

Adi G. Martínez Román

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Relevant Work Experience:

Oxfam America, Senior Policy Analyst – Puerto Rico,

06/2019 – present. Analyze policy implications of federal government actions in Puerto Rico, build Oxfam’s policy position, advocate and lobby to ensure that Puerto Rico impoverished populations get access to the resources needed to recover from hurricanes Irma and Maria and promote their resiliency.

Firmes, Unidos y Resilientes con la Abogacía (FURIA, Inc.), Board Chair and Founder,

08/2018 – present. Founded and supervise the work of this non/profit organization accompanying low income community leaders in their advocacy efforts in Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rico Access to Justice Fund Foundation (FFAJ), Executive Director,

04/2017 – 06/2019. Direct FFAJ’s operations and execute its mission, insure the sustainability of the Access to Justice Fund by promoting the development of IOLTA funds in Puerto Rico, and identifying, obtaining and administering other sources of funds for civil legal services.

University of Puerto Rico Law School, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs,

09/2010 – 03/2017. Direct the Office of Student Affairs, including coordination and supervision of all services, including admissions, registration, financial aid, professional development and academic advising. Coordination of the Student ProBono Program. Administration of processes and events as assigned by the Dean. Lead the Student Affairs Committee, among others.

University of Puerto Rico Law School, Adjunct professor, Coordinator of the LL.M.

08/2008 – present. Teach the following courses and seminars: “PROMESA Act and Fundamental Rights”, “The Legal Profession”, “Law and Poverty”, “Law and Social Change”, “Interaction between Civil and Common Law”. Coordination of the Masters (LL.M.) Program including recruitment, admissions, registration, advising and related tasks (9/08 – 07/14)

University of Ottawa, Canada, Visiting Profesor, Winter Term, 01/2016 y 1/2017, Teach the course of “Fundamental Rights and Poverty”.

University of Puerto Rico in Bayamón and Río Piedras, Professor,

08/2015 – 12/2016. Teach undergraduate courses in “Introduction to the Social Sciences I and II”, and “Fundamental Principles of Democracy”.

CEDICE Project, Río Piedras, PR, Proposal Coordinator

09/2007-12/2008: Responsible for fundraising, including identification of possible sources, and all aspects of funding requests. Design and drafting of proposals. Meetings with donors or potential donors. **Management and Development Agent, 07/06-08/06:** Coordinate and direct the participatory redaction of the regulations pertaining eminent domain interventions of municipalities in “Special (indigent) Communities”; coordinate and attend meetings for community leaders and other public officials on expropriation issues and advise them on related legislative matters

Ramos de Szendrey Law Firm, Río Piedras, PR, Attorney and Notary Public

10/04-09/05: Handled all aspects of litigation in a variety of civil matters

Arocho Maldonado Law Firm, Utuado, PR, Attorney and Notary Public

10/03-10/04: Handled many aspects of federal and appellate federal litigation on behalf of plaintiffs against the tobacco industry.

Law School Clinic on Economic Development, UPR Law School, Río Piedras, PR
08/2002 – 05/2003: Legal representation for four community groups and their leaders in their process of avoiding community displacement, including legal education, preparing legal documents, meetings with agencies and politicians, advocacy and lobbying for changes in law.

Universidad de Puerto Rico Law School, Río Piedras, PR, **Professor Assistant**,
08/2001 – 05/2003: Assist Prof. David B. Wexler on his work with the Network of Therapeutic Jurisprudence, and various projects, including his book “Judging in a Therapeutic Key.”

Telesis Corporation, New York, NY, Princeton Project 55 Fellow
07/1999 – 06/2000: Research and policy analysis of community development, supervise projects of housing desegregation issues and develop reports and materials in the areas of affordable housing and community economic development.

Education: Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Madrid, Spain; Bartolomé de las Casas
Fundamental Rights Institute – Doctorate (Ph.D.) in Advanced Human Rights
Studies, 2014

Doctoral thesis: *Cornelius Castoriadis’ Autonomy Project: The Importance of Radical Imagination and Democracy as a Way of Life for Human Liberation* – Grade: Suma Cum Laude

Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Madrid, Spain – Masters in Advanced Studies in
Fundamental Rights, Oct. 2007

University of Puerto Rico Law School, Río Piedras, PR; J.D. 2003 – Magna Cum Laude

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ; A.B., 1999
Major: Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs – Urban Planning
and Community Development
Minor: Latin American Studies

Studio Arts Center International, Florence, Italy – Estudios de Italiano y Arte del
Renacimiento, Verano de 1997

Colegio San Felipe, Arecibo, PR, High School Diploma 1995 – Valedictorian

**Presentations,
Publications
And Papers:**

Blog entry: “*To the streets in Puerto Rico*”, Oxfam America Stories, July 22, 2019.

Presentation: “*Panel on Federal Fixes to Ensure Equitable Disaster Recovery*”, National Low
Income Housing Coalition Housing Policy Forum, Washington DC, March 2019.

Presentation: “*Panel on The Future of Property Rights*”, New America, Washington DC,
March 2019.

Presentation: “*Panel on Climate and Population Displacement*”, Sierra Club, New York City,
March 2019.

Webinar: “*Panel on Disaster Housing Recovery for Vulnerable Populations*”, National Low
Income Housing Coalition, November 2019.

Presentation: “*Access to Justice and women after a natural disaster*” Women’s Link International in Bogotá, Colombia, January 2019.

Presentation: “*Access to justice and legal needs after the hurricane*”, Panel for the Asociación de Puertorriqueños en Marcha, November 2018

Presentation: “*Webinar: Public Policy and Disaster Response*”, Center for Disaster Philanthropy and the Funders Network, October 2018

Presentation: “*Panel: Legal Services in a Disaster Zone – One Year After Hurricane Maria*”, National Aging and the Law Conferences, American Bar Association, Washington DC, October 2018

Presentation: “*Access to Justice after a Catastrophic Event: Challenges to Puerto Rico’s Recovery after Hurricane María*”, United States District Court in the Southern District of Indiana, October 2018

Presentation: “*The importance of being bilingual to reach my goals*”, Forest Glen (Spanish Immersion) Elementary School, Indiana, October 2018

Presentation: “*Access to Justice after a Catastrophic Event: Challenges to Puerto Rico’s Recovery after Hurricane María*”, Notre Dame Law School, Indiana, October 2018

Presentation: “*Latinas on the Frontlines: A Just and Equitable Recovery for Puerto Rico*”, 2018 National GreenLatinos Summit, Colorado, May 2018

Presentation: “*Reaction panel to PR Supreme Court Justice, Hon.Estrella Martínez*”, Congreso de Investigación y Creación Académica, May 2018

Workshop: “*Poverty and Informal Property: Problems of access to justice in the recuperation process post hurricane María*”, Invisibles ante la Justicia: Derecho y Desigualdad en Puerto Rico, May 2018

Workshop: “*The correct management of client’s money: IOLTA accounts and their interseccion with Ethical Canons 1 and 23*”, Invisibles ante la Justicia: Derecho y Desigualdad en Puerto Rico, May 2018

Article: *Challenges with FEMA and the importance of access to legal aid*, Microjuris.com, May 2018

Article: *The right to decent housing in PR after Hurricane Maria and CDBG-DR funds*, Microjuris.com, March 2018

Article: “*Far from Recovered, many Puerto Ricans feel abandoned by FEMA*”, The Hill, March, 2018

Presentation: “*Responding to Natural Disasters: The Role of the Bar, Legal Aid and IOLTA*”, 2018 Winter IOLTA Workshops, February, 2018

Article: “*Lack of access to justice in Puerto Rico*”, El Nuevo Día newspaper, May, 2017

Article: “*And who will defend us now*”, El Nuevo Día newspaper, March, 2017

Article: *“The Struggle against Poverty and Sustainable Development in Puerto Rico: The Potential for Citizen Participation as a Tool to Attain Fundamental Rights”*, UPR Law Review, Vol. 81, No.3 (2012)

Paper: *“Truly Transformative Education in a Society in Transition”*, Commemoration of Teacher’s Day, John Dewey College, published in Dewey Today, July, 2012

Article: *“Problems with New Housing in Special Communities”*, TRAZOS newspaper, Jan-Mar. 2009

Article: *“Access to Justice and Special Communities”*, El Cucubano newspaper, fall, 2008

Paper: *“More than sustainable development: Citizenship participation for the realization of Human Rights in Puerto Rico”*, 52nd IFHP World Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico, October 15, 2008.

Article: *“Rescuing the True Purpose of Special Communities”*, TRAZOS Newspaper, June-August 2008.

Article: *“Community Socio-Economic Development in the face of Institutional Violence”*, CLARIDAD Newspaper, February 12-18, 2008.

Activities and Associations:

Capoeira, student – Roda Movements in Takoma, MD – current
Volunteer legal, advocacy and organizational work on behalf of low-income communities, 2003 – current.
Commission on Socio-Economic and Community Rights – CAAPR, (2018-2019)
Puerto Rico Legal Services, Board of Directors (10/2013 – 3/2016) – Board President
Volunteer coordinator and instructor, CEDICE Tang Soo Do
Mentor of a law student Pro Bono section *Communities in Danger of Displacement*
World Tang Soo Do Association, 2nd degree Black belt
Capoeira Senzala, student
Chamber Concert for Children – Vice President, Board of Directors
Volunteer in community organization: Residents and Friends of Barrio Islote and Palmas Altas United
National Association of Law Students (ANED)
Volunteer coordinating and offering seminars about property acquisition for low income communities in San Juan
Mentor of the Big/Little Sister Program in Princeton University
Volunteer coordinator of Hurricane Georges relief help in Princeton
Volunteer tutoring kids in Princeton Public Library
Black Arts and Yukiú Dance Companies in Princeton University
Tae kwon do Club in Princeton University
Acción Puertorriqueña y Amigos in Princeton University – Vice President
Drawing, Painting, Reading, Running

Other Skills:

Bilingual (Spanish-English); basic knowledge of Italian and Portuguese
Strong research, writing and workshop development skills
Strong advocacy and organizational skills
Experience in grant proposal
Knowledge in popular education techniques

Ample knowledge of computer programs and social media management
Strong interpersonal and conflict resolution skills
Strong cultural understanding and respect of others

Honors:

Nominated for the *Premio Extraordinario de Doctorado* of the UC3M.
The National Dean's List.
Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges.
United States Achievement Academy

References available upon request.