

Rocío Salas-Lewin

✉ ras647@cornell.edu 📍 Santiago, Chile

🌐 rsalaslewin.com 🏛️ Profile in LinkedIn 🎓 Google Scholar

Interests and Expertise

Research interests: social movements, electoral behavior, populism, public opinion, crisis of representation, Latin America and Southern Europe.

Statistical techniques and methods: causal inference, latent variable and structural equation modeling (SEM), longitudinal and panel analysis, survey research.

Education

Ph.D. Student 2023–Current

Department of Government, Cornell University

Major Subfield: Comparative Politics. Minors: Quantitative Methods and American Politics.

Committee: Dr. Kenneth M. Roberts (Chair), Dr. Santiago Anria, Dr. Peter K. Enns, Dr. Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser.

M.Sc. in Political Science and Political Economy 2020–2021

Department of Government, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Distinction (maximum classification).

Dissertation: *Social movements and representation: The impact of 2019 Chilean protests on turnout and political realignment*. <https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.30866.58569/2>.

B.Sc. in Sociology 2015–2019

Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, Universidad de Chile

Highest Distinction (maximum classification).

Thesis: *Determinants of institutional and extra-institutional political participation in Chile: an examination of the relationship between socio-political malaise and political identification*. <https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.14089.36960>.

Short-Term Positions

Visiting Doctoral Student, Institute of Political Science, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC) 2025–2026

Publications

Peer-reviewed articles

Reyes-Housholder, C., Rovira Kaltwasser, C., & **Salas-Lewin, R.** (Forthcoming). Antifeminism and Backlash Politics. *European Journal of Politics and Gender*.

Rovira Kaltwasser, C., **Salas-Lewin, R.**, & Zanotti, L. (2024). Supporting and rejecting the populist radical right: Evidence from contemporary Chile. *Nations and Nationalism*, 30(3), 458-475. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nana.13015>

Salas-Lewin, R., Clerc, C., & Dinamarca, F. (2019). Explorando la relación entre evaluación y confianza gubernamental, posición política y participación electoral. *Revista Temas Sociológicos*, 25, 259-290. <https://doi.org/10.29344/07196458.25.2170>

Book chapters

Anria, S., **Salas-Lewin, R.**, & Roberts, K. M. (2025). Dinámicas políticas y electorales luego del “giro a la izquierda”. In G. Kessler & G. Vommaro (Eds.), *La Era del Hartazgo. Líderes Disruptivos, Polarización y Antipolítica en América Latina*. Siglo XXI Editores.

Other publications

González, R., Bargsted, M., Figueiredo, A., Miranda, D., Cerda, E., **Salas-Lewin, R.**, & Delgado, C. (2023). *Radiografía del Cambio Social: Análisis de Resultados Longitudinales ELSOC 2016-2022*. COES. <https://radiografia-cambio-social-2016-2022.netlify.app/>

Rovira Kaltwasser, C., Meléndez, C., **Salas-Lewin, R.**, Tanscheit, T., Zanotti, L., Ayala, C., Rojas, V., Beyer, D., & Segura, N. (2023). *Apoyo y Rechazo a la Ultraderecha en Chile*. FES. <https://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/chile/19951.pdf>

González, R., Bargsted, M., Figueiredo, A., Miranda, D., Cerda, E., Plaza, A., & **Salas-Lewin, R.** (2022). *Radiografía del Cambio Social: Análisis de Resultados Longitudinales ELSOC 2016-2021*. COES. <https://radiografia-cambio-social-2016-2021.netlify.app/>

Ongoing work

When Representation Fails: Voice, Exit, and Loyalty in Chile and Spain (Dissertation Project).

Far Right Movements Depolarize Rightward? The Effect of January 6 on Issue Polarization and Partisan Preferences. With Frances Cayton.

Far Right in Latin America: between Movements and Parties. With Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser—for the Oxford Handbook on Social Movements of the Far Right, Manuela Caiani and Jens Rydgren (Eds.).

The Role of Attitudes Towards Democracy and Participation in Collective Actions in Right-Wing Authoritarianism. With Roberto González.

Measuring Antifeminism. With Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, Department of Government, Cornell University 2024-2025
Undergraduate level.

- *Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics*. Prof: Dr. Thomas Pepinsky (Spring 2025).
- *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. Prof: Dr. Kenneth M. Roberts (Fall 2024).

Instructor, Department of Politics and Government, Universidad Alberto Hurtado 2022
Undergraduate level.

- *Research Methods* (Fall 2022).

Teaching Assistant, School of Government and Public Management, Universidad de Chile 2019
Undergraduate level.

- *Quantitative Methods for Public Administration*. Prof: Juan Ignacio Jiménez (Fall 2019).

Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, Universidad de Chile 2017-2019
Undergraduate level.

- *Descriptive Statistics*. Prof: Dr. Giorgio Boccardo (Fall 2018, 2019).
- *Applied Statistical Analysis*. Prof: Dr. Catalina Canals and Eduardo Toro (Spring 2018).
- *Quantitative Techniques II*. Prof: Dr. Rodrigo Asún and Dr. Ignacio Cabib (Spring 2017).
- *Statistics II*. Prof: Dr. Rodrigo Asún and Dr. Karina Navarro (Fall 2017).
- *Quantitative Techniques I*. Prof: Dr. Rodrigo Asún and Dr. Ignacio Cabib (Fall 2017).

Conferences and Academic Presentations

Conferences

- *Behavioral Responses to the Crisis of Representation: Voice and Exit in Chile and Spain (Scheduled)*. Chilean Political Science Association ACCP 2025, Universidad de Talca, Talca, Chile.
- *Behavioral Responses to the Crisis of Representation: Voice and Exit in Chile and Spain (Scheduled)*. COES International Conference 2025, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile.

- *Anti-Feminism and Backlash Politics*. American Political Science Association APSA 2024, Philadelphia, PA. With Catherine Reyes-Housholder and Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser.
- *Political Participation and Disaffection in Contemporary Chile: Social Movements, Electoral Abstention, and Populism*. Latin American Studies Association LASA 2024, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia.
- *Constitutional referenda in Chile: voluntary vs. compulsory voting*. Latin American and the Caribbean (LACS) Research Symposium 2024, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.
- *Loving and hating the populist radical right: evidence from Chile*. COES International Conference 2022, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile. With Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser and Lisa Zanotti.
- *Social movements and representation: The impact of 2019 Chilean protests on turnout and political realignment*. COES International Conference 2021 (virtual).
- *Determinants of institutional and extra-institutional political participation in Chile*. Latin American Congress of Sociology ALAS 2019, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Perú.
- *Social representations of the Chilean feminist movement in written media editorials during 2018*. Latin American Congress of Sociology ALAS 2019, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Perú. With Chantal Clerc, Consuelo Andrade, and Felipe Cruz.
- *Voluntary vote and electoral prediction: In search of a new methodology*. Chilean Congress of Sociology Pre-ALAS 2018, Universidad Arturo Prat, Iquique, Chile. With Chantal Clerc.

Workshops

- *Behavioral Responses to the Crisis of Representation: Voice and Exit in Chile and Spain*. REPAL Graduate Student Workshop 2025, Fundação Getúlio Vargas, São Paulo, Brazil.
- *Analyzing Chile's 2022 constitutional referendum outcomes: the importance of compulsory voting*. Workshop on Polarization 2022, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile. With Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser and Carlos Meléndez.

Invited Talks

- *Behavioral Responses to the Crisis of Representation: Voice and Exit in Chile and Spain*. Institute of Political Science Seminar 2025, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Santiago, Chile.
- *Behavioral Responses to the Crisis of Representation: Voice and Exit in Chile and Spain*. Department of Sociology II Seminar 2025, UNED, Madrid, Spain.

Awards, Grants, and Honors

Spring Centennial Center Research Grant, American Political Science Association (APSA) \$2,000.	2025
Small Research Grant, Qualitative and Interpretive Research Institute (QuIRI) Cornell Center for Social Sciences (CCSS), Cornell University. \$2,000.	2025
Lourdes Benería Award, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program (LACS) Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University. \$1,500.	2025
Conference Grant, Graduate School, Cornell University Travel support for REPAL 2025, São Paulo, Brazil. \$700.	2025
Graduate Research Grant, Institute for European Studies (IES) Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University. \$4,000.	2025
Research Travel Grant, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies Cornell University. For summer fieldwork (airfare). \$900.	2025
Research Travel Grant, Graduate School, Cornell University	2025

For summer fieldwork. \$1,600.

EVMM Scholarship, Institute of Political Science, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile To attend the Mixed Methods Summer School. ~\$280.	2025
Graduate Fellowship, Center on Global Democracy Brooks School of Public Policy, Cornell University. \$1,000.	2024-2025
Graduate Fellowship, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program (LACS) Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University. \$500.	2024-2025
Travel Fund, Center for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES) Travel support for APSA 2024, Philadelphia, PA. ~\$400.	2024
Conference Grant, Graduate School, Cornell University Travel support for APSA 2024, Philadelphia, PA. \$300.	2024
Kohut Research Fellowship, Roper Center for Public Opinion Research Cornell University. \$5,000.	2024
Sponsored Ph.D. Student, Center for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES) COES Advisor: Dr. Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser.	2023–Current
Sage Fellowship, Cornell University To fund a Ph.D. at the Department of Government. Full tuition and stipend >\$64,000.	2023–2024
Fulbright Foreign PhD Scholarship (Chile-USA) (<i>Declined</i>)	2023
LSE Master’s Award, The London School of Economics and Political Science To fund a M.Sc. at the Department of Government. Full tuition and stipend £31,000.	2020–2021
Best Overall Performance, Department of Sociology, Universidad de Chile Ranked first in the B.A. in Sociology (Título Profesional de Socióloga) cohort 2015-2019.	2020
Travel Fund, Faculty of Social Sciences, Universidad de Chile Travel support for ALAS 2019, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Perú.	2019

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Institute of Political Science, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile Project: <i>The Far Right in Latin America and Beyond</i> (Open Society Foundations N°OR2024-94313). PI: Dr. Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser.	2025–Current
Research Assistant, Department of Government and ILR, Cornell University Project <i>Polarization and Democracy</i> . PI: Dr. Kenneth M. Roberts and Dr. Santiago Anria.	2023–Current
Kohut Research Fellow, Roper Center for Public Opinion Research Cornell University.	2024
Research Assistant, Laboratory for the Study of the Far-Right (Ultra-Lab) Institute of Political Science, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, School of Political Science, Universidad Diego Portales, and Open Society Foundations (N°OR2022-86553). PI: Dr. Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser. Co-I: Dr. Carlos Meléndez, Dr. Lisa Zanotti, and Dr. Talita Tanscheit.	2022–2023
Research Assistant, Social Psychology Laboratory (LAB) School of Psychology, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. PI: Dr. Roberto González.	2023
Research Assistant, School of Political Science, Universidad Diego Portales • Project <i>Activation of negative Identities by levels of institutionalization of party systems</i> (Regular Fondecyt N°1220193). PI: Dr. Carlos Meléndez. • Project <i>Radical right populism in Chile from a comparative perspective</i> (Regular Fondecyt N°1220053). PI: Dr. Cristóbal	2021–2023

Rovira Kaltwasser.

- Project *Responding to populism: from normative debates to the empirical analysis of demand-side and supply-side responses* (Regular Fondecyt N°1180020). PI: Dr. Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser.
- *Chilean political, economic and cultural elite study*. Center for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES). PI: Dr. Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser.

Research Assistant, Chilean Longitudinal Social Survey (ELSOC) 2021–2023

Center for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES), Universidad de Chile and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. PI: Dr. Roberto González. Co-I: Dr. Matías Bargsted, Dr. Daniel Miranda, and Dr. Ana Figueiredo.

Research Assistant, Institute of Sociology, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile 2021–2022

Project *Rational voters, socioeconomic resources and behavioral inertia: A multi-causal approach to electoral participation in Chile* (Regular Fondecyt N°1200534). PI: Dr. Matías Bargsted.

Research Assistant, MOVID-19, School of Public Health, Universidad de Chile 2020

Project *Impact of COVID-19 in Chile: a transdisciplinary evaluation of the response to the pandemic and its consequences* (ANID N°COVID0960). PI: Dr. Cristóbal Cuadrado and Dr. Mónica Gerber.

Research Assistant, Faculty of Social Sciences, Universidad de Chile 2019–2020

Project *Social networks, emotions, and repression in normative and non-normative social participation. An investigation in Chilean students* (Regular Fondecyt N°1191295) PI: Dr. Claudia Zúñiga. Co-I: Dr. Karina Navarro and Dr. Rodrigo Asún.

Research Intern, Conflicts Observatory 2019

Center for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES), Universidad de Chile and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. PI: Dr. Alfredo Joignant. Co-I: Dr. Nicolás Somma and Dr. Matías Garretón.

Research Intern, Humanas Corporation Chile 2017–2018

Regional Center for Human Rights and Gender Justice. Area of Democracy and Political Participation.

Additional Training and Volunteer Activities

PhD School on Visual Analysis and Contentious Politics, Scuola Normale Superiore 2025

Faculty of Political and Social Sciences. Tuscany, Italy.

Mixed Methods Summer School (EVMM), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile 2025

Institute of Political Science. Santiago de Chile.

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods, University of Michigan 2024

Panel Data and Longitudinal Analysis.

62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, United Nations 2018

Representative of the NGO Humanas Corporation. New York, United States.

Global Training on Women and Development Effectiveness 2018

Civil Society Organizations Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE). New York, United States.

Skills

Analysis software

- R. Advanced.
- Stata. Advanced.
- SPSS. Advanced.
- ATLAS.ti. Intermediate.

Document processing

- \LaTeX . Advanced.
- RMarkdown. Intermediate.

Languages

- Spanish. Native.
- English. Fluent.

Service and Others

Reviewer: *Political Science Research and Methods; Politics and Governance.*

Organizing Committee: LACS Seminar Series, Mario Einaudi Center, Cornell University (2024-25); LACS Symposium 2025, Mario Einaudi Center, Cornell University; ELSOC Pre-Registration Workshop, COES (2022); ELSOC Quantitative Methods Winter School, COES (2022); ELSOC Seminar on Longitudinal Studies, COES (2022).

Current Affiliations: American Political Science Association (APSA); Latin American Studies Association (LASA); Network of Women Political Scientists (Red de Politólogas); Cornell Center for Social Sciences (CCSS); Chilean Political Science Association (ACCP); Latin American Association of Political Science (ALACIP).

Fieldwork: Spain (June 2025); Chile (August 2025–July 2026).

References

- **Dr. Kenneth M. Roberts.** Richard J. Schwartz Professor, Department of Government, Cornell University.
- **Dr. Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser.** Full Professor, Institute of Political Science, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.
- **Dr. Santiago Anria.** Associate Professor, School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University.
- **Dr. Roberto González.** Full Professor, School of Psychology, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

CV updated to October 2025.