

Julián D. López-Murcia, PhD

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Julián is one of Colombia's leading experts on water regulation and governance, public law, and decentralisation issues. After serving in government and as a dean, Julián has worked as a consultant for the World Bank, the IDB, the CAF, the International Water Association, and the NORC center at the University of Chicago. In addition, he has taught at the CTLS led by Georgetown University in London as well as at leading universities in Colombia, Ecuador, and El Salvador.

Recently, he published two books: "Recentralisation in Colombia" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022) and "*Inteligencia Regulatoria: algunas herramientas para diseñar y analizar regulación*" (Legis, 2022). His previous work has been cited by the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation (Report A/HRC/36/45) and the Pan American Health Organization, as well as by some Colombian authorities such as the Constitutional Court. He has presented his work at the APSA congress, the IWA World Water Congress and universities such as Sciences Po, Oxford, UNAM, CIDE, and the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Julián was educated at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá (LLB). As a scholar of the Low Murtra programme, he obtained an MSc in Regulation at the London School of Economics and then received his doctorate in Politics from Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford, where he studied under the supervision of Christopher Hood and Eduardo Posada-Carbó.

EDUCATION

- **University of Oxford**
2012-2017, **DPhil (Ph.D.) in Politics**
- **London School of Economics**
2011-2012, **MSc in Regulation**
- **Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Colombia)**
2005-2007, **LL.M. (master's degree in Economic Law)**
2000-2004, **LL.B. (Lawyer)**

CONSULTANCY EXPERIENCE

- **Nalanda Analytica**, 2020-present
 - Analysis and design of legal solutions in relation to the supply of drinking water to communities near oil fields.
 - Regulatory analysis for a project on water supply to low-income communities in Mexico, Colombia, and Paraguay.
 - Analysis of the application of a *business and human rights* perspective in relation to drinking water and basic sanitation providers in Colombia.

- **World Bank** (short term consultant), 2019-2020 and 2023-present
 - Contribute to the design of a tool that links levels of development in public service delivery with different solution options or accelerators (in terms of governance and regulatory strategies).
 - Analysis and presentation for a meeting with Albanian officials on public utility regulatory regimes in Colombia and Portugal.
 - Analysis of water governance in Colombia, identification of bottlenecks, and formulation of recommendations.

- **International Water Association -IWA-**, 2022-present
 - Preparation of a white paper on tools for water regulators to better cope with increasing uncertainty.
 - 7th IWRF - International Water Regulators Forum – outcomes report: https://iwa-network.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/IWA_7th-International-Water-Regulators-Forum_Outcomes-Report.pdf

- **NORC at the University of Chicago**, 2021-2023
 - Analysis of the governance and political economy of the water and sanitation sector in El Salvador (literature review), as part of a consultancy commissioned by USAID.
 - Analysis of the governance and political economy of the water and sanitation sector in El Salvador (fieldwork), as part of a consultancy commissioned by USAID.
 - Report: https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00ZWRP.pdf

- **Inter-American Development Bank -IDB-** (PEC), 2021-2022
 - Analysis of the development of the human right to water and sanitation through the regulation of the drinking water and sanitation regulatory commission, as part of the preparation of terms of reference.
 - Review and editing of two reports documenting the development of IDB programmes in Colombia in the water and sanitation sector.

- **CAF – Development Bank of Latin America**, 2022
 - Preparation of a case study on a CAF-supported programme to reduce the burden of formalities for businesses and citizens.

- **UrbanPro**, 2022-present
 - Advising the Inspector General's Office (*Procuraduría General de la Nación*) on the adoption of best practices for the design of a national prevention plan with differentiated territorial criteria, as part of a consultancy commissioned by DAI Global.
 - Advising as a decentralisation expert in a project contracted by UNDP to support the Decentralisation Mission organised by the Colombian government.

- **Ministerio de Vivienda, Ciudad y Territorio** (Ministry of Housing, City and Territory), 2022
 - Advice to the Minister on the main policies of the water and sanitation sector, especially for the national development plan.

- **Secretaría de Desarrollo Económico de Bogotá** (Secretariat of Economic Development of Bogota), 2021
 - Analysis of Bogotá's policy developments to improve the quality of regulation.

- **Comisión de Regulación de Agua Potable y Saneamiento Básico -CRA-** (Water and Sanitation Regulatory Commission), 2020
 - Analysis of the content of the human right to water and sanitation and its development in Colombia in constitutional and legal provisions, as well as in the regulation of the CRA.
 - Analysis of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on drinking water and sanitation providers.

- **Federación Nacional de Departamentos -FND-** (National Federation of Departments), 2019
 - Identification of the problems of decentralisation in Colombia and design of solutions through a draft constitutional reform (in relation to the political and administrative aspects of decentralisation).

- **Management Systems International -MSI- (Tetra Tech)**, 2018
 - Analysis of the regulation of sub-national planning and its coordination with national planning in Colombia, as well as solutions developed in other countries for such coordination (project for the National Planning Department of Colombia).

- **Superintendencia de Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios** (Superintendency of Public Utilities), 2007 - 2010
 - Analysis of draft laws and decrees related to public utilities.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Partner**
Nalanda Analytica S.A.S.
2020 – present
 - Co-founder and partner responsible for managing consultancy projects, legal advice, regulatory software development and recruitment of associates and junior consultants.
- **Ad-hoc Justice (Conjuez)**
Tribunal Administrativo de Cundinamarca
2019 - present
 - Part-time support.
 - Replace court judges if they are unable to act.
- **Associate Professor**
Universidad de La Sabana
2020 - 2022
 - I taught courses on Colombian Public Administration, Public Policy, and Law and Economics.
 - Research on decentralisation in Colombia, as well as tools for analysing and designing regulation.
 - Advising on the development of indicators for the *Procuraduría General de la Nación* to assess the authorities' compliance with the Peace Accords, in a project commissioned by IOM, UN Migration.
- **Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences**
Universidad de Bogotá Jorge Tadeo Lozano
2018 - 2020
 - Leading the academic and administrative team of the faculty of social sciences, which included the departments of law, political science, journalism, film and television, and humanities.
- **Superintendent of Water Supply and Sanitation**
Superintendencia de Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios (Superintendency of Public Utilities)
www.superservicios.gov.co
2016 – 2018
 - Lead national monitoring and control of drinking water and sanitation service providers.
 - Participate with voice but without vote in the deliberations of the drinking water and sanitation regulatory commission.
 - Leading a team of 150 people.

- **Director of the Centre for Studies in International and Global Law**
Pontificia Universidad Javeriana
2008 - 2011
 - Leader of the international law research group.
 - Editor of the Journal of International Law.
- **Associate**
Palacios Lleras (a leading Colombian law firm in the utilities and natural resources sectors)
www.palacioslleras.com
2005 - 2007 and 2011
 - Preparation of legal concepts and participation in teams in charge of national and international litigation.
- **Research assistant**
Palacios Lleras
2003 - 2005
 - Research of case law and academic literature useful for the firm's concepts and litigation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

United Kingdom

The Center for Transnational Legal Studies in London -CTLS, Georgetown University et al.
[Transnational Environmental Law](#)

St Anne's College, University of Oxford
Politics in Latin America (tutorial)

Colombia

Universidad de Los Andes
Politics, Public Management and Public Policy
Legislation and Public Policy

Universidad Nacional de Colombia
The State and the Economy

Universidad Externado de Colombia
Regulatory Analysis and Design

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana
Utilities Regulation
Human Rights and Development

Universidad del Rosario
Utilities Regulation

El Salvador

Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas -UCA
Utilities Regulation in Developing Countries

Ecuador

Universidad de Cuenca
Utilities Regulation

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- **Recentralisation in Colombia, Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.**
"This is a timely contribution to the literature on multilevel governance."
Kent Eaton, Professor of Politics, Politics Department, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA
 - **ReVista - Harvard Review of Latin America:** <https://bit.ly/3TFDT0z>
 - **LSE Review of Books:** <https://bit.ly/3hNMfpX>
- *Inteligencia Regulatoria: Algunas Herramientas para Diseñar y Analizar Regulación* (Regulatory Intelligence: Some Tools for Designing and Analysing Regulation), LEGIS, 2022. More information: <https://www.legis.com.co/inteligencia-regulatoria/p>
- *La Garantía de los Derechos Sociales* (The Guarantee of Social Rights) (ISBN 978-958-716-310-0), Pontificia Universidad Javeriana and Ibáñez Press, 2009 (With Alfredo Bateman, Juliana Vengoechea and Juanita López. Foreword by Nilson Pinilla, former President of the Colombian Constitutional Court). More information: <http://id.lib.harvard.edu/alma/990126089920203941/catalog>

Journal articles

- **Regulatory Agencies and Courts in the South: The Overlaps in the Colombian Water Regulation, Journal of Politics in Latin America** (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1868-4890), 5 (2) 2013, pp. 105-132.
Link: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1866802X1300500204>
- **Political Institutions and Judicial Role: An Approach in Context, the Case of the Colombian Constitutional Court, Universitas** (ISSN 0041-9060), No.119.2009, pp. 55-92 (with D. Landau).
Link: <https://www.redalyc.org/articulo.oa?id=82515353009>
- *La Protección de la Propiedad de la Tierra en la Jurisprudencia de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos y su Aplicación al Caso de las Comunidades Campesinas en Colombia* (The Protection of Land Ownership in the Jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and its Application to the Case of Rural Communities in Colombia), International Law. *Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-8156), No.14.2009, pp.71-105 (with G. Maldonado).
- *El Régimen Tarifario de los Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios y la Cláusula de Progresividad de los DESC en Colombia* (The Tariff Regime of Public Household Services and the Progressivity Clause of ESCR in Colombia), *Revista de la Maestría en Derecho Económico* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-3103), No.5. 2009, pp.201-240.

- “*Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios*”: una Reinterpretación Desde el Bloque de Constitucionalidad (Public Household Services: A Reinterpretation from the Block of Constitutionality), *Vniversitas* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 0041-9060), No.117.2008, pp.171-196 (with J. Schonberger).
- *La Obligación de Progresividad de los Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales: el Caso de los Servicios Públicos en Colombia* (The Obligation of Progressivity of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: The Case of Public Services in Colombia), *International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-8156), No.12.2008, pp.217-252 (with L. García).
- *La Problemática Actual de los Paraísos Fiscales* (The Current Problem of Tax Havens), *International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692- 8156), No.10.2007, pp.311-338 (with J. Schonberger).
- *Asistencia Estatal a los Desplazados y Reparaciones en el Sistema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos* (State Assistance to Displaced Persons and Reparations in the Inter-American Human Rights System), *International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional* (peer-reviewed journal – ISSN 1692-8156), No.8.2006, pp. 161-194 (with J. Acosta).

Book chapters

- *El Bloque de Constitucionalidad en su Dimensión Correcta: Obligatoriedad de las Interpretaciones Autorizadas* (The Constitutional Block in its Correct Dimension: Binding character of the Authoritative Interpretations) in “*Realidades y Tendencias del Derecho en el Siglo XXI – Filosofía e Historia del Derecho*” (ISBN: 978-958-35-0805-9), Pontificia Universidad Javeriana and Editorial Temis, 2010, p. 233 – 254.

Academic blogging

- Colombia elections 2022: no serious hope for decentralisation recovery, **LSE Latin America and Caribbean Blog**, 26 May 2022. [Full text.](#)
- Water Supply and Sanitation in Colombia: From Decentralisation to Recentralisation, Global Water Forum, UNESCO- **Australian National University**, 16 March 2015. [Full text.](#)
- A critical case: The United Kingdom and New Public Management, OXPOL (**Oxford University**), 26 November 2015. [Full text.](#)
- Book review: Policy Alienation and the Power of Professionals: Confronting New Policies, **LSE Review of Books**, 8 April 2014. [Full text.](#)
- Book review: Political Struggles and the Forging of Autonomous Government Agencies, **LSE Review of Books**, 1 September 2013. [Full text.](#)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- *Nuevo gobierno en Colombia: ¿se escucharán ahora las voces de las regiones?* (New government in Colombia: will the voices of the regions now be heard?), avec Julian Lopez Murcia, Professeur à l'Université de la Sabana, Colombie. Auteur de l'ouvrage "Recentralisation in Colombia" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), Observatoire politique de l'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes, **Sciences Po** (France), 29 September 2022: <https://bit.ly/3gfGbps>
- Design thinking methodologies in water regulation. 7th International Water Regulators Forum, **IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition** (WWCE), IWA, Copenhagen (Denmark), 15 September 2022: <https://bit.ly/3tH7pZu>
- "Recentralisation in Colombia" by Julián D. López-Murcia, LASA 2022 (virtual), 6 May 2022: <https://bit.ly/3tEaPfl>
- Look Who's Back: Recentralisation in Colombia, LAC Main Seminar Series: Roundtable on the new book "Recentralisation in Colombia" by Julian D. Lopez Murcia, **Latin American Centre of the University of Oxford** (UK), 11 February 2022: <https://bit.ly/3Ak0kSI>
- *Cuatro déficits de la gestión hídrica en Colombia* (Four deficits of water management in Colombia), Ciclo de seminarios: Dialogando por el agua "Gestión hídrica en Latinoamérica: realidades y desafíos, Centro de Derecho y Gestión de Aguas UC, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 8 September 2021: <https://www.facebook.com/CDGAUC/videos/222366449751633/>
- Regulation and Development: Regulating Local Governments in Colombia, 1994-2019, Regulation and Development in Latin America: Towards a Regional Research Agenda, *Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas* –CIDE and LSE, Mexico City, 25-26 November 2019.
- A Path-Dependent Theory of Recentralisation, 115th **American Political Science Association** –APSA Annual Meeting, Washington DC (USA), 29 August - 1 September 2019.
- *¿Cómo usar la Regulación de Servicios Públicos para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático?* (How to use Utilities Regulation for Climate Change Adaptation?), *II Jornadas Académicas de Derecho Ambiental*, Universidad de Cuenca (Ecuador), 5-6 November 2018.
- Recentralisation and its causes: Colombia 1994-2014, 112th **American Political Science Association** -APSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia (USA), 1-4 September 2016.
- The Role of Economic Performance on the Emergence of Recentralisation: Colombia 1994-2014, XXXIV International Congress of the *Latin American Studies Association* -LASA, New York (USA), 27-30 May 2016.
- The Causes of Recentralisation in Colombia (2007-2011), 111th **American Political Science Association** –APSA Annual Meeting, San Francisco (USA), 3-6 September 2015.
- The New Colombian System of Royalties: Decentralisation or Recentralisation?, XXXIII International Congress of the *Latin American Studies Association* -LASA, San Juan (Puerto Rico), 27-30 May 2015.

- Regulatory Agencies and Courts in the Global South, Latin American Constitutionalism: between Law and Politics, *University of Glasgow*, Glasgow (UK), 2 July 2014.
- The Emergence of Recentralisation in Colombia, XXXII International Congress of the *Latin American Studies Association -LASA*, Chicago (USA), 21-24 May 2014.
- *El Bloque de Constitucionalidad en su Dimensión Correcta: Obligatoriedad de las "Interpretaciones Autorizadas" de los Tratados Internacionales de Derechos Humanos* (The Constitutional Block in its Correct Dimension: Binding carácter of the "Authoritative Interpretations" of International Human Rights Treaties), *VII Seminario Permanente de Derechos Humanos Xabier Gorostiaga, S.J.*, Universidad del Zulia et al., Maracaibo (Venezuela), 31 May and 1-3 June 2011.
- *Propiedad Privada en el Sistema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos* (Private Property in the Inter-American Human Rights System), *Curso Internacional de Jurisprudencia de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos*, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México - UNAM, Mexico City, 26-27 February 2009.

REFEREEING

Journal of Latin American Studies (ISSN: 0022-216X), Latin America Politics and Society (ISSN 1531-426X), Inter-American Development Bank -IDB-(Discussion papers), Economía Institucional (ISSN 0124-5996), Cuadernos de Administración (ISSN0120-4645), Estudios Políticos (ISSN online 2462-8433), Revista de la Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Políticas (ISSN online 2390-0016), Revista Estudios de Derecho (ISSN online 2145-6151) Estudios Socio-Jurídicos (ISSN 0124-0579), Opinión Jurídica (ISSN1692-2530), Vniversitas (ISSN 0041-9060), Anuario Colombiano de Derecho Internacional (ISSN: 2027-1131), International Law. Revista Colombiana de Derecho Internacional (ISSN 1692-8156), and Civilizar (ISSN 1657-8953).

MEDIA

López Murcia's work has been covered in the media. He has done several interviews for television, radio, newspapers, and magazines, including **El País (Spain)**, **CM&**, **Caracol Radio**, **La FM**, **El Espectador**, **Revista Semana**, **La República**, **La Silla Vacía**, **Ámbito Jurídico**, and others.

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES

International Water Association (IWA), American Political Science Association (APSA), and Latin American Studies Association (LASA)