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# LAURA HERAS-RECUERO

lauraherasrec@gmail.com • Nationality: Spanish • <https://lauraherasrec.github.io/>  
Address: 2901 18<sup>th</sup> St. NW Apt. 106 20009 Washington, DC

## EDUCATION

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**American University** August 2020 – February 2026  
PhD in Economics *Washington DC, US*  
Dissertation: “Three Essays in Economic Development in Latin America”  
*Committee:* Robert A. Blecker (chair), Gabriel Mathy, Juan Antonio Montecino, Eric Hershberg.

**American University** August 2020 – May 2023  
Master of Arts in Economics *Washington DC, US*

**Université Paris 13 Nord & Université Paris VII Diderot** September 2015 – July 2016  
Master in Economic Policy and Analysis *Paris, France*  
Specialization in Development Policies

**Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) of the United Nations** July – Sep. 2015  
Summer School on Latin American Economies *Santiago, Chile*

**University of the Basque Country** September 2014 – September 2015  
Master in Development Studies *Bilbao, Spain*

**Autonomous University of Madrid** September 2009 – July 2013  
Bachelor of Economics *Madrid, Spain*  
Specialization in Economic Structure and Development Economics

**National Distance Education University (UNED)** September 2011 – June 2021  
Bachelor of Psychology  
*Internship:* Research Assistant at the Dept. of Social and Organizational Psychology (Nov. 2019-June 2020)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Development Economics, Energy Economics, Applied Macroeconomics, Trade, Productive Development, Climate Change, Inequality, Economic History, Latin American economies.

## RESEARCH

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### JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- Curti Cícero, V. and L. Heras-Recuero (2026). The consumption side of trade shocks: Inequality dynamics and luxury imports. *Journal of Development Economics*, 179, 103663. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2025.103663>
- Heras-Recuero, L (2025). The rise of the middle class and the pattern of consumption imports in Latin America. *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics*, 75, 464-485. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.strueco.2025.08.016>

### WORK IN PROGRESS

- Economic liberalization, industrial policy and manufacturing performance in Mexico.

- Energy transformation and local economic development: Evidence from renewable energy investments in Colombia (with Lenin H. Balza and José Belmar).

#### WORKING PAPERS

- Balza, Lenin H., Heras-Recuero, L., Matías, D. and R. A. Yépez-García (2024). *Green or growth? Understanding the relationship between economic growth and CO2 emissions*. Technical Note No. IDB-TN-2930 (submitted).

#### PRE-DOCTORAL PUBLICATIONS

- Heras Recuero, L. and R. Pascual González (2019). *Economic growth, institutional quality, and financial development in middle-income countries*. Working Papers No. 1937, Banco de España.
- Sastre, T. and L. Heras Recuero (2019). *Domestic and foreign investment in advanced economies. The role of industry integration*. Working Papers No. 1933, Banco de España.
- Heras Recuero, L. and E. Olaberria (2018). *Public spending in education and student performance in Colombia*. OECD Economics Department Working Papers, No. 1460. OECD Publishing, Paris.
- Heras-Recuero, L., L'Hotellerie-Fallois, P. and S. Párraga Rodríguez (2019). *La economía de EEUU, diez años después de la crisis*. Boletín Económico del ICE, No. 3110. Secretaría de Estado de Comercio, Ministerio de Industria, Comercio y Turismo, Madrid.

#### OTHER JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- Osca, A. and L. Heras-Recuero (2024). Actor-partner effects of coping strategies on emotional exhaustion in dual-earner couples. *Family Relations*, 73(2). 1219-1234. <https://doi.org/10.1111/fare.12948>
- Heras Recuero, L. and A. Osca Segovia (2021). Work-family conflict, coping strategies, and burnout: A gender and couple analysis. *Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology*, 37(1). 21-28. <https://doi.org/10.5093/jwop2021a5>

#### PROFESSIONAL / RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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##### **Inter-American Development Bank**

*Energy Economics Consultant*

June 2025 – Present

*Washington DC, US*

Energy Division. Knowledge Team.

- Led the development of a research project on renewable energy expansion and its impacts on local development outcomes in Colombia.
- Contributed to the team's research projects, including data and econometric work on two papers examining the effects of droughts on hydroelectric generation in Chile and across a pool of countries in the region.
- Supervised two interns by designing their work plans and providing weekly guidance and performance feedback.
- Prepared briefs on various energy sector topics for the CDIs of Honduras and Guyana.
- Produced analytical work and internal notes on energy subsidies to support division operations.
- Reviewed and provided comments on division publications.

##### **The World Bank**

*Macroeconomic Research Consultant*

January 2025 – May 2025

*Washington DC, US*

Office of the Chief Economist, South Asia Region.

- Contributed to the April 2025 South Asia Development Update: drafted notes on energy, productivity, agriculture, and trade issues, produced graphs, collected data, performed statistical and econometric analysis on various topics.
- Reviewed and commented on division presentations and publications.
- Worked on a project on the impact of tariffs on macroeconomic outcomes in South Asia.

**Inter-American Development Bank**

June – August 2023

*Research Intern*

*Washington DC, US*

Energy Division.

- Lead author of a paper on the relationship between economic growth and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: literature review, data collection, statistical and econometric analysis, drafting of the paper.
- Reviewed and commented on division presentations and publications.

**American University**

January 2021 – August 2021; January 2024 – May 2024

*Research Assistant*

*Washington DC, US*

Research Assistant for Prof. Ignacio González, Prof. Robert Blecker and Prof. Gabriel Mathy.

- Literature review, data collection, statistical and econometric analysis, macroeconomic modeling, and forecasting for various projects on topics including FDI, investment, external debt, taxation and macro modeling.

**Banco de España (*Central Bank of Spain*)**

September 2017 – August 2019

*Research Assistant*

*Madrid, Spain*

Directorate General – Economics, Statistics and Research. International Economics and Euro Area Department.

- Lead author of the working paper “Economic growth, institutional quality and financial development in middle-income countries”.
- Co-authored the working paper “Domestic and foreign investment in advanced economies. The role of industry integration”.
- Monitored macroeconomic developments of the United States: drafting of macroeconomic indicator notes, maintenance of databases and forecasting tools and, participation in internal economic reports and publications.
- Provided technical assistance to the Department: elaboration of tables and graphs for presentations, management of databases, writing of internal notes, statistical analysis.

**École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales**

April – July 2017

*Research Assistant*

*Paris, France*

Fondation France-Japon de l'EHESS.

- Technical assistance in book chapter on economic development in Japan: firm-level database management and cleaning, statistical and econometric analysis.

**Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** March 2016 – Jan. 2017

*Research Consultant/Trainee*

*Paris, France*

Economics Department. Country Studies branch.

- Co-authored a Technical Background Paper to support the Economic Survey of Colombia on the relationship between public expenditure and academic performance in the country, later published as an Economics Department Working Paper.
- Provided technical support to the Economic Survey of Colombia 2017: compilation and analysis of data, preparation of notes on different topics including infrastructure, education and macroeconomic indicators.
- Drafted a report on the state of the manufacturing industry in the BRIICS countries.

**Autonomous University of Madrid**

November 2012 – June 2013

Department of Public Economics.

- Participated in a research project on the effects of the economic crisis on the employment rate of the migrant population: literature review, database management, statistical and econometric analysis.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### American University

August 2021 – December 2024

Teaching Assistant

Washington DC, US

Teaching Assistant for PhD Development Macroeconomics (*Spring 2023*), PhD Empirical Macroeconomics (*Fall 2024*), Graduate Econometrics (*Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Fall 2024*), Graduate International Economics: Trade (*Fall 2024*), Undergraduate Econometrics (*Fall 2023*), Undergrad Macroeconomics (*Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2023*), Undergrad Senior Policy Analysis Seminar (*Spring 2024*), Undergrad Economic History (*Spring 2022*), Undergrad Money, Banking and Finance (*Spring 2022*), Undergrad Economic Inequality (*Spring 2022*).

## CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

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- 2025** Eastern Economic Association Conference (February 20-23) – *New York*  
Latin American Studies Association Congress (May 23-26) – *San Francisco, US*
- 2024** Southern Economic Association 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (November 23-25) – *Washington, DC*  
VII Congress of the Spanish Network of Development Studies (May 30) – *Madrid, Spain*  
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (July 8-11) – *Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*
- 2022** Gender Dissertation Workshop, American University (September 12) – *Washington, DC*
- 2019** Research Seminars, Banco de España (March 26, June 25) – *Madrid, Spain*
- 2018** European Investment Bank (November 27) – *Luxembourg*

## GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

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- Travel and Accommodation Grant**, Young Scholars Initiative 2024, 2025
- Econometrics Prize**, Department of Economics, American University 2024
- Field Research Grant**, Department of Economics, American University 2024
- Frank M. Tamagna Prize** (\$3800), American University 2023
- Merit-based Graduate Fellowship**, American University 2020 – 2024
- Research Assistant Fellowship**, Spanish Ministry of Education Nov. 2012 – June 2013

## SKILLS

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**Programming and software** Stata, QGIS, R, Matlab, Python, SPSS, LaTeX

**Languages** Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Intermediate)

## COMPLEMENTARY TRAINING

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Summer School on Panel Data Econometrics (*CEMFI*) (15 hours), Advanced Stata Course (*Banco de España*) (12 hours), Macroeconometric Forecasting Course (*IMF*) (90 hours).

## REFERENCES

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### Robert A. Blecker

Professor, American University

[blecker@american.edu](mailto:blecker@american.edu)

### Gabriel Mathy

Associate Professor, American University

[mathy@american.edu](mailto:mathy@american.edu)

### Juan Antonio Montecino

Assistant Professor, American University

[montecino@american.edu](mailto:montecino@american.edu)

**Eric Hershberg**

Professor Emeritus, American University

[hershber@american.edu](mailto:hershber@american.edu)

**Eduardo Olaberria**  
Principal Economist, IFC  
[eolaberria@ifc.org](mailto:eolaberria@ifc.org)

**Lenin H. Balza**  
Senior Specialist, Inter-American  
Development Bank  
[leninb@iadb.org](mailto:leninb@iadb.org)