-580 (Leah Trueblood)

Articles and Book Chapters

‘Understanding proportionality in the illegality defence’ (2020) 136(Oct) Law Quarterly Review 575-598 (with Ernest Lim).

‘Proportionality in Medical Law’ in A. Philips, J. Herring, and T. Campos *Philosophical Foundations of Medical Law* (OUP 2019) 172-184.

‘La claridad como especificidad: una revisión del *desideratum* de la claridad en la teoría de Lon Fuller’ (Clarity as Specificity: a Revision of the *Desideratum* of Clarity in the Theory of Lon Fuller) (2019) 138 Universitas, Colombia (with Fernando Contreras).

‘Derecho y ordenamiento de la conducta’ (Law and Ordering of Conduct) (2019) 16 2 Revista Jurídicas 108-125 (with Fernando Contreras).

‘Estado de derecho y control jurisdiccional: desafíos y tensiones (Rule of Law and Judicial Review: Challenges and Tensions)’ (2017) 24 1 Revista de Derecho Universidad Católica del Norte 105-132 (with Gonzalo Candia).

‘Balancing and Incommensurability’ (2015) 35 3 Oxford Journal of Legal Studies 575-605.

‘Is it Really that Easy? A Critique of Proportionality and “Balancing as Reasoning”’ (2014) 27 Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence 1 167-192.

‘A Critique of Proportionality’ (2012) 57 American Journal of Jurisprudence 49 - 80.

‘Rawls y una disputa sobre derechos (Rawls and a Debate over Rights)’ (2008) 58 1 Persona y Derecho 185 - 242.

‘Una crítica a la perspectiva de la ponderación (A Critique of the Balancing Perspective)’ (2007) 69 Revista

de Derecho Público 415 - 426.

‘El principio de subsidiaridad, sus fundamentos y su función en una sociedad democrática (The Principle of Subsidiarity and its Role in a Democratic Society)’ [2005] 11 Revista de Derecho y Humanidades 325 - 335.

Forthcoming publications

“Applying Human Rights and Human Rights Adjudication: the Role of *Determinatio*”, in Angier, Benson and Retter (eds.) *The Cambridge Handbook on Natural Law and Human Rights* (forthcoming 2022, under contract with CUP).

“The Veto Player’s Repertoire. A Multilayered Longitudinal Analysis of the Chilean Constitutional Tribunal’s Reasoning in Landmark Cases (1981-2019).” in J. Frohlich *Comparative Constitutional Reasoning Project* (forthcoming, under contract with Hart) (with Cristián Villalonga).

Shorter Publications

“Cost-Benefit Analysis in Rights Adjudication: An Assessment in Light of the Proportionality Debate” International Journal of Constitutional Law (I.CON) (Published in advance access, co-authored with Cristóbal Caviedes)

“Balancing as Reasoning” and the Problems of Legally Unaided Adjudication: A Reply to Kai Möller’ (2014) 12 International Journal of Constitutional Law (I.CON) 1 214-221.

‘Revisión judicial de la sanción ambiental (A propósito de *Pascua Lama*)’ (Judicial Review in Environmental Enforcement: Comments on the *Pascua Lama* Decision) in Arturo Fermandois and José Francisco García (eds.) *Sentencias Destacadas 2014*, LyD, Santiago, Chile, 2015, 61-89 (coauthored with Ignacio Urbina).

‘Reconciliación: la Deuda de la Transición’ (Reconciliation: the debt of the transition), en Hernán Larraín y Ricardo Nuñez, *Las Voces de la Reconciliación*, Instituto de Estudios de la Sociedad, Santiago, Chile, 2013, 341-351.

Book review: John Harris, ‘Enhancing Evolution. The Ethical Case for Making Better People’ (2008) 35 3 Revista Chilena de Derecho 591, 593.

Book review: Michael Sandel, ‘The Case against Perfection’ (2007) 34 2 Revista Chilena de Derecho 373, 379.

Book review: John Rawls, ‘Lectures on the History of Political Philosophy’, (2007) 46 Humanitas 620, 621.

Awards and Prizes

Fondecyt Iniciación 2015 (three year government funding from November 2015 until November 2018).

Chosen one of Chile’s ‘100 Young Leaders’ in 2008, by newspaper El Mercurio, and the Centre for Strategic Leadership of Adolfo Ibañez University.

Carlos Casanueva Prize, given by the School of Law of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (2006).

Served as reviewer for the following publications

- Oxford Journal of Legal Studies (2)

- International Journal of Constitutional Law (ICON) (3)
- American Journal of Jurisprudence (1)
- Revista Chilena de Derecho (2)
- Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence (1)

Areas of Teaching

Human Rights
Jurisprudence
Constitutional Law
Research Seminar

Recent Presentations in Conferences and Congresses

¿Quién es el “guardián de la Constitución”? (Who is the guardian of the Constitution?) (by invitation of the Constitutional Court of Chile) virtual presentation, February 2022.

Deliberación Pública y Libertad de Expresión en una sociedad más inclusiva: ¿podemos tener ambos? (Public Deliberation and Freedom of Expression in a More Inclusive Society) (organized by the David Rockefeller Center of Harvard University) virtual presentation, December 2021.

Presentation of Jamal Greene’s Book How Rights Went Wrong: Why our Obsession with Rights is Tearing America Apart (by invitation of the President of the Supreme Court of Mexico, Feria Internacional del Libro Jurídico organized by the Judicial Power of Mexico) virtual presentation, November 2021.

Comment on Jamal Greene’s book *How Rights Went Wrong: Why our Obsession with Rights is Tearing America Apart* (organized by Centro de Estudios Públicos, virtual presentation, July 2021.

Proportionality and the World of Enemies (paper presentation at the ICON-S annual conference), Santiago, July, 2019.

El principio de proporcionalidad (The Principle of Proportionality) (talk for the justices and lawyers of the Chilean Constitutional Court, by special invitation of the President of the Court), Santiago, May, 2019.

El dilema de la ponderación: algunas notas críticas sobre la proporcionalidad (The balancing dilemma: some critical notes on proportionality [this was one of the three plenary presentations in the XXXII Conference of the Argentinean Society of Philosophy of Law]), Buenos Aires, August, 2018.

Separation of Powers: The Minimal View (paper presentation at the ICON-S annual conference), Hong Kong, Junio 2018.

Specificationism in Law and Morality (presentation at symposium “The Nature of Rights Revisited”, Stanford University, Palo Alto, June 2018.

Proportionality and the Illegality Defence (presentation at the Obligations Discussion Group, Law Faculty, University of Oxford) Oxford, May 2018.

Separation of Powers: The Minimal View (seminar at the Faculty of Law, University of Sao Paulo, Brasil) Sao Paulo, April 2018.

“A Critique of Proportionality and Balancing” (Conference at the Faculty of Law, University of Sao Paulo, Brasil) Sao Paulo, April 2018.

“A Critique of Proportionality and Balancing” (book talk) Trinity College Oxford, Oxford, November 2017.

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“*A Critique of Proportionality and Balancing*” (session of the Public Law Group of the Faculty of Law of University College London on my book) London, November 2017.

Separation of Powers: The Minimal View (one of the ten papers chosen for presenting at the International Junior Faculty Forum) Stanford Law School, October 2017.

El Ideal de una cultura de justificación: un análisis institucional (The Ideal of a Culture of Justification: an Institutional Analysis), Public Law Meetings, University of Chile, November 2016.

Jerarquía y limitación de los derechos fundamentales (Hierarchy and Limitations of Fundamental Rights), Human Rights Colloquium, Santiago, Chile, October 2015.

The Need for Legal Direction in Adjudication, James Madison Program Fellow’s Presentation, Princeton University, Princeton, October 2013.

Proportionality, Human Rights, and Moral Reasoning, Law and Public Affairs Discussion Group, Oxford Faculty of Law, Oxford, October 2012.

Incommensurability, Proportionality, and Human Rights, St Anne’s Law Forum, St Anne’s College, Oxford, June 2012.

Legal Qualifications

Admitted to legal practice in Chile since 2009.

Languages

Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (advanced).

Other Activities

Co-organizer of the conference of the International Society for Public Law, ICON-S, 2019, in Santiago, Chile.

Member of the Advisory Board of the Chilean chapter of the International Society for Public Law, ICON-S.

Founder and First Convener of Law and Public Affairs Discussion Group (2012/2013) at Oxford Law Faculty.

Past president of Student Union, Law Faculty, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (2005)