Camila Bustos (she/her/ella)

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University — July 2023 – Present
Assistant Professor of Law — White Plains, NY
Courses: Torts, Environmental Law, International Human Rights Law, Climate Migration
Awards: Hudson Valley Hispanic Bar Association "Trail Blazer" Award

The New School — Fall 2024
Part-time Faculty — New York City, NY

Trinity College — Fall 2021/2022
Visiting Assistant Professor of Human Rights — Hartford, CT

EDUCATION

YALE LAW SCHOOL, New Haven, CT
J.D., May 2021

Awards:
Francis Wayland Prize
Switzer Foundation Fellow
Paul & Daisy Soros Fellow
Hispanic Scholarship Fund Recipient

Activities:
Law Students for Climate Accountability (Co-Founder)
Asylum Seeker Advocacy Project at Yale (Co-Chair)
New Directions in Environmental Law Conference (Co-Chair)
Research Assistant (Professors Hope Metcalf and Lucas Guttentag)
Women of Color Collective (Co-Chair)
Legal Observer
Linkages Program (Argentina, 2019)
Kirby Simon Human Rights Fellow (2019/2020)

BROWN UNIVERSITY, Providence, RI
B.A., *magna cum laude,* Environmental Studies, International Relations, May 2016

Honors:
Phi Beta Kappa

Awards:
Outstanding Senior Award in Environmental Studies
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Undergraduate Fellowship
Royce Fellowship
First Place in Columbia University Economics Review Climate Policy Competition

Thesis:
Deconstructing Colombia's Foreign Policy on Climate Change

NON-ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), *Consultant* — May 2022 – June 2023
•Assisted in developing climate-related questions for the intake process. — Remote
Developed climate displacement training materials and resources to help educate attorneys and judges. Drafted a memorandum outlining legal pathways to protect climate displaced people.

Supreme Court of Connecticut, *Judicial Clerk* June 2021–July 2022
• Supported the research and writing of judicial opinions in Hon. Steven D. Ecker's chambers. Hartford, CT
• Conducted research on a range of state and federal law issues, including zoning law, constitutional law, statutory interpretation, and criminal law.

University Network for Human Rights, *Clinical Supervisor in Human Rights Practice / Intern* Sept. 2020–Jan. 2023
• Served as project coordinator and lead author of 100-page report on climate induced displacement from the Northern Triangle, exploring multiple avenues for relief based on U.S. immigration law and policy. Supervised a team of undergraduate and law students. Middletown, CT
• Supported advocacy on behalf of a Bolivian politician facing political persecution before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Center for Climate Integrity, *Legal Intern & Consultant* March–May 2021 / Spring 2023
• Conducted legal research on potential avenues for bringing lawsuits to hold the fossil fuel industry accountable for deceiving the public regarding the role of fossil fuels in driving climate change. Remote

EarthRights International, *Legal Intern* Summer 2020
• Conducted legal research and writing on procedural law, tort law, and federal Indian law issues related to climate litigation including standing, personal jurisdiction, public nuisance, and federal preemption. Remote
• Supported drafting an appeal brief and motion before the Third Circuit on behalf of Peruvian plaintiffs challenging the activities of international mining company Newmont on their land.

Climate Litigation Network, *Legal Intern* Summer 2019
• Supported the Urgenda Foundation in their climate case against the Dutch government, drawing on economics research and jurisprudence of regional human rights courts. Amsterdam/London
• Produced memorandums on strategic human rights litigation in Latin America, with a focus on lessons learned for future climate litigation initiatives in the region.

Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic at Yale Law School, *Law Student Intern* 2019–2021
• Conducted legal research and writing for district court and Supreme Court filings as part of a team litigating against the termination of the DACA program. New Haven, CT
• Supported legislative advocacy efforts of United We Dream, the largest organization for undocumented youth in the country.
• Drafted briefing before the Board of Immigration Appeals and district court on removability and immigration relief.

Rule of Law Clinic at Yale Law School, *Law Student Intern* Spring 2020
• Supported climate lawsuit seeking damages for climate harms on behalf of states. New Haven, CT
• Supported litigation against prison gerrymandering in Connecticut, which included advocacy before state legislature members and legal research.

Yale Law School, *Research Assistant* Spring 2019
• Produced research memos on the anti-solitary confinement movement in the United States, with a focus on several states including Alabama, Illinois, and New York. New Haven, CT
• Tracked developments in U.S. immigration law and policy during the Trump administration for the Immigration Policy Tracking Project.

Brennan Center for Justice, *Research Assistant through Civil Rights Project* Fall 2019
• Wrote a memo on denaturalization in the international context, focusing on UK, France, Canada, and Australia to inform the Brennan Center's litigation strategy in denaturalization cases. New Haven, CT

Center for the Study of Law, Justice and Society (Dejusticia), *Researcher* 2016–2018

• Conducted analysis and writing on the future of human rights, attacks against civil society around the world, climate change displacement, and business and human rights. Bogotá, Colombia
• Interviewed over 50 human rights advocates from around the world on the human rights movement.
• Supported training workshops in Bangkok, Nairobi, Sao Paulo, and Bogotá.
•Worked on the first climate litigation case in Colombia to protect the Amazon Forest and future generations.
• As a prior intern, conducted research and interviews on the subject of human rights violations around the extraction and export of coal in Colombia as well as possible accountability frameworks for multinational companies.

Nivela, *Lead Researcher and Social Media* 2014–2016
• Researched and wrote on climate and development focusing on Colombia and Latin America for Nivela, a global strategy group that worked on development, politics and climate. Providence, RI

Climate and Development Lab at Brown University, *Researcher* 2013–2016
• Researched the United Nations climate negotiations, focusing on indigenous rights, climate change politics, climate finance, human rights, and Latin America. Providence, RI
• Attended the UN climate negotiations in Warsaw, Lima, Paris, and Bonn.

Brown University, *Research Assistant* Summer 2014
• Researched, analyzed, and translated environmental rulings by Chile's Supreme Court and the country's environmental courts to identify legal trends and developments. Providence, RI

LEGAL ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

Representing Climate Wreckers, NYU ENV'T. L. J. (forthcoming 2025).

Displacing Climate Precarity, 87 ALBANY L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2025) (with Julia Neusner).

The Role of Private Law Firms, in The Oxford Handbook of Climate Change and Private Law (Doug Kysar and Ernest Lim, eds.) (forthcoming 2025).

Teaching Legal Ethics and the Climate Emergency in EDUCATING LAWYERS FOR CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: THEORY AND PRACTICE (Richard Grimes, Stephen Levett & Rebecca Samaras, eds., 2024) (forthcoming 2025).

Climate Migration in Colombia: A Foretold Tragedy?, 56 CASE WESTERN RESERVE J. OF INT'L L. 360 (2024).

Climate Migration and Displacement: A Case Study of Puerto Rican Women in Connecticut, 55 CONN. L. REV. 781 (2023) (with Bruni Pizarro & Tabitha Sookdeo).

A Human Rights Approach to Climate Displacement: Examples from Central America and Colombia, 31 MICH. ST. INT'L L. REV. 403 (2023) (with Juliana Vélez-Echeverri).

Implementing Nature's Rights in Colombia: The Atrato and Amazon Experiences, 54 REV. DER. DEL ESTADO 227 (2022) (with Whitney Richardson).

Movement Lawyering in the Time of the Climate Crisis, 39 PACE ENVTL. L. REV. 1 (2022).

The Urgent Need to Re-imagine Human Rights Clinics: Towards an Interdisciplinary Clinical Model, STUDIES ON CLINICAL TEACHING IN LAW SCHOOLS (2022) (in Spanish, with James Cavallaro).

Shelter from the Storm: Policy Options to Address Climate Induced Migration from the Northern Triangle, Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program, HLS Immigration Project, the University Network for Human Rights, Yale

Immigrant Justice Project, and Yale Environmental Law Association (April 2021) (with John Willshire Carrera, Deborah Anker, Thomas Becker & Jeffrey S. Chase).

Environmental Law in Colombia, in EARTH LAW: A PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE (Tony Zelle and Herman Greene eds., 2020) (with Whitney Richardson).

The Third Space of Puerto Rican Sovereignty: Reimagining Self-Determination Beyond State Sovereignty 32 YALE J. OF L. & FEMINISM 73 (2020).

Protecting the rights of future generations through climate litigation: lessons from the struggle against deforestation in the Colombian Amazon, in STANDING FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD (Claude Henry, Hojan Rockstrom & Nicholas Stern, 2020) (with Valentina Rozo-Ángel & Gabriela Eslava-Bejarano).

BRIEFS & OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Submission to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons for the HRC56 thematic report on climate change and internal displacement (2024).

Submission before the International Court of Justice on the Request for Advisory Opinion as to Obligations of States in respect of climate change (2024) (co-authored)

Amicus brief before the Inter-American Court on Human Rights on Issues Related to the Response to Climate Displacement in the Request for an Advisory Opinion Submitted by the Republics of Colombia and Chile (2024) (co-authored).

Legal brief before the Canadian Senate's Standing Committee on Human Rights on Forced Displacement and Climate Change (2023) (co-authored).

Cambio climático y movilidad humana: un estado del arte sobre la intersección de ambas temáticas en Centroamérica y Latinoamérica, Hispanics in Philanthropy (September 2023) (with Juliana Vélez-Echeverri & Andrés Aristizábal).

The Carbon Circle: The UK Legal Industry's Ties to Fossil Fuel Companies, Law Students for Climate Accountability, (May 2023) (lead editor).

Advocacy Memo on Climate Displacement: Key Legal Levers, International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) (Nov. 2022) (with Ama Francis).

Climate Change and the Rights of Women, Indigenous People, and Rural Communities in the Americas, Heinrich Boll Stiftung (2020) (in Spanish) (co-authored).

El litigio climático: un llamado al activismo judicial, in INFORME AMBIENTAL 2019. Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN) (2019) (with Joyce Tan).

What Shapes Colombia's Foreign Position on Climate Change?, 94 COLOMBIA INTERNACIONAL 27 (2018).

Rethinking Transitional Justice: How to Integrate Climate Change and State Building In Transitional Justice Debates, CENID EDITORIAL (2019) (with Alejandro Jimenez Ospina).

Assessing the credibility of how climate adaptation aid projects are categorised, 27 DEV. IN PRAC. 458 (2017) (with Romain, J. Weikmans, Timmons Roberts, Jeffrey Baum & Alexis Durand).

Small group, big impact: how AILAC helped shape the Paris Agreement, 17 CLIMATE POL'Y 71 (2016) (with Guy Edwards, Isabel Cavelier Adarve & J. Timmons Roberts).

Nationalism, Race, and Archaeology in South America, 5 JOHN HOPKINS U. LAT. AM. STUD. J., *AMÉRICAS* 51 (2016).

Digging Deeper: The Human Rights Impact of Coal in the Global South, DEJUSTICIA & BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS RESOURCE CENTRE (2015) (co-author for Colombian case study).

Adaptation Aid Projects: Genuinely Categorized?, in TOWARD MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY: THE 2015 ADAPTATION FINANCE TRANSPARENCY GAP REPORT, ADAPTATION WATCH (2015) (with Jeff Baum, Alexis Durand, Michael Murphy, Olivia Santiago, Timmons Roberts & Saleemul Huq).

Walking the Talk? World Bank Energy Related Policies and Financing, INST. FOR POL'Y STUD. (2015) (with Janet Redman, Alexis Durand, Jeff Baum, & Timmons Roberts).

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

COP29 in the Rearview Mirror: A Receding Mirage – But the Possibility for Real Action on the Road Ahead
Just Security (with Achinthi Vithanage)

Baltimore deserves its day in court against Big Oil
Baltimore Sun

Tackling Climate Change Displacement at COP27
Just Security (with Jeffrey Chase)

Lawyers Exacerbate the Climate Crisis. Here's How We Can Help
Trends, American Bar Association (with Catherine Rocchi)

Lawyers Can And Should Commit To Climate Action
Law360 (with Alisa White and Catherine Rocchi)

Climate Accountability and the Moral Logic of Stigma
Law and Political Economy Blog (with Scott Stern)

Redressability of Climate Change Injuries after Juliana
Legal Planet (with Matt Lifson and Natasha Brunstein)

Environmental Injustice in Uniontown, Alabama, Decades after the Civil Rights Act of 1964
ABA Human Rights Magazine (with Marianne Engelman-Lado, Haley Leslie-Bole & Perry Leung)

New climate change lawsuit in Colombia, part of growing, worldwide trend
OpenGlobalRights

Why we are demanding the Colombian government halt deforestation
Reuters

What is at stake for Latin America in 2017? (Invited panelist)
The Guardian, Global Development Network

No es Trump, es Estados Unidos: una historia de racismo y xenofobia
VICE News Colombia

Bustos '16: Contested claims
The Brown Daily Herald

What does peace in Colombia have to do with the environment?
The Guardian (with Marcela Jaramillo)

Machine Guns to Olive Branches: Colombia Imagines Peace Once Again
The College Hill Independent (with Nicolas Montano)

Bolivia's Evo Morales in Hot Seat Over Climate Policy
Americas Quarterly (with Guy Edwards)

Colombia must reduce its dependence on coal exports
Climate Home News

People power central to solving Latin America's air pollution crisis
Climate Home News

Cities need to be democratic and livable, not just 'green'
Reuters

UN Climate Negotiations: Indigenous Resistance from Within
The North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA)

PRESENTATIONS

Legal Scholarship in an Era of Climate Change, University of Virginia (Dec. 2024).

The Future of Climate Lawyering, Ecovisions: Finding Your Place in Environmentalism, Vassar College (Nov. 2024).

The Law and the Amazon: Challenges for a Sustainable Future, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law (Forum Latin America), (Oct. 2024) (selected).

Fifteenth Annual Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship, Vermon Law and Graduate School (Sept. 2024) (selected).

The Professional Duty of Lawyers and Bar Associations in Action on Climate, NYC Bar Association (Sept. 2024).

Climate Science in the Courts, Climate Crossroad 2024 Conference organized by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (June 2024).

Protection Politics: Climate Mobility, Human Rights & Refugee Law, International School on Climate Migration (June 2024), via Zoom.

Climate, Displacement & Migration: Where Do We Go From Here?, Law & Society (May 2024) (selected).

Sabin Colloquium on Innovative Environmental Law Scholarship (Columbia Law School) (May 2024) (selected).

Grandes victorias en el litigio climático: desde el caso Urgenda hasta el caso Shell, Unidad General de Conocimiento Científico y Derechos Humanos (Mexican Supreme Court) (via Zoom) (May 2024)

Protecting Internally Displaced People (Climate Change and Human Mobility Conference), Stanford Business School (May 2024).

Testimony on climate displacement before the 166th Regular Session of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, Request for an Advisory Opinion regarding "Climate Emergency and Human Rights", Barbados (May 2024).

Is Law & Liberation an Oxymoron, Yale Journal of Law and Liberation Launch, Yale Law School (Apr. 2024) (moderator).

From Streets to Statutes: Climate Activism & the Law, University of Connecticut Law (Apr. 2024) (moderator).

Environmental Justice Career Panel, CUNY Law (Mar. 2024), via Zoom.

SDG: Problems and Opportunities, New Directions in Environmental Law Conference at NYU Law School (Mar. 2024) (moderator).

Climate Change Displacement and Migration, J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Environmental Law Symposium at George Washington Law School (Mar. 2024).

Representing Climate Wreckers, Oxford Sustainable Law Programme (Mar. 2024)

The Future of Youth Litigation Event, UN Regional Forum Side Event (Mar. 2024), via Zoom.

Environmental Racism, Yale Law School (Rebellious Lawyering Conference), (Feb. 2024).

Place, Space & Justice in a Climate Migration World, Albany Law Review Symposium (Feb. 2024).

Climate Displacement, Yale Law School (Linkages Exchange Program) (Dec. 2023).

Expert Testimony on Climate Change and Migration, Canadian Senate's Standing Committee on Human Rights (Nov. 2023).

Litigating the Climate Emergency, Brown Institute for Environment and Society (Nov. 2023).

Movement Lawyering in the Time of the Climate Crisis, Environmental Law Journal & Center on Race, Inequality, and the Law at NYU Law (Nov. 2023), via Zoom.

Climate Change Displacement in Colombia: A Tragedy Foretold?, Environmental Law Professors Workshop (Oct. 2023), via Zoom.

Climate Change Migration: Evaluation, Environmental Joy Conference at Yale School of the Environment (Oct. 2023)

"You Don't Have to Live Like a Refugee": Legal Mechanisms and Strategies to Enhance Protection of Climate Displaced Peoples in the Americas, Climate Change and International Law at a Crossroad – Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law Symposium (Sept. 2023).

The Roles of Lawyers and Bar Associations in Combating Climate Change, NYC Bar Association (Sept. 2023), via Zoom.

Environmental Law: finding your "voice" to create positive change, ReImagine Law Podcast (Aug. 2023).

Clinical Education and Climate Justice, Enhancing Clinical Education in Europe (ENCLE) Conference (July 2023).

Perspectives within the emerging leadership in social and climate justice movements, Workshop with Atlantic Institute Fellows (May 2023), via Zoom.

Movement Lawyering & Climate Change, University of Virginia Law School (Climate Change Law course), (Apr. 2023), via Zoom.

Managing climate migration: Legal and policy considerations in approaches, Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law (Mar. 2023).

Movement Law: Theory, Strategy and Defense, Public Interest Environmental Law Conference at the University of Oregon School of Law (Mar. 2023).

Fighting Climate Disinformation: From Carbon Majors, to Industry Front Groups, All the Way to Local Utilities Public Interest Environmental Law Conference at the University of Oregon School of Law (Mar. 2023) (moderator).

Climate Ethics for Legal Practice, Public Interest Environmental Law Conference at the University of Oregon School of Law (Mar. 2023).

Human Rights in Practice: Climate and Migration, University of Minnesota Law School (Mar. 2023), via Zoom.

Constitutions, Courts, and Climate Change, Harvard Law School course (Nov. 2022), via Zoom.

Examining Environmental Justice Issues Facing Indigenous Communities & Internationally, Virginia Environmental Law Journal Symposium (Nov. 2022).

Shifting Narratives, The Place We Call Home, Just Recovery Summit organized by Ayuda Legal Puerto (Aug. 2022).

Crossing Borders in Changing Climates: How to Beter Address Climate Refugees in the United States, Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law, Washington College of Law at American University (Mar. 2022), via Zoom.

A Human Rights Approach to Climate-Induced Displacement: A Case Study in Central America and Colombia, International Law Review 2022 Symposium at Michigan State College of Law (Feb. 2022), via Zoom.

Lawyer Shaming, Lawyer Independence, and Bad Clients, Hofstra Law School (Jan. 2022), via Zoom.

Global Climate Justice Advocacy: From the Streets to the Courtroom, International Human Rights Clinic at Harvard Law School (Nov. 2021), via Zoom.

Thinking Like a Climate Change Lawyer, Sciences Po School of Law (Thinking Like a Lawyer course), (Nov. 2021), via Zoom.

How to Write About COP26 and Climate Change in the Americas, Event for BBC Journalists (Sept. 2021), via Zoom.

Climate Change & Legal Ethics, *Climate Change in the West: Land, People, Markets, and Law,* American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources (June 2020), via Zoom.

Climate Displacement and the International Human Rights Framework, International Refugee Assistance Project at Alabama Law School (Mar. 2021), via Zoom.

Youth Climate Litigation: Fighting for The Future, Columbia Law School Environmental Law Society and the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law (Jan. 2021), via Zoom.

Amazonia e Direitos da Natureza: Experiencias Nacionais e Internacionais Na Busca Por Soluções, Online Webinar (Sept., 2020).

Leaders in the Climate Litigation Movement, Climate Case Ireland (June 2020), via Zoom.

El Amazonas y las generaciones futuras, Expert Meeting on Climate Litigation in Mexico (June 2019).

Litigando el cambio climático: El rol de las generaciones futuras, Cumbre de Jóvenes Frente al Cambio Climático in Pasto, Colombia (June 2018).

Drawing Inspiration from Human Rights Innovation on the Ground: National Mechanisms, Mobilization and Impact, European University Institute (May 2018), via Zoom.

Rethinking a Transition Away from Coal for Coal-Dependent Communities in Colombia, Oxford University (Sept. 2018).

Digging Deeper: Tracking the Human Rights Impact of Coal from the North to the South, United Nations Conference of the Parties in Paris, France (Dec. 2015).

SERVICE

Pace Law Faculty Development Committee (2023-Present)

New Directions in Environmental Law Conference, Faculty Advisor (2023-Present)

Early Environmental Law Scholars (EELS), Co-Founder and Co-Chair (2024-Present)

Latin American Law Students Association at Pace (LALSA), Co-Advisor (2024-Present)

Save the Sound, Board Member (2025-Present)

Law Students for Climate Accountability, Board Member (2022-Present)

Switzer Fellowship Ambassador and Application Reviewer (2023-Present)

Breach Collective, Board Member, (2021-2024)

Climate Displacement Legal Strategy Working Group (2023)

Legal Observer (2019-2022)

Pro bono asylum attorney (2022-2024)

LANGUAGES

Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), Portuguese (Advanced), French (Beginner), German (Beginner).

BAR ADMISSIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association (2023-Present)

Section on Environment, Energy, and Resources (SEER) (2025)

Connecticut (2021-Present)