

# Manuel Mera

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I hold a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University and have more than thirteen years of experience in the development, implementation and evaluation of public policies in areas such as health research capacity building, labor policies, urban governance and social policies. I have worked as a consultant for the National Government of Argentina, the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank. As a public servant, I held management positions in the City of Buenos Aires and the National Ministry of Labor of Argentina.

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## Skills

- Creativity and Innovation
- Problem-Solving
- Leadership
- Adaptability
- Teamwork
- Conflict Resolution

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## Experience in Consulting and Management

03/2019 – CURRENT

### International Consultant / Freelancer

Conducting policy research, design and evaluation for a variety of topics for national and international projects: World Bank, Ministry of Transportation (Argentina).

01/2016 – 2/2019

**3/2018 – 2/2019**

### ● Director of Studies and Labor Relations / Ministry of Production and Labor

In charge of carrying out studies, analysis and reports on labor conflicts and collective bargaining negotiations. Preparation of cost projections and impact evaluations of national policies on labor and social security. Coordinated the National Program for Productive Transformation. Supervised 25 personnel.

**01/2016 – 3/2018**

### ● Director of the Labor Policy Team / Ministry of Production and Labor

Directed a team that worked on designing, implementing and evaluating policies that favor the creation of jobs, the registration of workers and the protection of vulnerable populations. I developed, among other projects, the First Job Law proposal, the Labor Regularization proposal, the Gender Equality project and a field experiment to increase registration among domestic workers. Supervised 7 personnel.

06/2015 – 10/2015

### Consultant / Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Project Leader of the consultancy team that designed a quasi-experimental study in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The objective was to evaluate the impact of the social program *Ellas Hacen* on the empowerment of low-income women. The Project won the call for evaluations by the Program for the Support of Women's Leadership and Representation (PROLEAD). Supervised 4 personnel.

09/2015 – 10/2015

### **Consultant / Coffey**

Carried out fieldwork and reports for different consultancies for the European Union. Prepared and carried out focus groups and in-depth interviews for projects on consumer's rights and death penalty in Southeast Asia.

06/2009 – 06/2015

### **Researcher / Georgetown University**

Conducted research on subnational governments in Latin America, with fieldwork in Brazil and Argentina. Assistant researcher in the Government Department: academic research and data processing tasks.

### **Resident Director / Georgetown University**

Managed the summer program "The Politics and Economics of Power and Inequality in Latin America" in Buenos Aires. It was carried out jointly between the Government Department of Georgetown University and the National University of San Martin.

02/2008 – 09/2009

### **Policy Advisor / Government Control Agency (AGC), Government of the City of Buenos Aires**

Advisor to the Executive Director of the AGC, an autarkic agency created in 2008. Responsible for diverse tasks such as: hiring of inspectors and interns; professional development within the agency; coordination of the different areas of the institution; and development of modernization programs. Supervised 4 personnel.

04/2006 – 05/2009

### **Consultant / National Ministry of Health, Argentina**

I participated in the impact evaluation of the "Ramón Carrillo-Arturo Oñativia" fellowships and the internal operations of the CONAPRIS (Comisión Nacional De Programas de Investigación Sanitaria). This research also involved formulating the base lines for the newly created Comisión Nacional Salud Investiga, and proposals for overcoming the knowledge-to-action gaps in public health in Argentina.

07/2006 – 11/2006

### **Consultant / Universidad Di Tella / World Bank**

Consultancy on Social Policies in Argentina, carried out by a research team of the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella for the World Bank. I took part in the planning and execution of the field work and the primary analysis of the information gathered. The consultancy team was directed by Catalina Smulovitz and Alejandro Bonvecchi.

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## **Education**

2016

### **Ph.D. in Government / Georgetown University**

Dissertation: "National Democracies, Local Autocracies: The Uneven Democratization of Subnational Governments in Argentina and Brazil."

2014

### **Master of Arts in Government / Georgetown University**

2005

### **Bachelor of Arts in Political Science / Universidad Torcuato Di Tella**

Dissertation: "The Process of Institutionalization of the Police of the City of Buenos Aires."

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## Academic Activities

04/2019 – CURRENT

**Research Associate / Centro de Estudios Distributivos, Laborales y Sociales (CEDLAS)**

07/2018 – CURRENT

**Visiting Professor / Universidad Torcuato Di Tella**

Introduction to Public Policy. Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

05/2018 – 08/2018

**Visiting Professor / Universidad Nacional de San Martín**

Labor Policy. Master of Arts in Public Policy and Development.

09/2016 – 11/2016

**Visiting Professor / Universidad Católica Argentina**

Seminar on Labor Policies in Latin America. Master's Degree in Applied Economics. Co-taught with José de Anchorena.

01/2011 – 12/2014

**Teaching Assistant / Georgetown University**

Comparative Political Systems, 2011, 2013 y 2014; Introduction to International Relations: 2012 y 2014

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## Selected Congresses and Publications

- “Políticas Laborales en Argentina,” presented in the Academy on the Transition to the Formal Economy, *International Labor Organization*, Turín, Italy, November 2018.
- “Autocratic Enclaves in Democratic Countries: The Impact of Economic Diversification,” *Journal of Globalization, Competitiveness & Governability*, jan/april 2018; Vol 12 Num 1, pp 63-77..
- “Democracias Nacionales, Autocracias Locales,” presented in the *XIII National Congress of Political Science*, Buenos Aires, 2-5 August 2017.
- “La disyuntiva de Cristina,” *El Estadista*, year 5 / N° 104, Octubre 2014.
- “Local Autocrats, National Democrats: Subnational Democratization in Latin America,” *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, September 2014.
- “Development Aid Confronts Politics: The Almost Revolution. Review by Manuel Mera. *Democracy and Society*. Volume 11 Issue 1 Fall 2013.
- “El Proceso de Institucionalización de la Policía Federal (1880-1944),” presented in the *VIII Congreso Nacional de Ciencia Política*, Buenos Aires, November 2007.
- “La necesidad de buenos indicadores de salud: Garbage in, Garbage out,” *La Revista del ITAES, Instituto Técnico para la Acreditación de Establecimientos de Salud*, Vol 7, nº 3, July-August-September, 2005.

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## Languages

**Spanish / Native**

**English / Bilingual**

**Portuguese / Intermediate**