

Fact



Annual Report 2020 - 2021

Brazil and Its Challenges: Searching for Truth, Battling Misinformation

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[+] ABOUT THE COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS Rio de Janeiro

Established in 2013, the Center contributes to Brazil's academic and research environment, while also allowing members of the Columbia community to increase their knowledge and explore academic opportunities within Brazil. The Center works in collaboration with local universities, non-governmental organizations, and public institutions to design cross-cutting, innovative programs that aim to improve the understanding of global challenges through a transdisciplinary, transcultural and applied perspective. Ongoing events, lectures, and seminars hosted by the Center build a lively and engaged community of local and international alumni, students, and faculty.

Our work is to promote Columbia in Brazil by creating opportunities for the academic community to interact with our local base of partners. Our success is when

the ideas created in this process become projects that connect civil society, academia and governments and that can help find applicable solutions to the world's more pressing challenges.

In the brief time since its launch, the Rio Center has established critical networks throughout Brazil and generated much research, debate, and educational programming focused on local issues. It informs the University's approach to analysis and research on Brazil, as well as drawing support for Columbia within Brazil. Through the advance and exchange of knowledge, we seek to strengthen academic investigation, social impact entrepreneurship, and the development of innovative technologies in Brazil.





Lee. C. Bollinger
President
Columbia University

[+] A MESSAGE FROM LEE C. BOLLINGER

Our network of Global Centers has become central to the University's teaching, research, and scholarship. The Centers afford students and faculty the opportunity to engage with the people and ideas shaping the modern world, at a moment when that need could not be more urgent. And when they return to our home campuses, those who have travelled abroad play an essential role in broadening the intellectual outlook of all of us. It is simply a fact that we would not be the same institution without the Global Centers.



Safwan M. Masri
Executive Vice President for Global
Centers and Global Development
Columbia University

[+] A MESSAGE FROM SAFWAN M. MASRI

A challenging year the world over, 2020 vividly illustrated the perils of not heeding recommendations backed by scientifically proven data. Making decisions based on populism and false assumptions has cost the world dearly.

Yet the response to the Covid-19 crisis by health care professionals and the medical research community has demonstrated the power of pooled resources, as brilliant minds came together from around the world to come up in record time, albeit still not quickly enough, with real solutions to a global pandemic not seen in our lifetime. The world can now afford more than a glimmer of hope, as millions of vaccines are being distributed globally, and now that knowledge and reason are once again prevailing in political leadership.

This cooperative approach, and its attendant benefits, was also a hallmark of the Columbia Global Centers network during 2020. When students were unable to fulfill their in-person summer internships, the Global Centers tapped into our global network of institutional relationships and created virtual internships in ten different regions of the world. When a dispersed University community wanted continued access to faculty and Global Centers' expertise, we responded by creating dynamic, globally inclusive webinar programming around top-of-mind issues. And when travel restrictions and uncertainty about school reopening threatened to undermine access to University experiences for Columbia's international student body, we provided access to pop-up study and community spaces that brought Columbia to its students, wherever they were around the world.

At a time when so many turned inward and the world became insular, we went out— even more—and we adapted, innovated, and built community. We were not isolated groups serving specific locations, but a global body functioning together for all. Our defining purpose—of being an essential, international part of the University—has never been more clearly realized.

The network of Columbia Global Centers has turned a corner in a way that is enormously beneficial—to their stakeholders in every region, and to the University. This year, 2021, is one of consolidation for our network, as we strive to continuously grow and strengthen the international presence essential to the University and the global community.

I am immensely grateful to our many partners and supporters all over the world who make the work of the Columbia Global Centers possible and impactful, and I am especially proud of our staff, who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that we deliver on our promise.



Thomas J. Trebat
Director
Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro

[+] A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is with great pride, and in a spirit of hopefulness, that I present to you the 2020-21 Annual Report of the Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro. The core mission of our Center is an extension in Brazil of Columbia University mission – to learn, to teach, and to serve. I might add, the mission gives us a clarity of purpose at all times, no matter what the particular historical circumstances may bring.

The pages in this volume tell the story of how the Rio Global Center did its utmost to advance its mission during the strange and frightening times brought to bear upon all of us by the global pandemic of 2020-2021. Through this period, and with the support of so many friends in Brazil and at Columbia University in New York, we published important books, hosted many webinars on relevant issues for Brazil and the world, helped to recruit new Brazilian students and faculty for Columbia, and completed critically important training programs.

Perhaps most importantly for me, the Rio Global Center linked arms more tightly than ever with the network of nine Global Centers that Columbia maintains around the world. The webinars that we helped to curate with this global network highlighted issues of great global importance to Brazil and brought Brazilian voices and Brazilian experiences to the attention of large global audiences through the “miracle” of new communications technologies.

The story in this year’s Annual Report is as much a story about the future of the Rio Global Center as it is about its most recent year of activities. We look forward to redoubling our efforts in the coming years to build an ever-stronger bridge between Columbia and Brazil, in the firm belief that our mission is more important than ever in these still trying times. Just to cite one example, we will be focused on inserting Brazilian issues and Brazilian expertise into Columbia’s initiative to create the world’s first and foremost School of Climate.

I close with words of the most profound gratitude to the many persons who have contributed to our success in 2020-2021 and, indeed, our success during the first nine years of the Global Center. I make special mention of our donors, without whose financial support nothing would be possible. I also thank our many partners in Brazil who team up with us to bring light and understanding to so many challenges facing Brazil and the world. From them, we derive constantly new ideas, new approaches, and, above all, inspiration that the world can be a better place if we work together in true partnership.

And, of course, my profound gratitude and admiration for an incredibly skilled and hardworking staff whose dedication every day is the energy that drives the Global Center.

Thomas J. Trebat



[+] WELCOME TO OUR FIRST INTERACTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

In this edition of our Annual Report, we developed a new way of presenting some of our work over the last year, one which will make your reading more interesting by being more interactive.

In 2020-2021, as has been the case in many countries around the world, Brazil has been awash in misinformation about the pandemic, egged on by dubious claims. It marks the continuation of a digital battle raging within Latin America's biggest country, with each side in the highly polarized nation seeking to portray itself as the "owner of the truth," as an expression in Portuguese goes.

A study by a US-based non-profit revealed in May that roughly seven out of ten Brazilians believed at least one type of fake news about the pandemic – from dubious remedies to coffee preventing the disease to relatives of Covid-19 victims being forced to accept "coronavirus" as listed cause of death on death certificates.

While Covid-19 and public health more generally has been the most important recent issue subject to disinformation, Brazil is facing many other critically important issues in science, education, human rights, business and the environment. The rampant spread of partisan information ("fake news") led us to reflect on the fundamental role of any great University which is precisely the constant search for truth. The many webinars and events that the Rio Global Center promoted in 2020-21 were

not designed as such to combat information, but it occurred to us that the knowledge exchange that arose from these events did exactly that.

Throughout this Annual Report, you will be able to see how each critical issue area is being affected by misinformation or fake news. You will also see how the Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro has tried to respond by bringing reliable information from Columbia and from our partner Brazilian institutions.

This Annual Report aims to present an analysis of the harmful effects of selected fake news as conveyed through social networks. Disinformation is deliberately created and spread in order to influence public opinion, obscure the truth, and provoke a reaction that assists its creator. The dissemination of malicious content contributes to the discrediting of science and global health institutions, disrespect for basic values of human rights, and, by creating partisan divisions in society, erodes the sense of community and common purpose which are the cornerstones of any democracy.

Looking back at our programming efforts over the last year, the Rio Global Center tried to do what it could to increase the level of public understanding of issues that are contentious for Brazilian society and for much of the rest of the world. We invite you to look back with us at our efforts to dispel darkness and shed light.

You will be able to choose which issue area affected by the fake news you would like to read first. Every fake news headline or misperception will be followed by the actual facts with a link to our programming related to that specific topic at hand.



[x]

Click to choose the headline with the fake news you would like clarified. Once you click, you will be led to proper facts about this news. At the bottom of the page you will be able to choose between watching our webinars or choosing another fake news headline.

[Fake News in Brazil: Click and Choose]



Once you have read all the facts, [click here](#) to see more content

FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x

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Brazil wasted no time in
preventing the spread of COVID-19.





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FACT

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The executive branch of Brazil's government has tried to undermine reasonably universal public health measures aimed at curbing the spread of Covid-19, despite the death of 600,000 Brazilians from this insidious disease. President Bolsonaro, for example, famously referred to Covid-19 as on the order of a "little flu". He disregarded commonly accepted measures, such as mask wearing and social distancing, and criticized state and local officials who have urged these policies. For various reasons, his Ministry of Health fell well short of its potential to import adequate supplies of life-saving vaccines in the early stages as the pandemic spread rapidly in Brazil.

Other branches of the Brazilian government have pushed back against this misinformation campaign, however, including the Supreme Court, Congress, and many of the nation's governors. The Brazilian Senate in 2021 opened a wide-ranging probe into the federal government's erratic response to the coronavirus pandemic.

In this context of misinformation and understandable public confusion, the **Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro** promoted webinars about Covid-19 in partnership with the Columbia Mailman School of Public health and local partners in Brazil. We hoped to bring accurate and timely information about the new virus, why it was so dangerous, and scientifically accepted ways of avoiding infection.

[x] Click here to learn more and watch the webinars on Global Health

NEWS x FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS

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Brazil ranked in the top 5 most
ecofriendly countries in the
world in 2020.





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Brazil is home to more than 60% of the Amazon rainforest, the largest tropical forest in the world. In 2020-2021, Brazil's historically strong record of combating illegal deforestation was notably weakened. A lack of proper enforcement mechanisms has led to a spread of criminal networks that engage in illegal deforestation in the Amazon and use intimidation and violence against forest defenders, including indigenous peoples, other local residents, and local public officials. The extent to which the federal government has acquiesced in the growing lawlessness is presently being investigated in Brazil. In fact, a former Minister of the Environment and the former head of Brazil's Environmental Protection Agency are being probed for facilitating illegal timber exports to the U.S. and Europe.

Environment and Sustainability are two of the most important topics on the programmatic agenda of the **Rio Global Center**. We anticipate a great deal of future focus on this area, in partnership with the new Climate School at Columbia University.

[x] Click here to learn more and watch the webinars on Environment and Sustainability.

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Brazil is known for its solidified democracy and respect for freedom of speech.

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FACT

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Suffering threats and physical attacks, Brazilian journalists continue to fight for freedom of expression, much as they did during the long years of Brazil's military dictatorship.

According to Article 19, government officials have lashed out at reporters more than 400 times since 2018. Meanwhile, misinformation is being given much freer rein. For example, a federal government decree is being proposed to limit the ability of the largest tech companies to remove content from social media platforms that violate their misinformation guidelines. The threat to tie the hands of the large media platform providers (including Facebook and Twitter) has attracted attention around the world.

According to another recent survey, nine in every ten Brazilians have been exposed to some sort of fake news, which is rapidly shared via WhatsApp and other platforms. Alarming, seven in ten report believing in the misinformation they receive.

Committed to shine a light on misinformation practices and to protect journalists to the extent possible, the **Rio Global Center** partnered with specialists in the field to spread awareness. Among the guests we hosted were Agnes Callamard, then head of the Columbia Freedom of Expression Project, and Patricia Campos Mello, a journalist at the *Folha de São Paulo* and a winner in 2020 of the prestigious Maria Moors Cabot Award awarded by the Columbia School of Journalism.

[x] Click here to learn more and watch the webinars on Government and Society.

FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS

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Brazil joins the list of the
five fastest growing economies
in 2021, based on IMF's April
2021 projections.



Ministério do Trabalho e Emprego



CARTÃO DE TRABALHO
E
PREVIDÊNCIA SOCIAL



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FACT

As it did with all nations around the world, the Covid-19 pandemic exposed Brazil to a severe health and economic crisis. Brazil was particularly vulnerable in this scenario as its economy has been growing very slowly for almost a decade. Structural economic reforms promised by the government to address problems of growth have largely failed to advance or proven only partially effective. Meanwhile, economic growth in 2020-21 has hovered near zero percent with little hope for a prompt rebound. The unemployment rate reached almost 15% at the height of the pandemic crisis, the highest level in at least a decade, and informality in the workforce once again appears to be on the rise.

Despite a weak fiscal position and poor growth prospects, the government did put together in 2020 a reasonably large and targeted program of emergency aid for the most vulnerable sectors of Brazilian society. As the economic crisis dragged on, however, the actual amount of monthly emergency assistance has been reduced and hardship has mounted. Inflation has returned to relatively high levels and Brazilians are witnessing rising food prices. Brazil may well lay claim to being the “world’s farm”, but actual hunger is returning to affect larger numbers of citizens.

The **Rio Global Center** tried to address the economic dilemma in Brazil by promoting a series of webinars on measures to address the crisis, drawing upon the experience of other countries around the world in collaboration with the Columbia-SIPA Center for Global Economic Governance and many Brazilian experts. Six in-depth webinars were held in early 2021 to explore this theme in all its complexity and more sessions are planned for the future.

[x] PICK ANOTHER BATTLE

[x] Click here to learn more and watch the webinars on Economics and Business.

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Brazil has been investing in
culture more than ever.

FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x





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Education in Brazil has suffered an enormous setback in Brazil as a result of the Covid-19 crisis. Schools have struggled to adapt their programs to online education, and a very large number of primary and secondary school students simply do not have access to quality internet connections to be able to keep up with their studies.

On top of this, public instruction at the university level in Brazil continues to suffer from underfunding and poor infrastructure. In part, this is due to the emphasis of the federal government in Brazil in restricting the growth and funding of the large public universities (which are tuition-free to students) and direct scarce resources instead to private universities, often of lower quality and operated on a for-profit basis. Public university funding in 2020 was reduced by more than 18% in 2020 compared to the previous year.

In general, and for various reasons, but including government policy, cultural and artistic production has also been deprived of funding in the current environment in Brazil. In the firm belief that education in Brazil faces an unprecedented crisis, and, further, that cultural and artistic activity can be a positive catalyst for social and political change in any society, the **Rio Global Center** promoted a number of webinars on education, the creative arts, and cultural studies in 2020-2021.

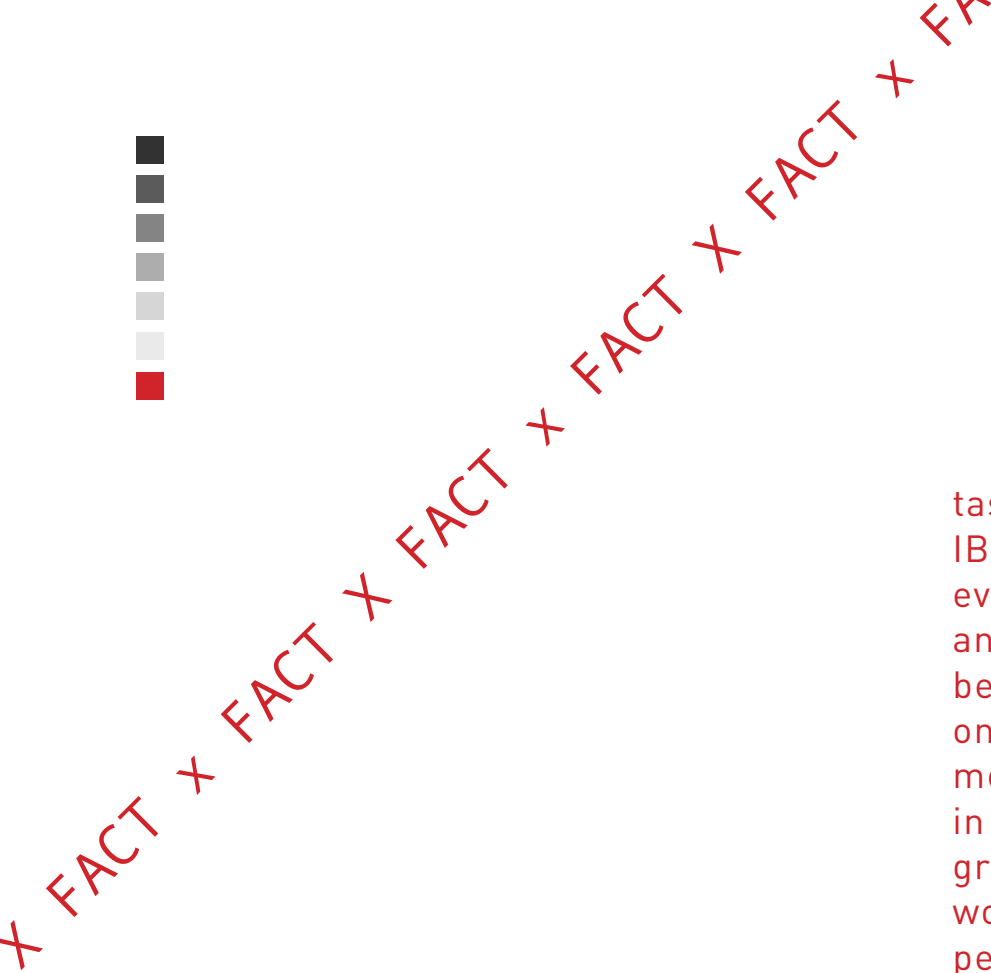
[x] Click here to learn more and watch the webinars on Creative arts and Cultural Studies

[ø]

Brazil has a glowing reputation as the best place in the world when it comes to gender equality.

NEWS x FAKE NEWS x FAKE NEWS x





Brazilian women have more domestic tasks and occupy fewer leadership positions. An IBGE study indicated that gender inequality is even more evident in Brazil. Women receive less and occupy fewer leadership positions, despite being more educated. In 2019, women received, on average, 77.7% of the amount earned by men. Inequality reaches greater proportions in the functions and positions that ensure the greatest gains. Among directors and managers, women received 61.9% of men's income¹. The percentage was also high in the group of science professionals and intellectuals: 63.6%². When it comes to the black community, the disparity is even wider. By considering the average income of employed people, it was found in 2018 by IBGE black people earned only 73.9% (\$309.78) of the wages paid to white people (538.65)³. The same study shows that black women earn, on average, 44% of white men's income. The results got even worse during the economic crisis generated by the Coronavirus pandemic, since the unemployment rate has risen and the income has lowered.

[x] PICK ANOTHER BATTLE

Unfortunately, alongside the rise in hunger and unemployment which affect primarily the poor, Brazil has seen an increase in police and other state violence in poor communities in which the majority of residents are persons of color, such activity often under the guise of combating drug trafficking. Often, this police activity in the favela communities of the largest Brazilian cities leads to deaths of completely innocent persons and bystanders. These tragic events are then not subject to proper judicial investigation and corrective measures to prevent reoccurrence. The near-total absence of the state, other than the police forces, in favela communities leaves people relying on their own local community leaders for any sort of redress.

The **Rio Global Center** increased its focus on events and programs related to women's issues and human rights more generally during 2020-2021. In partnership with the Columbia Law School, for example, we looked at the impact of the Black Lives Matter movement in Brazil. In collaboration with the Columbia School of Social Work, we examined the role and importance of community leaders in the poorest neighborhoods during Covid-19. Our Women's Leadership Network Program, in partnership with Barnard College, continues to call constant attention to the need to fight against gender disparities in leadership positions between women and men.

[x] Click here to learn more and watch the webinars on Human Rights.

Now that we already went through some of the most dramatic battles Brazil is fighting, we turn to a brief review of the many activities of our team at the Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro in this past academic year.



[x] Programming

[x] Partnerships with Columbia Schools and Programs in 2020-2021

- ◇ Columbia Global Centers
- ◇ Columbia Mailman School of Public Health
- ◇ Columbia College - Office of Undergraduate Global Engagement
- ◇ Teachers College of Columbia University
- ◇ Barnard College Athena Center for Leadership
- ◇ Columbia School of Journalism
- ◇ Institute of Latin American Studies
- ◇ Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies
- ◇ Columbia School of the Arts
- ◇ Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures
- ◇ Department of Religion
- ◇ Columbia Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
- ◇ Columbia School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
- ◇ Columbia School of Social Work
- ◇ Columbia Business School – Executive Education Programs
- ◇ Columbia School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA)
- ◇ Center on Global Economic Governance
- ◇ Columbia School of Professional Studies

[x] Selected Webinars in 2020-2021



[x] Selected Webinars in 2020-2021

COVID

COVID-19 and Mental Health in Informal Settlements in Brazil and Kenya

Essential Innovation: How New York City Agencies Connected and Collaborated for Covid Response

Emergency Urbanism: The Pandemic and Re-shaping the Urban Landscape

Responses and Challenges of the Latin American Countries: A Conversation with Guga Chacra and Laura Carvalho

Talking with Data: Why Is It Crucial in the Covid-19 Era?

Brazil's Response to Covid-19 in Global Perspective (with Columbia Mailman School of Public Health)

HUMAN RIGHTS

Clooney Foundation Trainings for Trial Watch Program

Migrant Children and Their Families: The Cruel Politics at the U.S.-Mexico Border

The Workplace Through a Queer Perspective: Fighting Discrimination Against the LGBTQ+ Community

Global Freedom of Expression Debate

Rights for Whom? Racial Policies in Brazil and the United States

Training Program for Informal Settlement Leaders

The Role of Youth Leadership in Building a More Inclusive Society Post-Pandemic

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP
(COHORT 3)

Women in Power

Strategic Assessment of Strengths and Weaknesses

Webinars (10) During International Week

Managing Human Capital in the Public Sector

Impact of Technology on Communications

ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

U.S. Elections and the Amazon

Conference: Rethinking Nature and Society in Latin America (joint with ILAS)

Webinar Youth Climate Leaders

Women in Energy (Joint with FGV)

Launch of Women in Energy Program (Joint with SIPA)

The Future of State-owned Oil Companies in Latin America (joint with SIPA)

[x] CGC Virtual Internships

Columbia Global Centers around the world mobilized their vast networks in 2020-21 to identify and generate hundreds of virtual internship opportunities for Columbia students. The Rio Global Center identified and helped fill 54 virtual internships among its partners in Brazil. Among the numerous Brazilian partners who have participated in this initiative are:

- ◇ Escola Nacional de Administração Pública
- ◇ Instituto Nacional de Traumatologia
- ◇ Republica.org
- ◇ Comissão de Valores Mobiliários
- ◇ Secretaria Municipal de Meio Ambiente da Cidade do Rio de Janeiro
- ◇ Felsberg Advogados e Vetor Brasil

SUMMER 2020

Student Applications	1290
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Partipating organizations Positions offered	181
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Positions offered in Brazil	33
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Rio	28
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FALL 2020

Student Applications	355
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Partipating organizations Positions offered	164
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Positions offered in Brazil	17
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Rio	6
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SPRING 2021

Student Applications	224
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Partipating organizations Positions offered	71
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Positions offered in Brazil	31
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Rio	4
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SUMMER 2021

Student Applications	325
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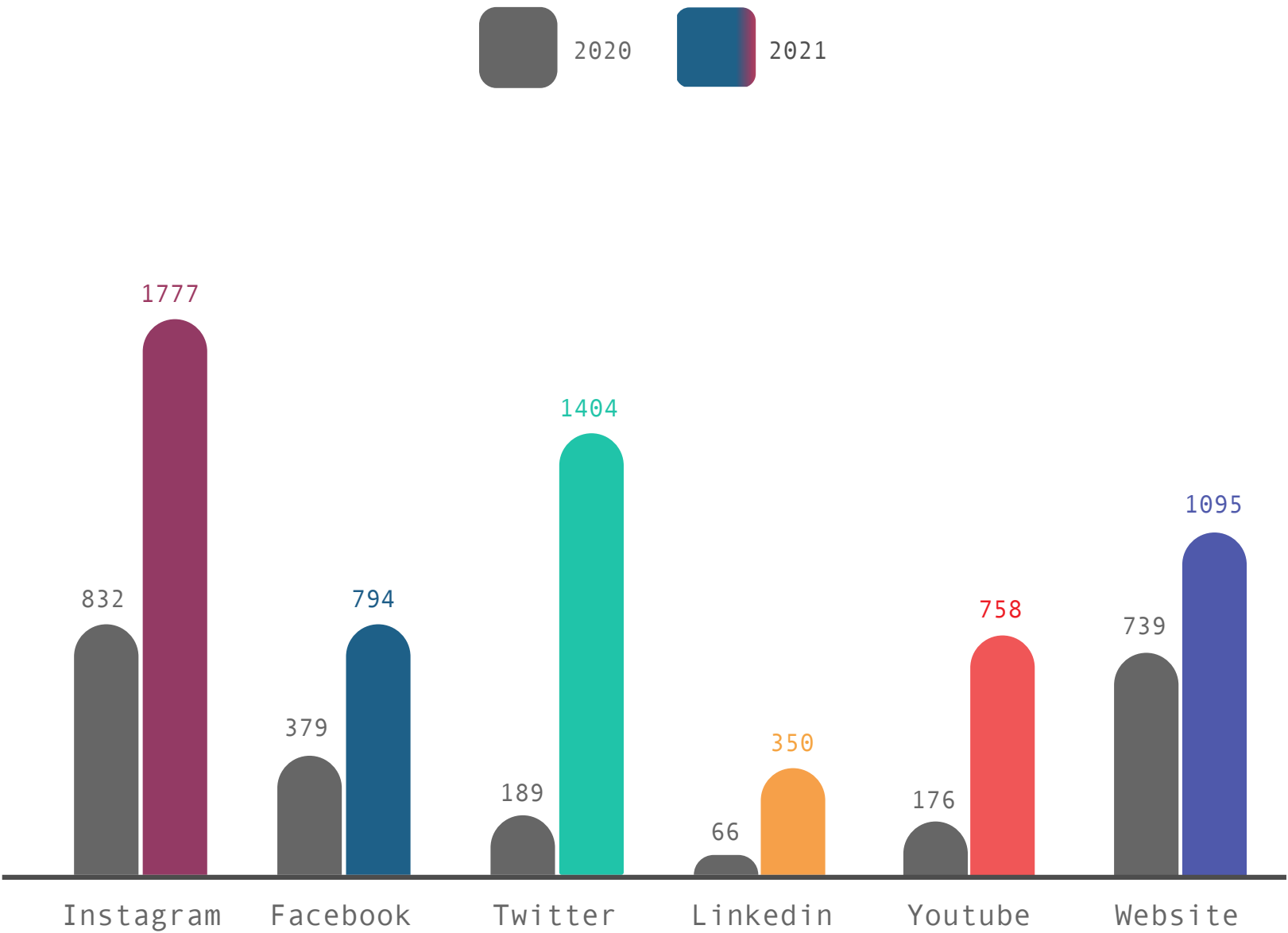
Partipating organizations Positions offered	107
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Positions offered in Brazil	21
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Rio	16
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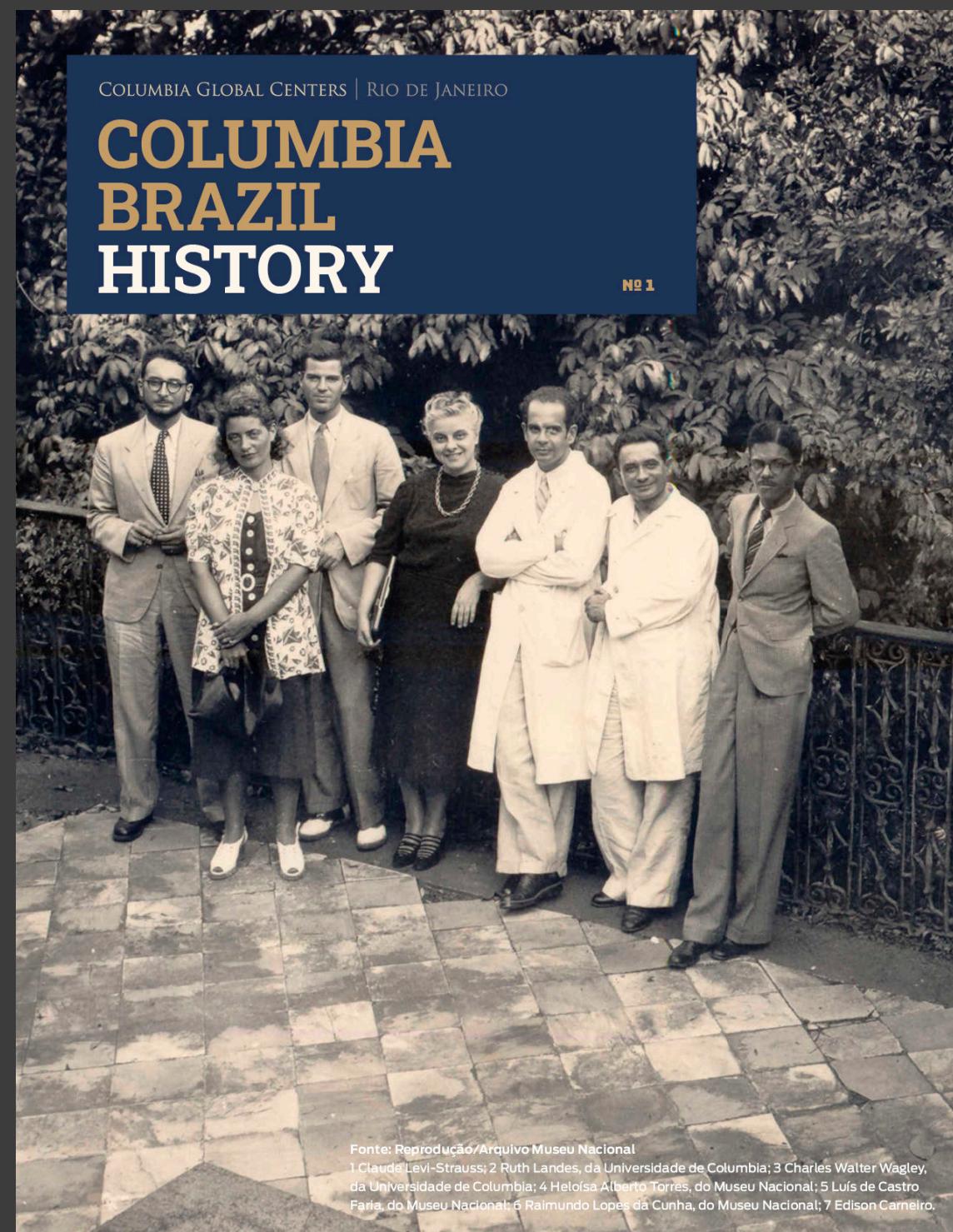
[x] An increase in traffic across our social media channels in 2021

Over the course of this difficult year, we stepped up efforts to communicate with our stakeholders across our main social media channels.





[\approx] Our Publications



The studies contained in this publication represent a first attempt to recover and make available important dimensions about the lengthy relationship between Columbia University in the City of New York and Brazil. As with most historical efforts, our intention in looking at the past history is motivated by a desire to learn its lessons for the present and the future.

[\[CLICK HERE TO READ\]](#)

[click here to watch the webinar](#)



Paul Lagunes
Fernanda Odilla
Jan Svejnar
(ORGANIZAÇÃO)

CORRUPÇÃO E O ESCÂNDALO DA LAVA JATO NA AMÉRICA LATINA

This book was released in Portuguese by FGV Editora in partnership with Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) and the Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro, on Lava Jato's institutional structure in Brazil, which is losing strength with the extinction of this task force model by determination of the Attorney General's Office (PGR).

The largest investigation against corruption in the world, Lava Jato, is analyzed from different perspectives. The present tense seems appropriate to step back and assess the real meaning of what happened. Each of the 15 chapters written by 19 authors from Brazil and abroad is a detached analysis of the heated political debates and also includes interviews with some of its main actors, such as Sergio Moro, Deltan Dallagnol and Glenn Greenwald.

[**\[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE THE BOOK\]**](#)



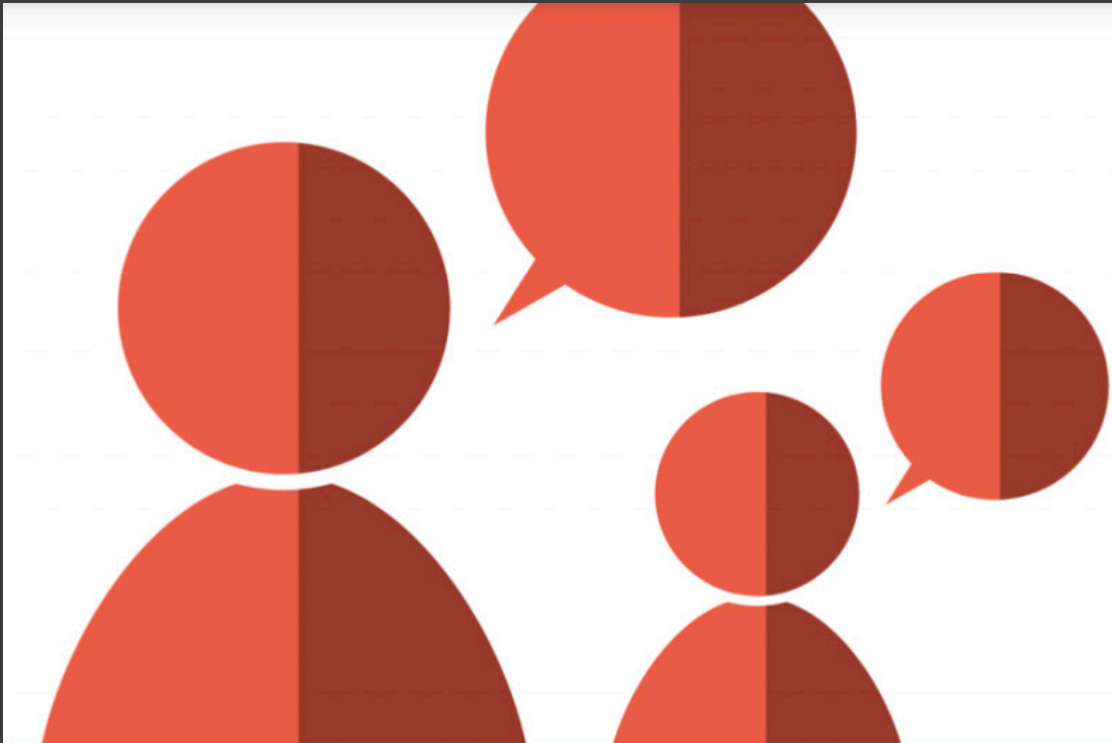
Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro

Essays on Efficiency, Transparency, and Innovation in the Brazilian Public Sector



In a spirit of “giving back”, diverse group of graduates from the Global Executive Master of Public Administration Program at Columbia-SIPA came together to brainstorm around ways to contribute to discussions about improvements in public administration. The discussion evolved into the challenge of writing this volume of essays with practical approaches to efficiency, transparency, and innovation in the public sector in Brazil and around the world. Comunitas partnered with the CGC to produce and disseminate the book.

**[COMING SOON. YOU CAN WATCH THE
WEBINARS IN THE MEANTIME]**



LIBERDADE DE EXPRESSÃO SOB ATAQUE:

EXPERIÊNCIAS GLOBAIS E LIÇÕES DO BRASIL

EDITORES:
Thomas J Trebat
Teresa Borges
Isabella Pereira
Laura Nora

DIAGRAMAÇÃO
Letícia Katz

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | RIO DE JANEIRO **Samambaia:** filantropias

Attacks on the freedom of expression have mounted in Brazil and around the world as journalists and artists have come under withering attack from hate groups and purveyors of fake news. To consider this alarming issue, and to shed light on the Brazilian experience, the CGT partnered with Samambaia Filantropias to produce a webinar in October 2020, moderated by CGT Board Member Ricardo Gandour. The featured speakers included Agnes Callamard, Director of the Columbia Freedom of Expression Project; Denise Dora, Executive Director for Latin America at Article 19; and award-winning journalist Patricia Campos Mello, a columnist for the Folha de São Paulo newspaper. Our publication on the discussion preserves the main insights and sets out a path for future work by the CGT on this critically important topic.

[**\[CLICK HERE TO READ\]**](#)



THE CHANGING ROLE OF THE STATE:

BRAZIL IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | RIO DE JANEIRO

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UM
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FUNDAÇÃO
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COLUMBIA | SIPA
Center on Global Economic Governance

We are proud to present in this small volume summaries of the rich debates that occurred virtually in early 2021 on the changing role of the state in global economic growth and development. This conference is an annual partnership between the Columbia Global Centers, based in Rio de Janeiro, and the Center on Global Economic Governance of the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), based in New York City. For the fourth year in a row, we examined this global theme from the special vantage point of Brazil, one of the leading emerging economies in the world and one in which the proper role of the state is a matter of constant debate. Twenty-four economists, political analysts, and policymakers participated in the conference, adding their insights on economic conditions and policies from around the world with Brazil as a frequent case in point. These discussions reflected in “real time” the most important economic issues that were being discussed during one of the most threatening periods in history of the global economy. Governments around the world were being forced to respond with unorthodox economic and health measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic while preserving a pathway to the recovery of companies and employment in battered economies.

**[COMING SOON. YOU CAN WATCH THE
WEBINARS IN THE MEANTIME]**



[+] Webinars



Global Health

The Great Vaccine Race: Perspectives from Brazil and the World



“The social infrastructure in Brazil includes a strong public health system. The problems Brazil is having now with COVID-19 are mainly due to the lack of political leadership in the country.”

[\[Click here to watch\]](#)

[\[x\] PICK ANOTHER BATTLE](#)

Silvia Martins
Associate Professor of Epidemiology
Columbia Mailman School of Public Health



Sustainability and Environment

Rethinking Nature and Society in Latin America Conference



Marina Silva,
Former Brazilian Minister
of the Environment

“We made an inversion: we put ourselves in the place of supposed power in relation to nature and we put nature in the place of supposed provision, with an indefinite and infinite capacity to supply us with everything we want.”

[\[Click here to watch\]](#)

[\[x\] PICK ANOTHER BATTLE](#)

How Can Brazil Realize Its Potential as an Environmental Power?



Kartik Chandran
Professor of Earth and Environment
Columbia School of Engineering

“ We should stop using the term ‘waste’ and start using the term ‘feedstocks’ instead. In that way, waste is not really waste at all, but rather something valuable, not simply something for people to throw away....We can think of many waste streams that could be captured and reused: municipal solid waste, food waste, animal waste, sanitation streams, agricultural waste, and so on....In this way, water and sanitation in Brazil and around the world can be viewed as part of the ecosystem.”

[\[Click here to watch\]](#)

[\[x\] PICK ANOTHER BATTLE](#)

Launching the Women in Energy Brazil Program



Jully Carela, Former Director,
Women in Energy Program

“ Our mission is to elevate women in this sector. We want to highlight and increase the visibility of women in the energy sector. As we all know, women are still underrepresented in this sector, but we’re still there, and we want to highlight and enhance our visibility. We want to increase the number of women in this sector.”

[\[Click here to watch\]](#)

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Economic Policy and a Green Recovery in Latin America Post-Covid



“An important regional agenda lies ahead for Latin America. It is to do more of what the Europeans do in terms of joint research and development. The broader agenda of the Green Recovery should certainly be the source of concerted action by the Latin American countries on the basis of significant contributions from the many countries in the region that have the research capacity.”

[Click here to watch]

[x] PICK ANOTHER BATTLE

Jose Antonio Ocampo, Professor of Professional Practice, Columbia School of International and Public Affairs.



Human Rights

Migrant Children and their Families: The Cruel Politics at the U.S. - Mexico Border



“If people were migrating before because they were poor, now they’re even poorer. If women were migrating because violence before, they’re going to do even more now.”

[Click here to watch]

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Nara Milanich, Professor of Latin American History, Columbia University

Rights for Whom? Racial Policies in Brazil and United States



Kendal Thomas, Nash Professor
of Law, Columbia Law School

“How can culture be a political resource? The example in the Brazilian context which I always like to point is the ‘roda de samba’, which is a cultural practice horizontally in which I come together with you to produce something that is leaderless. You need the big drums. It’s a model of leadership which is collective. We should look both for leadership and for our agenda from the people who are closest to the problem.”

[Click here to watch]

[x] PICK ANOTHER BATTLE



Government and Society

Freedom of Expression Under Attack?



Patricia Campos Mello,
Award-winning Reporter and
Columnist at Folha de São Paulo

“The situation is even more critical for female journalists. We’re frequently the target of defamation campaigns, which are stimulated and amplified by the government... Much more than our male colleagues. We have our parents and children intimidated, our appearance mocked, our addresses and numbers exposed and we’re subject to violent threats, online and in the real world.”

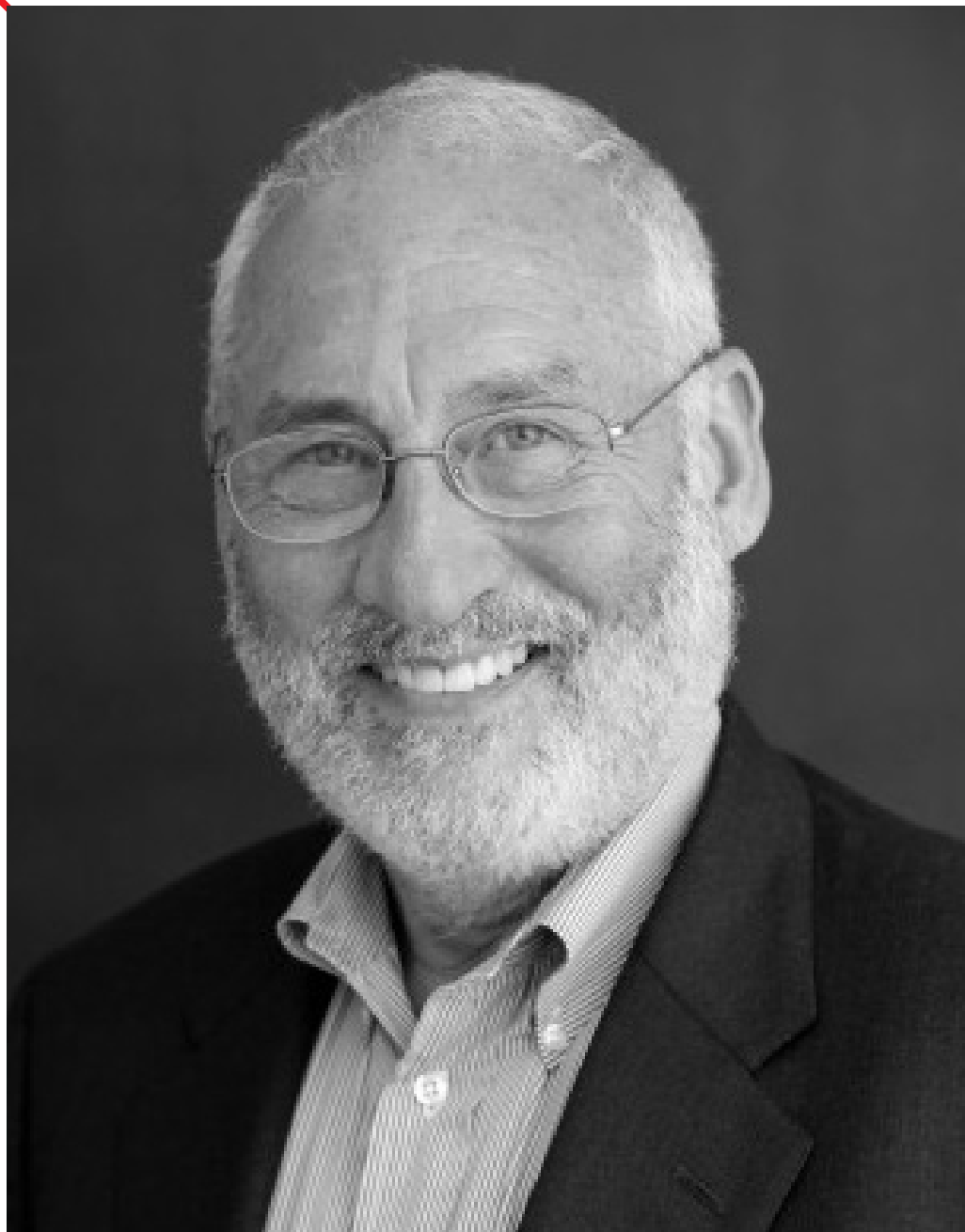
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Economics and Business

The Changing Role of the State Post-Pandemic



Joseph E. Stiglitz, University
Professor, Columbia University

“I do not think you can get a strong global recovery without getting the pandemic under control, especially in view of the new variants. The questions for policy now are about the proper role of government in fostering demand. As the world comes out of the pandemic, we must ask ourselves if those citizens with positive balance sheets are going to consuming a lot. What is the marginal potential for those better off to consume out of their balance sheets? And the general feeling, although not universal, is that the wealthy will not be spending much of their accumulating savings.”

[\[Click here to watch\]](#)

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Using Cross-sector Partnerships To Manage the Pandemic



William B. Eimicke, Professor of
Professional Practice, Columbia School
of International and Public Affairs

“In practice, the healthcare systems in most large countries are hospital-centered. And that has proven to be a disaster during the COVID-19 crisis because people can only receive proper care in a hospital. So everyone goes to the hospital: those who are slightly sick and those who are really sick. As a result, the hospital is overwhelmed and cannot help anybody. And people who were not sick do not get treated at all and do not get tested. So the lesson of my book on Social Value Investing is the value of cross-sector partnerships, involving governments and civil society agents. To deal effectively with COVID-19, we need cooperation and coordination, which we do not have.”

[\[Click here to watch\]](#)

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Creative Arts and Cultural Studies

Columbia-Brazil History Virtual Internship Project



“As a Barnard student, I feel very strongly about women’s representations. Working on this virtual internship project in 2020-2021 was a great experience personally. It was a true pleasure to learn so much about this history and, especially, how fundamental women have been for the history between Columbia University and Brazil.”

[\[Click here to watch\]](#)

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Julia Shimizu, Student of Political
Science and Economics at Barnard College

Fighting LGBTQ+ Discrimination in the Workplace



“It is important to think about our pedagogical practices in the classroom, because that's when we begin to socially deal with different racial, gender, national and migratory identities. So it's important to think about how the school will deal with these identity issues and also to think about language practices.”

[Click here to watch]

[x] PICK ANOTHER BATTLE

João Nemi Neto
Senior Lecturer in Portuguese
Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures

What New Realities Are Youth Organizations Creating?



“How do you have youth acting as agents of change in shaping their futures? We have to do everything we can, ranging from research publications to shaming people, asking for more, and making demands on them. Part of it is voting, at least in democratic societies. In America, you have very large numbers of the young who choose not to vote. So, if you want youth to participate in shaping the future, you have to start there.”

[Click here to watch]

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Vishakha Desai, Senior Advisor for Global Affairs; Senior Research Scholar in Global Studies, Columbia School of International and Public Affairs



[\approx] Main Programs



[≈] Columbia Women's Leadership Network in Brazil

The Columbia Women's Leadership Network is a signature project of the Rio Global Center. Since 2018, the network has received annual cohorts of women leaders for a highly regarded training program which stretches over an entire year. The program has trained more than 100 women leaders to date.

Even though the planned activities of the third (2020) cohort were upended as a result of the pandemic, we succeeded in restructuring the program and re-launching it in March 2021. Débora Thome, social scientist and noted author on women and power issues, led the first of the five modules which comprise the training program. In May, Dr. Brian Perkins, Director of the Urban Education Leaders Program at Teachers College, led a day-long session dedicated to a strengths assessment.

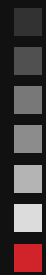
The third module, originally structured as a week-long immersion program at the Athena Center of Barnard College in New York, was reconfigured to run entirely virtually in July 2021. A diverse range of ten sessions dealt with content ranging from soft skills to more academic topics.

In September, Module Four, on inclusive leadership, was skillfully designed and led by Professor Cindy Pace of Columbia and MetLife Insurance Company. The fifth and final module will take place in late-2021 and will feature Professor Alexis Wichowski of Columbia SIPA, a noted authority in government communications.

The success of the Network owes much to the dedication and loyalty of the women leaders themselves. We are also beyond grateful for the financial support for the training program generously provided by the Lemann Foundation, Republica.org, and Instituto Humanize."



Columbia Women's Leadership Network - Cohort 3



Watch: Testimonials from 2020-2021 Participants



Fernanda Caloi

Program Manager at Google for Startups



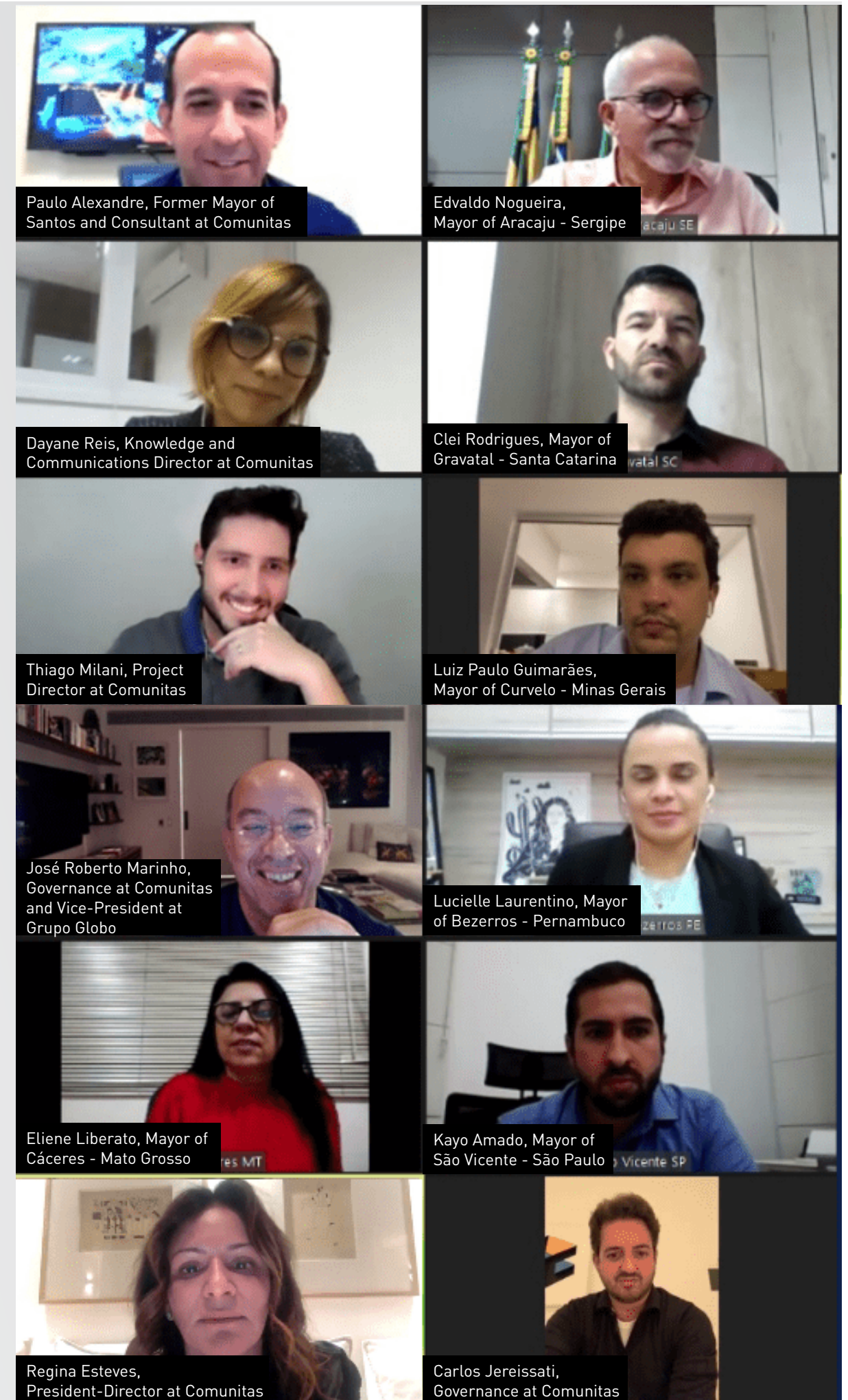
Laura Yawanawa

President/Director at Associação
Sociocultural Yawanawa/ASCY

[≈] Special Program for Brazilian Mayors with Comunitas

Designed to overlap with Brazilian municipal elections conducted in late-2020, we partnered with Comunitas in São Paulo to launch an innovative training program for 54 newly elected (or re-elected) mayors of cities large and small throughout Brazil. The open access, self-paced training program was focused on best practices in the preparation of plans for municipal government.

The course included more than 60 hours of content, including video classes, thematic tracks, and practical exercises, all developed by more than 50 experts in public management. The Rio Global Center participated in the curriculum design and monitored implementation. SIPA professors William B. Eimicke and Alexis Wichowski provided international master classes to brief participants on global best practices in the field of city planning.



[≈] Women in Energy Brasil

Considering the growing demand for energy work opportunities for women in Brazil and the gender disparity in this sector, SIPA's Center on Global Energy Policy (CGEP) and CGC Rio launched this initiative to work together to achieve greater female representation in the Brazilian energy sector.

Envisioned by SIPA student, Eduarda Zoghbi, with support from CGEP and CGC|Rio, the Women in Energy Brazil (WIE-BR) will count with both organizations' experience in community building, networking and events organization to replicate the Women in Energy Program from CGEP in New York in Brazil.

This new partnership is also a collective effort to promote the exchange of expertise and knowledge between United States and Brazil, exploring research opportunities for women in energy and disseminating Columbia University's world-renowned programs to potential Brazilian students. In the future, WIE-BR shall serve as a model to be replicated in Latin America and other regions aiming to empower women in energy fields.



COLUMBIA | SIPA
Center on Global Energy Policy



COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS |
RIO DE JANEIRO



women
in energy
Brasil

The **Center on Global Energy Policy's Women in Energy** program and the **Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro** are delighted to announce the launch of Women in Energy Brasil. This new initiative aims to empower Brazilian women in the energy sector by offering training, networking, mentorship, and research opportunities to bridge the gender gap in the field.

Please Join Us for the Official Launch Event Featuring:



Veronica Coelho
Senior Vice President &
Country Manager Brasil,
Equinor



Agnes Costa
Head of the Regulatory
Advisory Office, Ministry of
Mines and Energy, Brazil



**Laurie
Fitzmaurice**
Executive Director, Center
on Global Energy Policy



**Kathlen
Schneider**
Co-founder and Coordinator
of Brazilian Women's
Network in Solar Energy
(Mesol Network) and
Director, Latin American
Institute for Alternative
Energy (IDEAL)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
ZOOM WEBINAR

Registration Required: energypolicy.columbia.edu

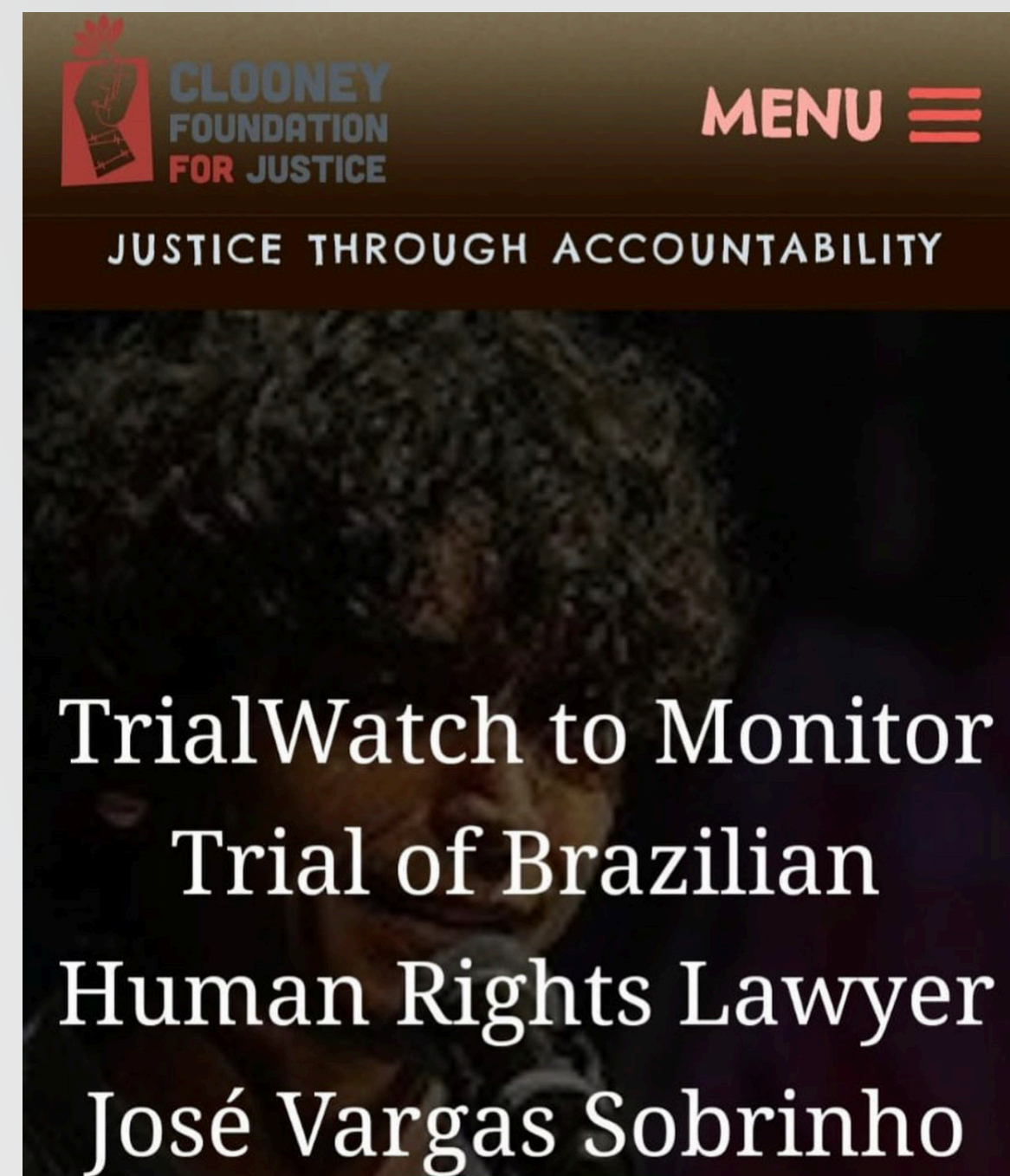


[≈] Trial Watch - Clooney Foundation

The Clooney Foundation for Justice's TrialWatch initiative monitors and grades the fairness of trials of vulnerable people around the world, including journalists, women and girls, religious minorities, LGBTQ persons and human rights defenders. Alarmed by human rights violations in Brazil, the Foundation has taken a renewed interest in defending the vulnerable in Brazil.

Responding to an call by the Human Rights Institute at Columbia Law School, the Rio CGC is partnering with the TrialWatch program to provide training for trial monitors in Brazil. As part of this initiative, the Rio CGC is monitoring the trial of Brazilian human rights lawyer José Vargas Sobrinho.

Mr. Vargas is a well-known advocate for rural and indigenous communities in Brazil whose representation of the victims of the 2017 Pau D'Arco massacre – where 10 land defenders were killed by police – has resulted in harassment and threats to him and his family. He now faces a range of charges including qualified homicide, which carries a potential sentence of 12 to 30 years in prison. In January 2021, a few weeks after Mr. Vargas' arrest on these charges, a key witness and survivor of the massacre was murdered, raising concerns that the proceedings against Mr. Vargas may be part of an attempt to thwart justice in that case.






[≈] Training for Informal Settlement Leaders in Brazil and Kenya

Besides its impact on human health and mental health, COVID-19 has aggravated existing socioemotional challenges. As a result of urbanism, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Nairobi, Kenya, are two populous cities with some of the largest informal settlements in the world. In these settlements, the already high rates of depression, anxiety, psychological distress, substance abuse, and suicidality are expected to increase with the harsh realities of the pandemic and the current lack of resources. We partnered with the Columbia School of Social Work (CSSW) to look more closely at this critical challenge.

Through collaborative and community-driven psychoeducation, this pilot training aimed to alleviate the mental health consequences of the pandemic for community leaders who are entrenched in on-the-ground work within informal settlements in Rio de Janeiro and Nairobi. Six weekly web-based modules involving 20 community leaders in each city of Nairobi and Rio de Janeiro. The sessions covered the following topics: (1) psychoeducation, (2) grief and loss, (3) mental health and coping, (4) impact of racism, stigma, and discrimination (5) social supports, and (6) interpersonal violence.


We believe that these trainings enhanced mental health and coping for community leaders. Through the provision of knowledge and an exchange of information and processing, the trainings promoted community support and strengthened leaders' self-efficacy and response to a mental health crisis. Finally, these trainings assisted community leaders in enhancing the health and mental health of children, youth, and families.

We look forward to continuing this work with the CSSW in the future.



**TREINAMENTO PARA
LÍDERES COMUNITÁRIOS
EM ASSENTAMENTOS
INFORMAIS E FAVELAS
NO BRASIL E NO QUÊNIA**

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[≈] Program with ENAP (National School of Public Administration)

The Rio CGC has partnered with Brazil's National School of Public Administration (ENAP) to support a new Masters of Public Policy (MPP) program developed and offered by ENAP and launching in January 2022. The target audience will be a very large group of mid- to senior-level federal public servants in Brazil.

Responding to an appeal from the Picker Center at Columbia-SIPA, the Rio CGC has helped to identify and to make available to the MPP curriculum pre-recorded Columbia course content by Columbia experts in economics, public management, and sustainable development.

This latest partnership with ENAP maintains a longstanding Rio CGC/Columbia-SIPA effort to use digital means to contribute to improved efficiency, innovation, and transparency in the Brazilian public sector.

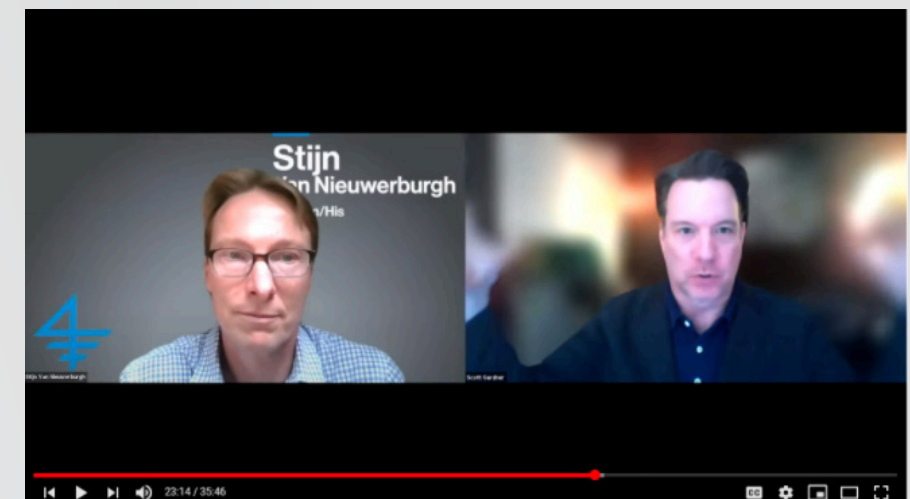


[≈] Promoting Business Recovery in Brazil: Partnership with the Columbia Business School Executive Education

The Columbia Business School and the Columbia Global Centers network have agreed upon a formal collaboration in order to expand the CBS footprint overseas by building new opportunities in the regions where the Centers are located.

By promoting the CBS programs in the Global Centers regions, the Centers would have the opportunity to offer high quality executive education courses and to engage with current and potential new partners. A revenue sharing arrangement would be of direct benefit to the Centers as well.

The Rio Global Center is helping to lead this global initiative in the firm belief that the skills and knowledge of the Columbia Business School faculty can be better leveraged to promote the recovery of companies and jobs in Brazil.



Topic: Flattening the Curve: Pandemic-Induced Revaluation of Urban Real Estate with Stijn Van Nieuwerburgh, Earle W. Kazis and Benjamin Schore Professor of Real Estate at Columbia Business School



Topic: Understanding the Promise of Artificial Intelligence
Professor Assaf Zeevi, Kravis Professor of Business



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Advisory
Committee



AMY E. CHAZKEL
Bernard Hirschhorn
Associate Professor
of Urban Studies,
Department of History



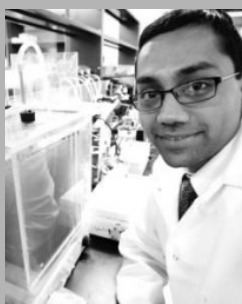
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Observatory



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Practice | Columbia
Business School; Director |
W. Edwards Deming Center



WALTER BAETHGEN
Senior Research
Scientist | International
Research Institute for
Climate and Society



GUSTAVO AZENHA
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for Brazilian Studies;
Director of Graduate
Studies | Institute of Latin
American Studies



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Preservation; Director of
the PhD in Urban Planning
Program; Director, Project
Development, Columbia
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Associate Clinical
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YAMILE M. MARTI
Associate Professional of
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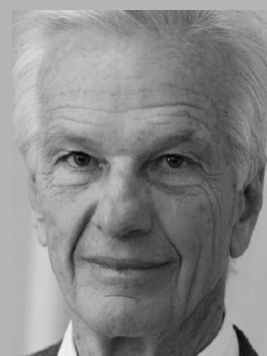
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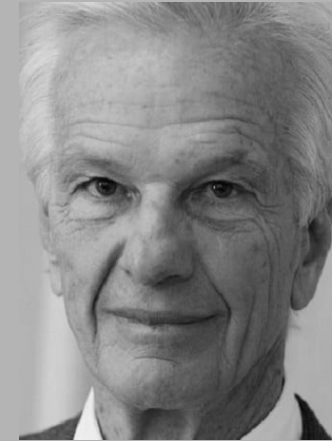


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President | Comunitas



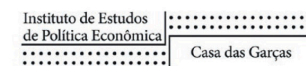
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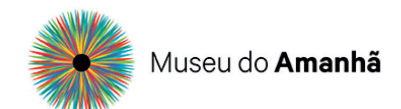
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THOMAS TREBAT
Director



TERESA BORGES
Senior Program Manager



MARIA LUIZA PARANHOS
Senior Project Coordinator



LETÍCIA KATZ
Communications Officer

The vaccines injected us with some hope of better days ahead. We're excited that all of our members already got the first covid vaccine shot. Our team from Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro believes in science and that vaccines save lives! We hope everyone gets the chance to have the vaccine very soon.



LUCIA HELENA DA ROCHA SILVERIO
Office Assistant



RODRIGO SIQUEIRA
Financial Officer



ISABELLA PEREIRA
Program Assistant

