

Juan P. Aparicio

Economist | Political Economy of Conflict | Research Reproducibility

PhD economist working on the political economy of conflict and media, research reproducibility, and applied data science.

Methods: applied microeconomics, causal inference, time-series and demand forecasting, survey data analysis, replication audits, human-AI evaluation.

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Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=ap4duGUAAAAJ&hl=en>

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Research Scientist (Postdoctoral Researcher), Institute for Replication, Ottawa, Canada | 2024-present. Organizes replication games and AI Games projects on human-AI interaction and research productivity. Has led studies involving more than 700 researchers and contributed to projects involving more than 2,000; co-organized replication work that fed into publications in journals including Nature, PNAS, Psychological Science, and Nature Human Behaviour.
- Visiting positions: Centre for the Study of Existential Risk, University of Cambridge | May 2026; Victoria University of Wellington | December 2025.
- Senior Economic Fellow, CivicScience | May 2024-present. Ongoing part-time advisory role on survey-based demand forecasting.
- Senior Data Scientist & Economist, CivicScience, Pittsburgh, USA | December 2022 - May 2024. Developed demand-forecasting applications using CivicScience's real-time survey data and tested them with clients including McDonald's, Target, and Bank of America. The forecasting work later became a product line.
- Senior Consultant & Postdoctoral Researcher, Universidad EAFIT, Medellín, Colombia | 2021-2023 (Senior Consultant, July 2021 - October 2022; Postdoctoral Researcher, June 2022 - January 2023; held concurrently with the final stretch of the PhD). Led EAFIT's consulting work with the Federación Nacional de Departamentos on liquor and cigarette smuggling in Colombia, resulting in the policy report listed below.

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Economics, University of Western Australia | 2023. Dean's list honorable mention.
- M.Sc. in Economics, Université catholique de Louvain | 2018.
- B.S. in Economics, Universidad EAFIT | 2016. Graduated with honors.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Captivating news: Media attention and FARC kidnappings. With Michael Jetter. **Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization**, 202, 69-81, 2022. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2022.07.029>.
- AI-assisted teams outperform AI-led teams but not human-only teams in assessing research reproducibility in quantitative social science. Large-scale collaboration (272 authors; Brodeur, Valenta, Marcoci, Aparicio, et al.). **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences**, 123(22), e2524747123, 2026. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2524747123>. Author contributions (J.P.A.): designed research, performed research, organized replication games, co-wrote the paper.
- Demanda de internet: el sector mayorista de telecomunicaciones colombiano (Internet Demand: The Colombian Wholesale Telecommunications Sector). With John J. García Rendón. **Revista de Economía del Rosario**, 19(2), 2016. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.12804/revistas.urosario.edu.co/economia/a.5624>.

WORKING PAPERS

- Peacefully Demobilizing Rebels: Identity, Emotional Cues, and the FARC. With Michael Jetter and Christopher Parsons. **IZA Discussion Paper No. 16054**, 2023. Under journal review. <https://www.iza.org/en/publications/dp/16054/peacefully-demobilizing-rebels-identity-emotional-cues-and-the-farc>.
- The Wrong Snowball: Reintegration Signals and Demobilization in Colombia. With Verónica Abril. Working paper; draft available on request.

- You Speak, We Shoot: On the Unintended Consequences of Community Radios on Colombia's Violent Conflict. With Gustavo Canavire-Bacarreza and Eric Neumayer. Working paper; under journal review; draft available on request.

JOURNAL COMMENTS AND REPLICATIONS

- Comment on "Telementoring and Homeschooling during School Closures: A Randomized Experiment in Rural Bangladesh" by Hassan et al. With Nikolai Cook, Derek Mikola, Ole Rogeberg, David Valenta, Michael Wiebe, Carl Bonander, and Abel Brodeur. **The Economic Journal**, 2026. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ej/ueag040>.
- A Comment on "Delivering Remote Learning Using a Low-Tech Solution: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial in Bangladesh". With Lenka Fiala, Jack Fitzgerald, Essi Kujansuu, Derek Mikola, David Valenta, Michael Wiebe, Matthew D. Webb, and Abel Brodeur. **I4R Discussion Paper Series**, 2025. <https://ideas.repec.org/p/zbw/i4rdps/241.html>.

BOOKS AND POLICY REPORTS

- Estrategias anticontrabando y crimen organizado. EAFIT & Federación Nacional de Departamentos, 2022. Consulting engagement led by Juan P. Aparicio. <https://www.programaanticontrabando.com.co/pdfs/Estrategias%20anticontrabando%20y%20crimen%20organizado.pdf>.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Violence and Migration: Analyzing the Mujahideen. With Christopher Parsons.
- Polarization in Democratic Elections: Insights from an Enhanced Hotelling's Model.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Research on Research initiative, I4R (Co-investigator): USD 187,210, 2025.
- Sloan Foundation, I4R (Co-investigator): USD 134,784, 2025.
- University of Western Australia: Dean's list, Postgraduate Award, Top Up Scholarship.
- Other awards: Laureate Thesis (Universidad EAFIT); RTP Scholarship (Australian Government); Beca ICETEX.

TEACHING

- Advanced Topics in Econometrics, Universidad EAFIT | 2025.
- Introduction to Microeconomics, Universidad EIA | 2024.
- Introduction to the Colombian Economy, Universidad EIA | 2023.
- Intermediate Macroeconomics, Universidad EIA | 2023.
- Microeconomics Seminar, Universidad EAFIT | 2021-2023. Student evaluation: 4.8/5.
- Growth and Development, Universidad EAFIT | 2022. Student evaluation: 4.7/5.

SUPERVISION AND SERVICE

- Supervised or mentored students at Louvain School of Economics, Universidad EIA, and Universidad EAFIT.
- Referee service: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Nexus, Journal of Productivity Analysis, Sports Economics Review, Journal of the Operational Research Society, Migration Studies, Revista de Economía del Rosario.
- Pro bono consulting for International Justice Mission on violence against women and children in Colombia.

SKILLS

- Methods: applied microeconomics, causal inference (difference-in-differences, instrumental variables, event studies), randomized and natural experiments, time-series and demand forecasting, replication audits, survey data analysis, human-AI evaluation.
- Software: R, Python, SQL, Stata, Git/GitHub, LaTeX, Excel.
- Languages: Spanish (native); English (fluent); basic French and Portuguese.