

# Edwar E. Escalante

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## Contact Information

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**Research Fields:** Political Economy, Development Economics, Comparative Politics, Conflict  
**Regions of Research:** Peru, Chile, Latin America.

## Academic Employment

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Norris-Vincent College of Business at Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX Economics Instructor	2019-Present
Free Market Institute at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX Research Associate	2019-Present

## Education

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Texas Tech University, Ph.D. Agricultural and Applied Economics Dissertation: <i>The Political Economy of Violence and Development in Latin America</i>	2019
Texas Tech University, MS Agricultural and Applied Economics, Thesis: <i>Economics of Terrorism and Counter-terrorism in Peru</i>	2017
State University of San Antonio Abad, Cusco, Peru, BA Electrical Engineering, (Peru)	2007

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

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- “The Influence of Pinochet on the Chilean Miracle”  
*Latin American Research Review, Forthcoming.*
- “Night Watchers and Terrorists”  
*Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, 2020.*
- “Fighting on Christmas: Brawling and Self-Governance in Rural Peru.” (with Raymond March)  
*Journal of Institutional Economics, 2019.*

## Research Papers

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- “A Self-Defense Network against Terrorism and Crime: Evidence from Peru”  
*Review and Resubmit.*

**Abstract:** According to prevailing evidence, self-enforcing agreements do not scale up. In self-governing societies, small groups are able to provide order and security when the group is small; but when groups are larger, collective action seems to be more efficient if undertaken by state-like institutions. However, an effective provision of national security may result from a bottom-up development of rules and institutions. This paper covers a case in which thousands of peasants built multicompany partnerships that scaled up to produce public goods with no central direction. The organizational patterns of these peasant partnerships resulted in a vast rural movement that played a decisive role in defeating crime and terrorism in Peru between 1980 and 2000. The intergroup interactions reflected a polycentric order that served to discover the boundaries of the new jurisdictions.

- “The Shining Path of Peru: An Organizational Theory for Conflict”  
*Under Review*

**Abstract:** Violent political insurgencies display resilient structures that allow their growth and success. They must provide incentives to avoid internal rent-seeking among the members and, at the same time, discourage coalitions from undermining the direction and control of the insurgency. I study how insurgencies’ response to these trade-offs determines their political and military structures. A vertical and centralized hierarchy will prevail to minimize monitoring costs. However, a horizontal hierarchy will emerge within the insurgency to cede part of the insurgency surplus to solve their collective action problems and effectively coordinate violence. The evidence rests on the analysis of the Shining Path, the most radical face of the Communist revolution in the Western Hemisphere and a pioneer organization for the most recent insurgencies. The variation of this internal hierarchy, I argue, played a significant role in its dramatic growth from a small group of students to a lethal terrorist organization with international outreach.

## Published Policy Pieces

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- Peru: President Humala Should Push for More Economic Freedom (with James Roberts), Report Americas, The Heritage Foundation, 2014.
- La mano invisible del Estado, Revista Perspectiva, Colombia, 2012.
- Narco-Terrorism in Peru: The Return of Shining Path (with James Roberts), Report Americas, The Heritage Foundation, 2009.
- Fighting for Freedom in Rural Peru: “ALBA Houses” Threaten Democracy (with James Roberts), Report Americas, The Heritage Foundation, 2008.
- Populism Clouds Peru’s Presidential Race (with Stephen Johnson), Report Americas, The Heritage Foundation, 2006.

## Teaching Experience

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- **As a Professor (at Norris-Vincent College of Business at Angelo State University):**  
Principles of Microeconomics, ECON 2302

Principle of Macroeconomics, ECON 2301

International Economics, ECON 4307

Economic Development, ECON 4381

- **As a Graduate Instructor (at Texas Tech University):**

Applied Business Economics, BECO 4310-004, **Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University** Fall 2017, Spring 2018

- **As a Visiting Instructor in Guatemala (Universidad Francisco Marroquin):**

Advanced Seminar on Economics, Economics Department, **Universidad Francisco Marroquin, UFM** Guatemala, Spring 2017

- **As a Lecturer in Peru at Universidad Nacional de San Antonio Abad (SAA)- Andes Libres Institute (AL):**

*Note: Universidad Nacional San Antonio Abad is the third oldest in the American continent and one of the greatest public universities in Peru.*

Development Economics (at SAA)

Neo-Institutional Economics (at SAA)

Innovation and Entrepreneurship (at AL)

Governance and Policy-making (at AL)

## Grants & Funding

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- Fellowship, Free Market Institute at Texas Tech University 2015-18
- Institute of Humane Studies, PhD Fellowship 2016-19  
(US\$1,500, US\$5,000)
- Institutional Grants, Atlas Economic Research Foundation Partner 2011-15  
(US\$200,000)

## Awards

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- Hayek Fund, Institute of Humane Studies (IHS) 2018
- Young Scholar Award, Association of Private Enterprise Education 2016-17
- Francisco Marroquin for Student Outreach, 2013  
*Note: This Award is given to Andes Libres Institute under Edwar Escalante's Direction for "its exceptional work with student groups in the most difficult areas of Peru" from Atlas Network Foundation, based in Washington, DC.*

## Past Professional Activities

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- Executive Director and Founder, Andes Libres Public Policy Institute 2008-2015  
*Andes Libres* is an educational think tank based in Cusco, Peru
  - Educational Programs
  - Fundraising

- Local Policy
- External Relations
- Partnered with Universidad Nacional de San Antonio Abad de Cusco, Peru.

## Skills

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- **Data management:** Stata, Python.
- **Languages:** Quechua, Spanish, English, French (Intermediate).
- **Online Teaching:** Training eLearning Workshops Blackboard.

## Invited Talks

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“Governing the Commons against Terrorism”

Invited Speaker, Economics Department, New Orleans University, (2018)

“Public Choice Economics”

Invited Speaker, State University of San Marcos, Lima -Peru, (2018)

“Economics of Terrorism”

Invited Speaker, Economics Department, Universidad Francisco Marroquin, UFM, Guatemala (2017)

“Governing the Commons against Terrorism”

Invited Speaker, Center Henry Hazlitt, Universidad Francisco Marroquin, UFM, Guatemala (2017)

“Synthetic Controls”

Visiting Professor, Economics Department, Universidad Francisco Marroquin, UFM, Guatemala (2017)

“Running a Think Tank in the Andes”

Invited Speaker, Atlas Network, Washington D.C., USA (2008)

- **Referee Reports:**

Journal of Private Enterprise

Journal of Institutional Economics

- **Affiliations:**

Ostrom Workshop, Indiana University

2018-Present

Public Choice Society

2016-Present

Southern Economic Association

2016-Present