



Dr. Vilma C. Balmaceda**2010 Arts and Sciences Junior Professor of the Year**

Associate Professor of Political Science

1 South Boulevard,
Nyack, NY 10960
North Campus Building, Room 105A

Vilma.Balmaceda@nyack.edu
875-675-4582

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Notre Dame du Lac
M.A. in Government and International Studies, University of Notre Dame du Lac
M.A. in International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame du Lac
Licentiate in Law (JD equivalent), Pontifical Catholic University of Peru
B.A. in Law, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

Areas of Specialization/Expertise

- Comparative Politics: Latin America
- International Human Rights Law
- Conflict resolution and peacebuilding

Current Areas of Research

- The role of civil society in democratic consolidation
- Intrastate accountability
- Informal institutions affecting political processes in fragile democracies

Courses Taught

- Introduction to Political Science
- American Government
- International Politics
- Comparative Politics
- International Law
- Business Law
- Latin American History
- Global Issues (graduate)
- International Development: History and Theory (graduate)
- Comparative Models of Mediation (graduate)

- Global Leadership and Diversity (graduate)

Membership in Professional Societies

- American Political Science Association – APSA
- Midwest Political Science Association – MPSA
- International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education – IAPCHE
- Advocates International – AI (Board member; Global Council Member)
- Latin American Christian Lawyers Network – RLAAC (Founder and Board member)
- Christian Legal Society of Peru – SJC (Founder and Board member)
- Christian Legal Institute of Uruguay – IJC (honorary member)
- Christian Legal Institute of Brazil – ICJB (Board of Advisors member)

Recent Presentations

- Seminar “International Human Rights and the Development of Human Capabilities.” Peace and Hope International. Lima, Peru, August 16, 2010.
- Seminar “Theories of International Development.” 2010 Convocation for Latin American Christian Lawyers. Acapulco, Mexico. May 28-30, 2010.
- Workshop “Principles of Christian Leadership” for board members of Latin American Christian lawyers organizations. Acapulco, Mexico May 25-27, 2010.
- Peacemaking Training for Pastors and Church Leaders of the CMA Hispanic District, Queens, May 14-16, 2010.
- Plenary Session Paper: “A Vision of a Desired Society: Political Dimensions.” Regional Consultation for Central America and The Caribbean on Church, Power and Mission. Latin American Theological Fellowship (FTL) and School of Philosophy, National University of Costa Rica. Heredia, Costa Rica. August 7, 2009
- Plenary Session: “Challenges to Human Rights and Democratic Consolidation in Latin America.” Conference on Human Rights and Democracy in Latin America. Costa Rican Christian Lawyers Network (RACCR). Bar Association of Costa Rica, San Jose, Costa Rica. August 5, 2009.
- Talk: “Christian Lawyers and Civil Society: Challenges in Peru.” Christian Legal Society of Peru (SJC). Peace and Hope Ministries, Lima, Peru, July 23, 2009.
- Talk: “Jesus’ Countercultural Practices and Gender Issues.” Strategic Conversation on Gender. Micah Network Global Consultation. Limuru, Kenya, July 10, 2009.
- Keynote Address: “Civil Society and International Civil Networks: Why does it matter to be organized?” 5th Advocates International Global Convocation, Washington, DC. October 11, 2008.
- Panel: “Truth and Reconciliation after Political Violence: The Role of Truth Commissions in Latin America.” Washington, DC. October 9, 2008.
- Paper: “The Creation of Peru’s Human Rights Ombudsman: A Case of Diffusion of Democratization Mechanisms.” 66th Mid West Political Science Association Annual National Conference. Chicago, Illinois, April 3-6, 2008.
- Paper: “Human Rights Ombudsman Effectiveness: The Quest for Accountability in Institutionally Unstable Environments.” 2008 Annual Notre Dame Conference in Political Science. Graduate Student Conference. University of Notre Dame du Lac, Indiana, March 14, 2008.

- Keynote Address: "What does the Lord require of you? A Call for Christians in the Legal Profession." Bolivian Convocation for Christian Lawyers. Santa Cruz Bar Association. Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, November 2, 2007.
- Keynote Address: "The Role of Ethics in the Pursuit of Social Justice." 2007 Law Students Conference, Latin American Christian University. Quito, Ecuador, November 6, 2007.
- Keynote Address: "Individual and Collective Responsibility: The role of Christians in the Pursuit of Social Justice in Latin America." VII Latin American Convention for Christian Lawyers. Guayaquil, Ecuador, October 25, 2007.

Publications

- "Ombudsman Autonomy, Informal Institutions and the Defense of Women's Rights in the Central Andes." Social Science Research Network. Conference paper available at: http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1451075 August 2009.
- "Diffusion of Democratization Mechanisms: The Creation of Peru's Human Rights Ombudsman." Political Research Online. Conference paper available at: http://www.allacademic.com/one/www/research/index.php?click_key=2 April 2008.
- "¿Cómo responder a los ataques actuales contra la familia?" ("How to respond to current attacks against family?"). In: *La Familia Bajo Ataque*. Journal of *Radio Transmundial*. Year II, No. 2. October 2007.
- "Judicial Reform in Latin America: Institutional Challenges." In: Latest Developments in International Criminal Justice Reform. Research Institute of Crime Prevention and Control, Nanjing University and Centre for Restorative Justice, China University of Political Science and Law, Beijing, 2005.
- "Buscando justicia y reparación: Reflexiones en torno a la Comisión de la Verdad y Reconciliación." (*Searching for Justice and Reparation: Reflections about the Peruvian Commission for Truth and Reconciliation*). In: *Agenda Internacional*. Journal on international politics of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. Summer 2004.
- "El Derecho Internacional Humanitario y la Protección a los Refugiados y Desplazados Internos." (International Humanitarian Law and the Protection of Refugees and Internally Displaced People). In: *Derecho Internacional Humanitario (International Human Rights Law)*. Institute for International Studies, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. Lima: 2003.
- "El Derecho Internacional Humanitario en las Situaciones de Disturbios Interiores y Tensiones Internas" (International Humanitarian Law and the Protection of Refugees and Internally Displaced People). In: *Derecho Internacional Humanitario. (International Human Rights Law)*. Institute for International Studies, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. Lima: July 2003.
- Book: *Materiales de Lectura en Derechos Humanos. Selection of Readings on International Human Rights Law*. Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. 2002.
- "¿Derecho a la verdad? Límites, posibilidades y retos para una Comisión de la Verdad en el Perú." (A Right to Truth? Limitations, possibilities and challenges for a Truth Commission in Peru.) Co-author. In: *Política Internacional*. Journal of the Diplomatic Academy of Peru. July–December 2001.
- "Demandas de Verdad y Justicia a la luz del Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos." (Demands for Truth and Justice from the perspective of International Human Rights Law

Perspective). In: *Agenda Internacional*. Journal on international politics of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP). Year VII, No. 15, July-December 2000.

- “FONCODES: Peru’s Social Development Fund and Citizen Participation in the Fight Against Extreme Poverty.” In: PromPerú (ed.) *Building Human Capital in Peru*, August 1999.
- “*La Complejidad del Orden Mundial a las Puertas del Siglo XXI: Una Aproximación Teórica.*” (The complexity of World Order at the edge of the 21st Century.” In: *Agenda Internacional* (PUCP) Year IV, No. 10, September 1998.
- “*El Desarrollo de los Estándares Internacionales de Derechos Humanos y la Declaración Universal.*” (The development of International Human Rights Standards and the Universal Declaration) In: *Derechos Humanos: Paz, Democracia y Desarrollo*. Journal of the National Council on Human Rights. Year 1, No.1. December 1997.
- Book: Novak, Mantilla y Balmaceda. *Materiales de Enseñanza para Promotores de Derechos Humanos* (Teaching Materials for Human Rights Promoters). Lima: Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Peru, 1995.
- Book: Schiappa, Mantilla y Balmaceda. *Democracia y Derechos Humanos: Materiales de Trabajo* (Working papers on Democracy and Human Rights). Lima: Institute for International Studies, 1995.
- “*La Soberanía Estatal frente a las Demandas del Nuevo Orden Mundial*” (National Sovereignty and the Demands of a New World Order). In: *Derecho y Sociedad*. Journal of Law and Social Sciences, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. Lima: Vol. 8-9 (1994).