

GUSTAVO FEDERICO TORRENS

PERSONAL INFORMATION

E-mail: gtorrens@iu.edu
Webpage: <https://gustavotorrens.com>
Phone Number: +1(812)-856-8131

CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Indiana University.
Director, Political Economy Program, Ostrom Workshop, Indiana University.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, Washington University in St. Louis, USA, 2013.
M.A. in Economics, Universidad del CEMA, Argentina, 2006.
B.A. in Economics, Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina, 2003.

RESEARCH

PUBLISHED PAPERS

28. The Elusive Quest for Disarmed Peace: Contest Games and International Relations, with Sebastian Galiani and Johann Caro-Burnett. *Accepted for publication in **Economic Theory**.*

27. Colonial Wars and Trade Restrictions: Fighting for Exclusive Trading Rights, with Iván G. Lopez Cruz. *Accepted for publication in **Canadian Journal of Economics**.*

26. A Two-Wave Death History: Fentanyl Overdoses in the US, Bullets in Mexico, with Iván G. Lopez Cruz. *Journal of Development Economics*. Volume 178, January 2026.

25. Governing Resources in the Final Frontier, with Scott J. Shackelford, Jessica Steinberg, and Eytan Tepper. *Constitutional Political Economy*, October 2025.

24. (Editorial) The Economic Approach to Geopolitics, with Sebastian Galiani. Introduction to Special Issue: The Economic Approach to Geopolitics (guest editors Gustavo Torrens and Sebastian Galiani). *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* Volume 237, September 2025.

23. Ostromian Institutions and Violence: Community Forestry and Nepal's Civil War, with Nathan J. Cook, Birendra K. Karna, and Jessica Steinberg. *World Development*. Volume 192, August 2025.

22. Geopolitics and International Trade Infrastructure Deterrence, with Sebastian Galiani and José Manuel Paz y Miño. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* Volume 234, June 2025.

21. Campaign Contributions, Partisan Politics, and Environmental Polarization in the US Congress, with Dean Lueck and Julio Ramos Pastrana. *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization*. Volume 41, Issue 1, Pages 159–195, March 2025.

20. From Local Adaptation to Global Mitigation: How Improving Food Security by Building Local Resilience Can Help Limit Climate Change, with Ore Koren. *Accepted for publication in **Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law***. Volume 57, Issue 5. December 2024.

19. Nationalistic Bias in Collusion Prosecution: The Case for International Antitrust Agreements, with Filomena Garcia and José Manuel Paz y Miño. *Scandinavian Journal of Economics* Volume 126, Issue 3, Pages 489-528, July 2024.

18. Institutional-Cultural Coherence and Economic Development: The Case of the Spanish Regions, with David Soto-Oñate. Forthcoming *Journal of Comparative Economics*. Volume 51, Issue 1, Pages 41-89, March 2023.
17. Hidden Drivers of Violence Diffusion: Evidence from Illegal Oil Siphoning in Mexico, with Ivan G. Lopez Cruz. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* Volume 206, Pages 26-70, February 2023.
16. The Political Economy of Trade and International Labor Mobility, with Sebastian Galiani. *Canadian Journal of Economics* Volume 54, Number 4, November 2021.
15. The Merger Paradox, Collusion, and Antitrust Policy, with Filomena Garcia and José Manuel Paz y Miño. *Journal of Public Economic Theory* Volume 22, Issue 6, Pages 2051-2081, December 2020.
14. Mapping the Theory of Political Representation to the Empirics: An Investigation for Proportional and Majoritarian Rules, with David Stadelmann and Marco Portmann. *Journal of Comparative Economics* Volume 48, Issue 3, Pages 548-560, September 2020.
13. Property Rights and Domestication, with Dean Lueck. *Journal of Institutional Economics* Volume 16, Special Issue 2 (Honor of Yoram Barzel), Pages 199-215, April 2020.
12. International Organizations and the Political Economy of Reforms, with Sebastian Galiani and Ivan Torre. *Journal of International Economics* Volume 121, Pages 1-16, November 2019.
11. Why Not Taxation and Representation? British Politics and the American Revolution, with Sebastian Galiani. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* Volume 166, Pages 28-52, October 2019.
10. The Paradox of Power Revisited: Internal and External Conflict, with Ivan G. Lopez Cruz. *Economic Theory* Volume 68, Issue 2, Pages 421-460, September 2019.
9. Horizontal and Vertical Conflict: Experimental Evidence, with Sebastian Galiani, Cheryl Xiaoning Long and Camila Navajas Ahumada. *Kyklos* Volume 72, Issue 2, Pages 239-269, May 2019.
8. Stirring Up a Hornets' Nest: Geographic Distribution of Crime, with Sebastian Galiani and Ivan G. Lopez Cruz. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* Volume 152, Pages 17-35, August 2018.
7. Collective Action: Experimental Evidence, with Victoria Anauati, Brian Feld and Sebastian Galiani. *Games and Economic Behavior* Volume 99, Pages 36-55, September 2016.
6. Fiscal Federalism and Legislative Malapportionment: Causal Evidence from Independent but related Natural Experiments", with Sebastian Galiani and Iván Torre. *Economics & Politics*, Volume 28, Issue 1, Pages 133-159, March 2016.
5. The Political Coase Theorem: Experimental Evidence, with Sebastian Galiani and Lucía Yanguas. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* Volume 103, Pages 17-38, July 2014.
4. Autocracy, Democracy and Trade Policy, with Sebastian Galiani. *Journal of International Economics*, Volume 93, Issue 1, Pages 173-193, May 2014.
3. Factor Endowments, Democracy and Trade Policy Divergence, with Sebastian Galiani and Norman Schofield. *Journal of Public Economic Theory* Volume 16, Issue 1, Pages 119-156, February 2014.

2. Making Rules Credible: Divided Government and Political Budget Cycles, with Jorge Streb. **Public Choice**, Volume 156, Issue 3-4, Pages 703-722, September 2013.

1. Checks and Balances on Political Budget Cycles: Cross-Country Evidence, with Jorge Streb and Daniel Lema. **Kyklos**, Volume 62, Issue 3, Pages 426-447, August 2009.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

3. Fighting Communism Supporting Collusion, with Sebastian Galiani and José Manuel Paz y Miño.
*Revise and resubmit (2nd round) **Journal of International Economics**.*
SSNR Working Paper Series No. 4135570 [[Link](#)]
NBER Working Paper No. 23087 [[Link](#)]

2. Who is the Boss of Legislators: Voters, Special Interest Groups or Parties?, with David Stadelmann and Marco Portmann.
*Revise and resubmit **Journal of Law and Economics**.*
Repect Research Paper. [[Link](#)]

1. Ostromian Institutions, Social Norms, and Violence during Civil Conflict, with Nathan Cook and Jessica Steinberg.
*Revise and resubmit **European Economic Review**.*

BOOK CHAPTERS

3. Political regimes, intra-elite conflict and trade policy, with Sebastian Galiani. Forthcoming in **Political Economy and Economic Development: Essays in Honor of Adolfo Canitrot**. S. Galiani and C. Winograd (eds.), Edward Elgar.

2. Latin America in its Growth Labyrinth, with Julio Ramos Pastrana. Forthcoming in **The Elgar Encyclopedia of Latin American Politics**, Avellaneda, Claudia N., Nathalie Mendez Mendez, and Ricardo A Bello-Gomez. Eds. Edward Elgar Publishing. ISBN 9781035325542.

1. La Economía Política de la Política Fiscal, with Jorge Streb. In **Progresos en Economía del Sector Público**, AAEP, Fondo Editorial Consejo, 2011.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (US)

Instructor Theory of Prices and Markets I (ECON 521), Indiana University (Fall 2018-2024, Fall 2025)

Instructor Microeconomic Theory I (M501), Indiana University (Fall 2023-2025)

Instructor Advanced Microeconomics Seminar (ECON 724), Indiana University (Fall 2014, Spring 2020, 2021, 2024)

Instructor International Trade (Econ 331), Indiana University (Spring 2013, 2016)

Instructor Intermediate Microeconomics (ECON 321), Indiana University (Fall 2013-17, Fall 2020, Spring 2015, 2019, 2020, 2023)

Instructor Capitalism and Democracy (Pols 121 and ECON 113), Indiana University (Fall 2022, Spring 2025)

New course development: Ostrom Workshop Massive Open Online Course (**MOOC**), **Political Economy Module** (Summer 2025).

New course development (with Timothy Hellwig): **Capitalism and Democracy** ECON 113 and Pols 121 (Fall 2019).

Teaching Assistant Theory of Property Rights (ECON 458), B.A. course, Washington University in St. Louis (Fall 2009, 2010, 2011). Professors: Douglass North and John Drobak.

Teaching Assistant Development Economics (ECON 471), B.A. course, Washington University in St. Louis (Spring 2010, 2012). Professor: Sebastian Galiani.

Teaching Assistant Economics of Law (ECON 403), B.A. course, Washington University in St. Louis (Spring 2011). Professor: Juan Pantano.

Teaching Assistant Macroeconomics (ECON 501 and ECON 502), Ph.D. course, Washington University in St. Louis (Fall 2008, Spring 2009). Professors: Rodolfo Manuelli, Yong Seok Shin, Michele Boldrin and Stephen Williamson.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (OTHER)

Economics and Management Summer School, University of Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany (2018).

Lecturer Topics in Political Economy, Universidad del CEMA, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2017, 2019).

Lecturer Topics in Game Theory, Universidad del CEMA, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2008).

Instructor Microeconomics, B.A. in Economics course of Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Santa Fe, Argentina (2004, 2005, and 2006).

Instructor Macroeconomics, B.A. in Business Administration course, Universidad Austral, Rosario, Argentina (2005, 2006, and 2007).

Instructor Introduction to Economics, B.A. in Business Administration course, Universidad Austral, Rosario, Argentina (2005, 2006, and 2007).

Teaching Assistant Mathematical Economics, M.A. in Economics course, Universidad del CEMA, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2005, 2006, and 2007).

Teaching Assistant Econometrics, M.A. in Economics course, Universidad del CEMA, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2005).

Teaching Assistant Microeconomics, B.A. in Economics course, Universidad del CEMA, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007).

Teaching Assistant Macroeconomics, B.A. in Economics course of Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Rosario, Argentina (1999, 2000).

ADVISING EXPERIENCE

PhD Dissertation Committee, Indiana University:

1. Adela Maria Arguello (Clackamas College)
2. Jose Pedro Borges Coelho Pere (Bank of Canada)
3. Ridwan Endrizal (Andalas University)
4. Iván Guillermo López Cruz (Sabanci University)
5. Nicholas Anthony Pairolero (United States Patent and Trademark Office)
6. Tyler Daun (International Trade Commission)
7. José Manuel Paz y Miño (Universidad de Chile)
8. Julio Ramos Pastrana (Interamerican Development Bank)
9. Joseph Westenberg (ACES) Graduation: December 2022
10. Yongseok Kim (Tulane University) Graduation: May 2024
11. Andrew Berryhill (Rocky Mountain College) Graduation: May 2025
12. Stevens, Milles (Morehouse College) Graduation: May 2025
13. Jarrod Burgh (Berea College) Graduation: May 2025
14. Luis Navarro Ulloa (University of Washington) Graduation: May 2025
15. Guilherme Paiva Pinto (expected graduation May 2026)
16. Jinzhe Xiang (expected graduation May 2026)
17. Brandon Chang (expected graduation May 2026)
18. Jennifer Mangano (expected graduation May 2027)
19. Erica Young
20. Bera Enakshi
21. Kim, Junho

Postdoc Advising: David Soto-Oñate (University of Vigo).

PhD Dissertation Committee (outside Indiana University): Darcio Genicolo-Martins (Center for Regulation and Democracy, Insper, Brazil, Graduated: November 2020).

Undergraduate Thesis. César Franzetti, Is there market power in Argentina's insurance car market? Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina.

CONFERENCE, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

Fall 2025, Lecture Y673, Ostrom Workshop, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S

Fall 2025 Lecture L260, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S

Spring 2025, Department of Economics, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S

Spring 2025, Foundations for the Market Economy Program. Conference, "State, Society, and Social Order: A Conference in Celebration of the Work of James C. Scott", New York University

Fall 2024, Ostrom Workshop, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.

Summer 2024, SIOE, Chicago, U.S.

Summer 2024, Young Scholars Symposium, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.

Summer 2024, WOW 7. Panel, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.

Fall 2023. University of Mississippi.

Spring 2023. ASSA Meetings, New Orleans, U.S.

Fall 2022, Young Scholars Symposium, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.

Summer 2022, Young Scholars Symposium (Workshop), Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.

Fall 2021, Ronald Coase Institute Workshop on Institutional Analysis.

Fall 2021, Universidad del Cema. Webinar.

Fall 2021, Ostrom Workshop, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.

Spring 2020, Ostrom Workshop, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.

Fall 2019, Symposium on Natural Resource Governance for Young Scholars, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.

Fall 2019, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina, U.S.

Summer 2019, Workshop on New Insights into Political Economy, Bayreuth, Germany.
Summer 2019, Midwest Economic Theory Meetings, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.
Spring 2019, PIEP, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.
Spring 2019, Ostrom Workshop, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.
Spring 2019, Drexel University, Philadelphia, U.S.
Summer 2018, Workshop on New Insights into Political Economy, Berlin, Germany.
Summer 2018, University of Bayreuth, Germany.
Fall 2017, Ronald Coase Institute Workshop on Institutional Analysis, Bogota, Colombia.
Summer 2017, Workshop on New Insights into Political Economy, Berlin, Germany.
Summer 2017, SIOE Meetings, New York, U.S.
Fall 2016, Universidad Carlos III – Juan March Institute, Madrid, Spain.
Summer 2016, SAET, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Fall 2016, Kelly Business School, Bloomington, Indiana.
Summer 2016, Workshop on New Insights into Political Economy, Berlin, Germany.
Fall 2015, UECE Lisbon Meetings in Game Theory and Applications, Lisbon, Portugal.
Summer 2015, Lecturer 16th Trento Summer School, Trento, Italy.
Spring 2015, Ostrom Workshop, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.
Fall 2014, Federal Communications Commission, D.C., U.S.
Spring 2014, University of Maryland, Maryland, U.S.
Spring 2014, Conference in Honor of Adolfo Canitrot, Universidad Di Tella, Argentina.
Spring 2013, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, U.S.
Spring 2013, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.
Spring 2013, Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia
Spring 2013, University of Miami, Miami, Florida, U.S.
Fall 2012, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.
Summer 2011, SAET, Faro, Portugal.
Summer 2011, North American Econometric Society Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.
Summer 2011, PET, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.
Fall 2010, LACEA, Medellin, Colombia.

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

AWARDS

Prize of the Ministry of Economics of Portugal. (Prémio “Concorrência nos Mercados” Gabinete de Estratégia e Estudos (GEE) do Ministério da Economia. Paper: Of Course Collusion Should Be Prosecuted. But Maybe... Or (the Case for International Antitrust Agreements).

ANCE Award 2016. Academia Nacional de Ciencias Económicas (National Academy of Sciences of Argentina, Economics). Paper: Autocracy, Democracy and Trade Policy.

Best Paper. Argentine Political Economy Association Contest for Young Economists, (November 2006).

First Prize. Insurance National Prize awarded by Estrategas Magazine and Royal & SunAlliance Insurance Company (December 2006). Paper: Is there market power in Argentina’s insurance car market?

GRANTS

Institute for Research in Economic and Fiscal Issues. Free to choose how to protect from your behavioral biases: experimental evidence (2018).

Foundation of Science and Technology of Portugal. Firms, competition and social welfare in a global economy (2018).

Ostrom Workshop Research Grant. Dynamics of Conflict (2015).

January 2026

Weidenbaum Center Grant to finance laboratory experiments in political economy (2011 and 2012).

Graduate School Summer Research Grant (Summers 2009 and 2012).

HONORS

Distinguished thesis: Ideology and Political Economy. Master in Economics, Universidad del CEMA (March 2006).

Best G.P.A of the Master in Economics. Universidad del CEMA (December 2004).

Best G.P.A. of the Bachelor in Economics (Licenciatura en Economía). Universidad Nacional de Rosario (December 2002).

SCHOLARSHIPS

University of Bayreuth International Fellowship for Visiting Faculty (2018)

Schwartz Graduate Scholarship (CNISS). Washington University in St. Louis (Summers 2010 and 2011).

Bradley Fellowship. Washington University in St. Louis (2009-2011).

John Stuart Mills Fellowship. Washington University in St. Louis (2008-2009).

Scholarship Instituto Nacional de Matemática Pura e Aplicada (IMPA). Summer Program: Introduction to Mathematical Economics. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Summer 2007).

Research Scholarship of the National Council of Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET), Argentina (2006 and 2007).

Research Scholarship of the National Agency for Scientific and Technological Promotion. Project on: "Labor and Education", Argentina (2005 and 2006).

Scholarship Revista Análisis. Universidad del CEMA (2003 and 2004).