

# SANTIAGO TOBÓN

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**ADDRESS:** Carrera 49 N 7 Sur – 50, Bloque 26, Oficina 26-220. Medellín, Colombia

**PHONE:** +57 4 2619500 ext. 9549

**EMAIL:** [stobonz@eafit.edu.co](mailto:stobonz@eafit.edu.co)

**WEBPAGE:** <http://santiagotobon.co>

**OTHER:** [Google Scholar profile](#) | [Ideas profile](#)

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

**Professor of Economics, Universidad EAFIT, Colombia.** 2019 –

**Director, Center for Research in Economics and Finance, Universidad EAFIT, Colombia.** 2019 –

**Postdoctoral Scholar, University of Chicago & Innovations for Poverty Action.** 2017 – 2019

**Doctoral Fellow, Innovations for Poverty Action.** 2016 – 2017

**Visiting Doctoral Student, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.** 2016

## OTHER AFFILIATIONS

Academic member, *EGAP—Evidence in Governance and Politics*.

Affiliate, *HiCN—Households in Conflict Network*.

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Economics, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia, Dissertation with distinction.** 2018

**M.A. Economics, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.** 2017

**M.A. Economics, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium, Magna Cum Laude.** 2012

**M.B.A., Universidad EAFIT, Colombia.** 2011

**B.A. Computer Science, Universidad EIA, Colombia.** 2007

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics, Violence, Crime, Public Policy

## RESEARCH

### SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

**Gang rule: Understanding and countering criminal governance**, with: Christopher Blattman, Gustavo Ducan & Ben Lessing.

**Gangs of Medellín: How Organized Crime is Organized**, with: Christopher Blattman, Gustavo Ducan & Ben Lessing.

**Gang entry and exit: Behavioral biases and gang recruitment**, with: Chris Blattman, Maria Rodríguez-Uribe & Pierre Luc Vautrey.

**Organized crime in Rio de Janeiro: Understanding non-state provision of order and justice**, with: Ben Lessing & Joana Monteiro.

**Crime trajectories in times of COVID-19: The case of Colombia**, with: Nathalie Alvarado, Eryvn Norza, Santiago Pérez-Vincent & Martín Vanegas-Arias.

**Improving human decisions through machine learning: An experiment to reduce crime by selecting inmates better**, with Daniel Mejía & the Office of the Attorney General of Colombia.

**The 'new normal' and the reprioritization of Latin American private universities' stakeholders**, with Maria Alejandra Gonzalez-Perez, Miguel Cordova, Erica Salvaj, Santiago Mingo, Carlos Rodriguez, Karla María Nava-Aguirre, Michel Hermans, Fabiola Monje Cueto & Dinorá Floriani. Revision requested at *Corporate Governance*.

## PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Do better prisons reduce recidivism? Evidence from a prison construction program, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Forthcoming
- Place-based interventions at scale: The direct and spillover effects of policing and city services on crime, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, with: Christopher Blattman, Donald Green, & Daniel Ortega. Forthcoming
- The deterrent effects of surveillance cameras on crime, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, with: Santiago Gómez & Daniel Mejía. Forthcoming
- Hot spots policing in a high crime environment: An experimental evaluation in Medellín, *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, with: Daniela Collazos, Eduardo García, Daniel Mejía & Daniel Ortega. Forthcoming
- Meta-Analysis of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation in Major Histocompatibility Complex Class II Deficiency, *Pediatric Transplantation*, 24(6), e13774, with: Lina Castano-Jaramillo, Jose Bareno-Silva & Andres Escobar-Gonzalez. 2020
- The role of land property rights in the war on illicit crops: Evidence from Colombia, *World Development*, 103, p. 268-283, with: Juan Carlos Muñoz-Mora & Jesse D'Anjou. 2018

## PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES IN COLOMBIAN JOURNALS

- El gasto fiscal de la guerra contra los portadores de drogas ilícitas: Una aproximación para Colombia, *Lecturas de Economía*, 91, p. 79-116, with: Isabel Gutiérrez. 2019
- The Rational Expectations Hypothesis: An Assessment on its Real World Application, *Ecos de Economía: A Latin American Journal of Applied Economics*, 18(37), p. 37-47. 2014
- Impuesto predial y desarrollo económico. Aproximación a la relación entre el impuesto predial y la inversión de los municipios de Antioquia, *Ecos de Economía: A Latin American Journal of Applied Economics*, 17(36), p. 173-198, with: Juan Carlos Muñoz-Mora. 2013

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- La situación del narcotráfico en Colombia ad portas del posconflicto, *Contribuciones de la Universidad a la agenda de La Habana*, Edited by: Jorge Giraldo. Universidad EAFIT, with: Isabel Gutiérrez & Gustavo Duncan. 2018
- El Ciclo Criminal del Microtráfico y Consumo de Drogas: Contexto Nacional y Consecuencias en Entornos Locales, *Territorios y Sociabilidades Violentas. Santo Domingo, San Juan, Sao Paulo, Cali y Medellin*, Edited by: Jorge Giraldo. Universidad EAFIT, with: Isabel Gutiérrez. 2017
- Evaluación y seguimiento a las actividades de la policía de vigilancia, *Gestión Territorial de la Seguridad en el Posconflicto*, Edited by: Isabel Gutiérrez. Universidad EAFIT y Escuela de Postgrados de Policía, Policía Nacional, with: Isabel Gutiérrez. 2017
- La inversión obligatoria y el crédito agropecuario en Colombia, *El desarrollo equitativo, competitivo y sostenible del sector agropecuario en Colombia*, Banco de la República, Edited by: Carlos Gustavo Cano, Ana María Iregui, Maria Teresa Ramírez & Ana María Tribín. Banco de la República, with: Dairo Estrada & Paula Zuleta. 2016
- Instituciones y cultivos ilícitos, *Economía criminal y poder político*, Edited by: Jorge Giraldo. Universidad EAFIT. 2013

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- What works to prevent violence among youth? A white paper on youth violence, crime prevention and the Mexican context, *USAID Report*, AID-523-C-15-00002, with: Thomas Abt, Chris Blattman & Beatriz Magaloni. 2018
- Sector Wide Impact Assessment on Human Rights: Mining Unseen, *Institute for Human Rights and Business - Regional Center for Responsible Businesses and Entrepreneurship (CREER)*, Bogotá, with: Luis Fernando de Angulo, Camila Miranda, Blanca Llorente, Natalia Torres, María Alejandra Castillo, Margaret Wachenfeld, Andreé Viana & Viviana Arango. 2016

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### TEACHING

**2020** –: Universidad EAFIT, Microeconomics Seminar: Economics of Crime (undergraduate), Microeconomics Seminar: Development Economics (undergraduate), Political Economy (undergraduate)

**2019** –: Universidad EAFIT, Impact Evaluation (graduate)

**2016** –: Policía Nacional de Colombia (lecturer), Impact Evaluation and Evidence Based Policing

**2017 – 2019**: American University (lecturer), Policing in the Global Context (undergraduate)

**2015**: Universidad de los Andes (teaching assistant), Economic Theory of Crime (graduate)

### CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

**2020**: BREAD/CEPR/STICERD/TCD Conference on Development Economics, Virtual Session; Sao Paulo School of Economics, Graduate Seminar, Virtual Session; CEPR RPN on Preventing Conflict: Policies for Peace, Virtual Session; University of Chicago Crime Lab, Virtual Session; COVID-19: Consecuencias y desafíos. Una mirada desde las universidades. Banco de la República & Universidad EAFIT, Virtual Session; Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC), Virtual Session; Texas Economics of Crime Workshop (TxECW), College Station, TX; Latin America Peace Science, Medellín, Colombia

**2019**: Annual Colombian Economics Conference, Bogotá, Colombia; Interamerican Development Bank – Innovation in Citizen Services Division, Washington, DC; Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association – LACEA, Puebla, México; Departamento de Economía – Universidad EAFIT, Medellín, Colombia; What Works Global Summit, México D.F., México; Red de Estudios Sobre Drogas en América Latina (REDESAL), México D.F., México; Behavioral Insights in Development and Peace Building, Göttingen, Germany; Economic Development and Institutions Annual Conference, Paris, France; Ministério Público do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; RIDGE Forum: Political Economy Workshop, Medellín, Colombia; America Latina Crime and Policy Network – AL CAPONE, Medellín, Colombia; Cities and Development Workshop, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, DC; Seminario Hacia Ciudades Más Seguras, International Republican Institute, Panamá; Seminario CEDE CESED – Departamento de Economía Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia; Departamento de Economía – Universidad EAFIT, Medellín, Colombia; Taller de Investigación, Departamento de Gobierno y Ciencias Políticas – Universidad EAFIT, Medellín, Colombia

**2018**: Encuentro Internacional de Observatorios del Delito, Policía Nacional, Bogotá, Colombia; Households in Conflict Network – HiCN Workshop, Medellín, Colombia; Gestión Estratégica del Servicio de Policía, Escuela de Posgrados de la Policía Nacional, Bogotá, Colombia; Fundación para el Desarrollo de Antioquia – Proantioquia, Medellín, Colombia

**2017**: Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association – LACEA, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Economic Development and Institutions Annual Conference, Namur, Belgium; Economics of Organized Crime, Bogotá, Colombia; Seminario de Economía, Banco de la República, Medellín, Colombia; America Latina Crime and Policy Network – AL CAPONE, Santiago, Chile; Empirical Studies of Conflict Annual Meeting ESOC, Washington, DC; Evidence in Governance and Politics EGAP 20, Bogotá, Colombia; Seminario CEDE, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia; Focus, Prevention and Legitimacy in the Context of International Violence, National Network for Safe Communities, Tarrytown, NY; Seminario de Economía Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá, Colombia

**2016**: Center for Latin American Studies, Stanford University, Stanford, CA; Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association – LACEA, Medellín, Colombia; University of Chicago Crime Lab, Chicago, IL; America Latina Crime and Policy Network – AL CAPONE, Buenos Aires, Argentina; American Law and Economics Association – ALEA, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA; Seminario sobre desarrollo equitativo, competitivo y sostenible del sector agropecuario en Colombia – Banco de la República, Bogotá, Colombia

**2015**: Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association – LACEA, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

**2014**: Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association – LACEA, Sao Paulo, Brazil; Seminario de Economía, Banco de la República, Bogotá, Colombia

**2012**: Economías criminales y poder político, Universidad EAFIT, Medellín, Colombia

### REFEREEING

Review of Economics and Statistics; Journal of Public Economics; Criminology; Journal of Quantitative Criminology; Journal of Experimental Criminology; Defence and Peace Economics; *Economía: The Journal of LACEA*; Latin American Economic Review; *Lecturas de Economía*

## **SELECTION OF CONSULTING AND NON-ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

2020 – 2021: Consultant, Human Rights. Human Rights Office, Presidency of Colombia  
2020 – 2021: Consultant, Human Trafficking. International Organization for Migration  
2020 – 2021: Consultant, Innovation in Citizen Services Division. Inter-American Development Bank  
2019: Advisor to the Director for Justice, Security and Government. National Planning Department  
2019: Consultant, Innovation in Citizen Services Division. Inter-American Development Bank  
2018 – 2019: Advisor on Monitoring and Evaluation. International Organization for Migration  
2017 – 2018: Advisor to the Deputy Minister for Crime Policy. Ministry of Justice of Colombia  
2017 – 2018: Advisor to the Secretary. Secretariat of Security of Bogotá  
2017: Consultant, Innovation in Citizen Services Division. Inter-American Development Bank  
2015 – 2016: Consultant. CAF – Latin American Development Bank  
2015 – 2016: Consultant. CREER-IHRB Institute for Human Rights and Business  
2014 – 2015: Chief of Staff. Senator in the 4th Committee on Economic Affairs – Colombian Congress  
2013 – 2014: Advisor. FINAGRO – Rural Development Bank, Colombia  
2009 – 2011: Director. Cadastre and Territorial Development. Government of Antioquia, Colombia  
2008 – 2009: Director. Economic Development. Government of Antioquia, Colombia

## **RESEARCH GRANTS (\$1,840,000)**

2020 – 2021: Innovations for Poverty Action Peace and Recovery Program. Gang entry and exit: Behavioral biases and gang recruitment (\$50,000)  
2020 – 2021: Becker Friedman Institute, University of Chicago. COVID-19, Crises, and Support for the Rule of Law: Organized Crime in Rio de Janeiro's favelas (\$35,000)  
2020 – 2021: Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK. How organized crime is responding to the COVID-19 crisis (\$35,000)  
2020: J-PAL Crime and Violence Initiative. The other virus: How gangs and organized crime are responding to the COVID-19 crisis (\$50,000)  
2020 – 2023: Universidad EAFIT. Improving human decisions through machine learning: An experiment to reduce crime by selecting inmates better (\$100,000)  
2020 – 2021: Universidad EAFIT. Organized crime in Rio de Janeiro: Understanding non-state provision of order and justice (\$40,000)  
2019 – 2020: National Science Foundation. Contesting Criminal Gang Governance in Medellín: Experimental Impacts of Intensive Municipal Governance and Community Organization on Gang Governance (\$375,000)  
2019: J-PAL Crime and Violence Initiative. Contesting Criminal Gang Governance in Medellín: Experimental Impacts of Intensive Municipal Governance on Gang Governance (\$100,000)  
2019: Fundación para el Desarrollo de Antioquia – Proantioquia. Gangs of Medellín: A proposal to map order and violence at the micro level (\$70,000)  
2018: Secretaría de Seguridad de Medellín. Gangs of Medellín: A proposal to map order and violence at the micro level (\$33,000)  
2018: Fundación para el Desarrollo de Antioquia – Proantioquia. Gangs of Medellín: A proposal to map order and violence at the micro level (\$70,000)  
2017 – 2018: J-PAL Latin America and Caribbean. Strategies and programs to prevent violence among youth (\$32,000)  
2017 – 2018: Economic Development and Institutions – EDI. Gangs of Medellín: A proposal to understand variation in non-state provision of order and justice (\$100,000)  
2017 – 2018: Call for Proposals Postobon and CESED, Universidad de los Andes. Gangs of Medellín: A proposal to map order and violence at the micro level (\$10,000)  
2017 – 2018: Call for Proposals Open Society Foundations and CESED, Universidad de los Andes. Gangs of Medellín: A proposal to map order and violence at the micro level (\$10,000)  
2016 – 2017: Development Priorities Window – 3ie. Increasing state and police presence in the least governed areas of Bogotá: A hot spot policing approach (\$280,000)

**2016 – 2017:** J-PAL Governance Initiative. State-Building on the Intensive and Extensive Margins: Testing Urban Violence Reduction through Policing and Public Services in Bogota (\$360,000)

**2016 – 2017:** CAF – Development Bank of Latin America. The Impact of Hotspot Policing and Municipal Services on Crime: Experimental Evidence from Bogotá (\$50,000)

**2016 – 2017:** Government Partnership Initiative – JPAL. The Impact of Hotspot Policing and Municipal Services on Crime: Experimental Evidence from Bogotá (\$20,000)

**2016:** Call for Proposals Postobon and CESED, Universidad de los Andes. Prison Overcrowding and Recidivism: Evidence from Colombia (\$10,000)

**2016:** Call for Proposals Open Society Foundations and CESED, Universidad de los Andes. El Sistema de Justicia Criminal en la lucha contra el consumo de drogas ilícitas: Gasto público en Colombia y costos sociales (\$10,000)

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

**2017:** Nominated to the Juan Luis Londoño Prize to best paper on social issues by a young researcher at the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association - LACEA annual meeting.

**2017:** Ph.D. Economics. Dissertation with distinction.

**2016:** Doctoral Student Award for best presentation in the Doctoral Workshop at Universidad de los Andes.

**2016:** Doctoral Student Scholarship awarded by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

**2014 – 2017:** Scholarship, Doctoral Studies awarded by Colciencias.

**2012:** Grande Distinction. Université catholique de Louvain. M.Sc. in Economics.

**2011 – 2012:** Scholarship, Masters Studies awarded by Fundación Colfuturo.

**2002:** Honors, Computer Science. Escuela de Ingeniería de Antioquia.

## LANGUAGES

**SPANISH:** native speaker

**ENGLISH:** fluent