

DARIO A. ROMERO

CURRICULUM VITAE

Columbia University, Department of Economics
420 West 118th Street
New York, NY 10027, USA

darioaromero.github.io
dr2879@columbia.edu
(+1)2026150988

PLACEMENT CO-CHAIRS

Don Davis Suresh Naidu
drd28@columbia.edu sn2430@columbia.edu

PLACEMENT ADMINISTRATOR

Amy Devine
aed2152@columbia.edu, +1 (212) 854-6881

RESEARCH INTEREST

Development Economics, Political Economy, Economic History

REFERENCES

Suresh Naidu
Columbia University
sn2430@columbia.edu
+1 (212)-854-0027

Eric Verhoogen
Columbia University
eric.verhoogen@columbia.edu
+1 (212) 854-4428

Réka Juhász
Columbia University
rj2446@columbia.edu
+1 (212) 854-4092

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, Columbia University, NY, USA	2016-22
<i>en route</i> : M.A. in Economics (2017). M.Phil. in Economics (2018)	(expected)
M.A. Economics, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.	2011–12
B.A. Political Science, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.	2007–10
B.A. Economics, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.	2006–10

JOB MARKET PAPER

“An Empire Lost: Spanish Industry and The Effect of Colonial Markets and Trade on Innovation”

Abstract: I investigate the effect of trade on innovation direction using an historical experiment in Spain between 1878 and 1910. I provide causal evidence on how trade movements enhanced technical direction through several channels. First, as predicted by theory, I find that trade policies that forced Spanish colonies to buy cotton fabrics during the last decade of XIXth century encouraged cotton innovation. Second, the Spanish-American war and the unexpected loss of these captive markets forced textile industrialists to enter international markets. I show that this change towards more sophisticated fabrics pushed cotton innovation towards weaving. I show that changes in relative labor effective endowments explain this result. Moreover, I observe the direct adoption of these technologies with an increase in cotton looms after 1900. Finally, I document the presence of spillover effects. Due to knowledge diffusion effects I show that the increase in cotton innovation boosted other economic sectors' development. I find a positive increase in cotton textiles related technologies, but not on sectors related with non-cotton textiles.

RESEARCH PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

- **Killing Social Leaders for Territorial Control: The Unintended Consequences of Peace**, with Mounu Prem, Andres Rivera and Juan Vargas (forthcoming) *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*

- **The Perils of High-Powered Incentives: Evidence from Colombia's False Positives**, with Daron Acemoglu, Leopoldo Fergusson, James Robinson and Juan Fernando Vargas (2020). *American Economic Journal*, vol. 12(3), pp.1- 43.
- **Improving Access to Preventive Maternal Health Care Using Reminders: Experimental Evidence from Guatemala**. With Matias Busso and Dario Salcedo (2017), *Economic Letters*, vol. 161, pp. 43-46.
- **Books or laptops? The effect of shifting from printed to digital delivery of educational content on learning**. With Rosangela Bando, Francisco Gallego and Paul J. Gertler (2017). *Economics of Education Review*, vol. 61, pp. 162-173.
- **The effects of financial aid and returns information in selective and less selective schools: Experimental evidence from Chile**. With Matias Busso, Taryn Dinkelman and Claudia Martínez (2017). *Labour Economics*, Vol. 45, pp. 79-91.
- **Insecurity or Perception of Insecurity? Urban Crime and Dissatisfaction with Life: Evidence from the Case of Bogotá**. (2014). *Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy*, Vol. 20(1), pp. 169-208.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

- Facts and Determinants of Female Labor Supply in Latin America, with Matias Busso. In "Bridging gender gaps? The rise and deceleration of female labor force participation in Latin America", Leonardo Gasparini and Mariana Marchioni (Eds), 2015.

WORKING PAPERS

- **Labor Market Adjustment to Import Competition: Long-run Evidence from Establishment Data**, with Juan Blyde and Matias Busso. IDB WORKING PAPER SERIES N° IDB- WP -01100
- **The Environmental Impact of Civil Conflict: The Deforestation Effect of Paramilitary Expansion in Colombia**, with Leopoldo Fergusson and Juan F. Vargas, Cede Working Paper 2014-36.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Non-State Actors in Pandemic: Violence as a Territorial Control Strategy during COVID-19 (With Diego Martin)
- Every Cloud has a Silver Lining: The Effect of Cotton Crisis on Spanish XIXth Century Textile Industry
- The (unintended?) effects of US military training during the Cold War in Latin-America
- Civilians in the Time of Counterinsurgency: The Consequences of Foreign Military Training in Colombia
- Something Biased This Way Comes: The Effect of Media on Local Elections in US (With Haaris Maatin)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2021** Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA, Bogotá)
2019 Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA, Puebla)

TEACHING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

TEACHING FELLOW

Columbia University

Introduction to Econometrics (Undergraduate)
 Instructor: Seyhan Erden
 Game Theory (Undergraduate)
 Instructor: Qingmin Liu

Summer 2021, Fall 2020

Spring 2021

Perspectives on Economic Studies (Ph.D. 1st Year course)	Spring 2021
Instructor: Joseph Stiglitz and Suresh Naidu	
Political Economy (Undergraduate)	Fall 2019, Fall 2017
Instructor: John Marshall	
Political Economy (Undergraduate)	Fall 2018
Instructor: Alessandra Casella	
Principles of Economics	Spring 2018
Instructor: Nicola Zaniboni	

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Columbia University

Francois Gerard

June 2018- August 2019

Inter-American Development Bank

Matias Busso

2014–2016

J-PAL LAC

Francisco Gallego

2013–2014

Universidad del Rosario

Juan Fernando Vargas

2010–2013

RESEARCH GRANTS AND ACADEMIC AWARDS

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Research Grant	2021
Columbia Development Colloquium; \$1,000	
Dissertation Fellowship	2021
Department of Economics, Columbia University	

AWARDS

Dean's Fellow (Ph.D. in Economics)	2016-2021
Columbia University	

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

REFEREEING

Revista Cuadernos de Economía

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full name: Dario Alberto Romero Fonseca

Citizenship: Colombian

Birth Year: 1989

LANGUAGE

Spanish (Native)	English (Fluent)	Portuguese (Advanced)
German (Intermediate)	French (Beginner)	Italian (Beginner)

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Stata, Python, ArcGIS, QGIS, GeoDa, MATLAB, R, Wolfram Mathematica