

MAREN JULIA MAINX

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EDUCATION

- 2021–current Ph.D. student in Security Studies Program at **University of Central Florida**, Orlando, USA (Doctoral Scholarship, Tuition Waiver, Dean’s Fellowship)
- 2016–2018 **Hochschule Fulda University of Applied Sciences**, Fulda, Germany
M.A. in *Intercultural Communication and European Studies*
Thesis title “Climate Change and Development Policy. A Case Study on German-Costa Rican Cooperation”
- 2013–2016 **Technische Hochschule Köln**, Cologne, Germany
B.A. in *Multilingual Communication in English and Spanish*
Thesis title “Intercultural Competency in Business Communication – Comparison of Research Positions and their Representation in Practical Guides”

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Militarization of Law Enforcement; Military Involvement and Regimes; Conflict and Human Rights; External Repression; Public Opinion; Latino Politics; Comparative, Global, and Immigration Politics

RESEARCH UNDER REVIEW

1. Tezcür, Güneş M., Kenicia Wright, **Maren J. Mainx** and Jordin Tafoya. They are Hiding the Truth and Plotting: Explaining Latinx Belief in Conspiracy Theories.
2. **Mainx, Maren J.** Climate Change and Development Policy: A Case Study on German-Costa Rican Cooperation.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

1. **Mainx, Maren J.** Trust in Law Enforcement in Latin America: The Importance of Policing Strategy and Degree of Militarization.
2. **Mainx, Maren J.** Democratic Backsliding, Corruption, and Militarization in Latin America: New Ways to Overcome the Moral Hazard Problem?
3. Aslett, Kevin, Beatrice Magistro, Morgan Wack and **Maren J. Mainx.** Sportswashing: Evidence from the 2022 World Cup.
4. Mirilovic, Nikola, **Maren J. Mainx**, and Gerasimos Tsourapas. When Do Autocracies Repress the Diaspora? Explaining the Timing of Transnational Repression.
5. Mirilovic, Nikola, **Maren J. Mainx**, and Gerasimos Tsourapas. Transnational Repression During Operation Condor: Gender-Specific Differences between Uruguayans.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

01/2024–current	Course instructor for POS 3703 (Scope and Methods of Political Science) at University of Central Florida
08–12/2023	Course instructor for INR 4075 (Human Rights Policy) at University of Central Florida
08–12/2022	Graduate teaching assistant for POT 4305 (Democracy, Capitalism, and the Individual) and INR 4008 (Global Perspectives) at University of Central Florida
08–12/2021	Graduate teaching assistant for CPO 4101 (Politics of the European Union) and INR 4075 (Human Rights Policy) at University of Central Florida
10/2020–03/2021	Course instructor for German Development Policy in Times of Climate Change at University of Applied Sciences Fulda
09–12/2019	German teacher for CEFR levels A1, A2, and C1 at Centro Goethe Costa Rica

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

01/2024–current	Graduate Research Assistant/Lab Manager in Policing Lab for Dr. Erica De Bruin, funded by National Science Foundation , at Hamilton College , NY, USA
01–08/2023	Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Kevin Aslett for various Twitter-related projects on spread of election misinformation, sports-washing, and digital media literacy intervention at University of Central Florida
01–08/2022	Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Kenicia Wright for project on political behavior and opinions of Latin Americans, funded by National Science Foundation , at University of Central Florida
05/2017–02/2018	Student assistant for Prof. Dr. Kristen Nazarkiewicz for research and project related to cultural studies at University of Applied Sciences Fulda

CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

01/2024	Paper presentation: Democratic Backsliding and Militarization in Central America: Overcoming the Moral Hazard Problem at inaugural Central American Politics Consortium (CAPC) Workshop , Tulane University, New Orleans, USA
08/2023	Instructor for Introduction to STATA as part of Ph.D. Summer Methodology Workshop, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs. University of Central Florida
04/2023	Paper presentation: The Government is Hiding the Truth and Plotting: Explaining Latinx Belief in Conspiracy Theories at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) , 80 th Annual MPSA Conference, Chicago, USA

01/2023 Paper presentation: **Public Trust in Law Enforcement in Latin America** at **Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)**, 94th Annual SPSA Conference, St. Petersburg, USA

08/2022 Roundtable: **Rethinking Law & Democracy Education: Student-Led Learning** at Bergen Exchanges on Law & Social Transformation (BeEx2022), Centre on Law and Social Transformation, **Chr. Michelsen Institute** and **University of Bergen**, Bergen, Norway

SPECIAL COURSE WORK

08/2022 **Summer PhD Course: Effects of Lawfare – Courts and law as battlegrounds for social change (AORG908)**, Department of Administration & Organization Theory, LawTransform / Research Group on Law, Politics & Welfare Track on “Democracy & Autocratization” at **University of Bergen**

MEMBERSHIPS

09/2023 – current Member of **International Studies Association**

01/2023 – current Member of **Midwest Political Science Association**

11/2022 – current Member of **Southern Political Science Association**

WORK EXPERIENCE

2019 Culture and project manager at **Centro Goethe Costa Rica** in San José, Costa Rica

2012–2016 Program assistant at **Academy for International Education (AIB)** in Bonn, Germany (non-profit organization offering study abroad programs for mainly international US-American students)

INTERNSHIPS

2017 **Centro Goethe Costa Rica**

2015 **Texas A&M University**, College Station, TX, USA

SOFTWARE SKILLS

STATA, R, Python, Qualtrics, Trint

LANGUAGE SKILLS

German native speaker
English proficient
Spanish proficient
French good knowledge (CEFR B1/B2)
Italian basic knowledge (CEFR A2)

Last Update: February 20, 2024