

Annette M. Martínez Orabona, JD, MALD
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, School of Law, San Juan, P.R. August 2013 – present
Adjunct Professor of Law, Clinic Director
Courses: International Human Rights Clinic / Community Economic Development Clinic/
International Refugee Law / International Public Law / Legal Writing and Analysis

- Lecturer and coordinator of advanced courses on International Human Rights Law, strategic litigation before local, regional and international human rights systems;
- Clinical supervision of third-year law students in client representation, litigation and advocacy before regional and universal human rights protection systems;
- Development and coordination of human rights research in collaboration with regional and local non-governmental organizations;
- Author and editor of multiple reports for submission before the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR) and UN reporting mechanisms, on women's and children's rights, human trafficking, statelessness, asylum protections and refugee determination procedures, discriminatory immigration policies and conditions of detention in the Caribbean region (including, Puerto Rico, The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, among others).

Caribbean Institute for Human Rights (ICADH) August 2013 – present
Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, School of Law
Founder and Director

- Coordination of a network of human rights organizations in the Caribbean region;
- Petition and case management before the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights and the UN Human Rights Council;
- International advocacy before UN Special Procedures, including the UN Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights and the UN Rapporteur on public debt and human rights, among others;
- Coordination of local and regional public hearing requests before the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights on women's rights, gender justice, immigrant's rights, economic, social and environmental rights, among others);
- Coordination of partnership agreements with several regional and international organizations such as: Amnesty International-Section of P.R., the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL), Red ANA, RFK Human Rights, Latino Justice, and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), among others.
- Research methodology, development and supervision of research projects;
- Proposal grant writing and project reporting, monitoring and evaluation; financial management and implementation of auditing mechanisms.

Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL), Washington, D.C. July 2009 – February 2013
Staff Attorney

- Lead counsel before the Inter-American Human Rights System on behalf of victims of human rights violations in cases against the United States, Venezuela, and the Dominican Republic. Co-counsel in other international cases against Mexico, Uruguay and Perú. Some of these cases are: *Djamel Ameziane Vs. United States* (Guantanamo Detainees, US Military Base in Cuba); *Smith and Armendariz Vs. United States* (separation of families and children's rights in deportation procedures); *Yean and Bósico Vs. Dominican Republic* (right to nationality, statelessness and non-discrimination); *Narciso González Vs. Dominican Republic* (forced disappearance and freedom of expression); *Gladys Carol Espinoza Vs. Perú* (gender based violence,

sexual violence as torture and the use of gender stereotypes by the judiciary); *Uzcátegui Vs. Venezuela* (excessive use of force and human rights defender's protections); and, *Cruz Sánchez et al., vs. Perú*, (humanitarian law and human rights, "hors de combat", due diligence in human rights investigations, extrajudicial executions, and excessive use of force).

- Preparation of thematic hearings and reports before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights along with regional human rights organizations.
- Conducted conferences and workshops on strategic human rights litigation to non-for-profit human rights organizations and academic institutions.
- Drafted articles and revised publications about human rights protection mechanisms.
- Legal Consultant. Documentation and litigation before the Inter-American Human Rights Court in the case of *Cabrera García and Montiel Flores Vs. México*, IA Court Series C No.220 (arbitrary detention and torture of environmental human rights defenders).
- Assistant Attorney. Documentation and litigation before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, in cases dealing with gender based violence and torture, *Fernández Ortega Vs. México*, IA Court, Series C No. 224, and, *Rosendo Cantú Vs. México*, IA Court, Series C No. 225.

Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law,

November 2008 – June 2009

American University, Washington, D.C.

Consultant, Program on Human Trafficking and Forced Labour

- Designed and developed a comprehensive study on human trafficking and forced labor affecting women and girls in Latin America; analyzed statistical data and normative responses to human trafficking crimes in the region.

Central American Peace Project,

January 2007 – May 2007

Institute of Global Leadership, Tufts University, Medford, MA.

Researcher

- Conducted research on the illegal recruitment of children in organized crime in Honduras. Research findings were used in the design of the "Central American Peace Project", a program focused in the reinsertion of children in school and society.

Corporation of Civil Action and Education (CACE)

August 2004 – August 2006

Civil Rights Attorney

- Provided legal representation to persons deprived of liberty and their families in civil and human rights claims before state and federal courts.
- Conducted research and documentation of multiple claims related to inhumane and degrading treatment in detention facilities in Puerto Rico, including: physical and sexual abuse, racial and gender discrimination, unsanitary and inadequate conditions of detention, degrading treatment to detainees' family members, among others.
- Conducted unannounced on-site visits to correctional facilities in Puerto Rico as part of periodic monitoring mechanisms. Drafted reports on conditions of detention for submission to relevant agencies and the judiciary.

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, MA.

Master in Law and Diplomacy, International Relations.

International Public Law & Human Security - 2009

- Thesis: "A Normative Framework for the effective prosecution of peacekeepers".
- Joan Gillespie Fellow, Outstanding Female Student Fellowship

Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, School of Law, Hato Rey, P.R.

Juris Doctor, Magna Cum Laude – 2005

- Associate Director, UIPR Law Review
- Editor, UIPR Law Review
- Founder and Director of the Amnesty International –Law Student Chapter
- Teacher’s Assistant, Prof. Migdalia Fraticelli Torres

University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, San Juan, P.R.

B.A., Interdisciplinary Studies, Pre-Law

Magna Cum Laude – 2002

ADDITIONAL LEGAL EDUCATION

Refugee International Law, Certificate.

Department of International Law, Organization of American States and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), February 2009. Washington, D.C.

Statelessness in the Americas Regional Course, Certificate

Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, March 2017. Bogotá, Colombia.

SELECT PRESENTATIONS AND TRAININGS

September 17, 2020. Panelist. *Constitutional Court’s Judgement 168/13 from an International Law Perspective*”.

June 6, 2019. Panelist. *Environmental and Climate Justice in Puerto Rico: Reflections after María*. Caribbean Studies Association, 44th Annual Conference. Santa Marta, Colombia.

October 24, 2018. Lecturer, *(Un)Natural Disasters and Human Rights: Hurricane María and the Politics of Disaster in Puerto Rico*. Clason Speaker Series Fall 2018, Public Interest Week, Western New England University School of Law, Springfield, MA.

June 1, 2018. Panelist, *Strategies for Effective International Engagement and Leveraging Success Domestically*. Bringing Human Rights Home Lawyer’s Network, Annual Human Rights in the U.S. Symposium/CLE, New York, NY.

April 16, 2018. Panelist, *Puerto Rico: Forging a Path Forward*. Symposium on Puerto Rico, Latino Leadership Institute at the University of Denver, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, Denver, CO.

April 3, 2018. Panelist, *Puerto Rico in Crisis: Disaster Response through a Human Rights Lens*, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C..

February 17, 2018. Panelist, *#PuertoRicoSeLevanta? Colonialism, Disaster Capitalism, and Solidarity Networks in Post-María Puerto Rico*. Rebellious Lawyering Conference, Yale Law School, New Haven, CT.

January 22, 2018. Panelist, *Rebuilding Puerto Rico: Strategies, Partners and the Role of the Oversight Board*. High level panel discussion on the measures required to rebuild Puerto Rico from the devastation caused by Hurricane María and for Puerto Rico to recover from its prolonged fiscal and humanitarian crisis. New York City Bar, New York, NY.

April 28, 2017. Panelist, *An International Concern Or A U.S. Domestic Matter – Puerto Rico: A Tale Of Self-Determination Or Unfulfilled Aspirations?* American Bar Association, Section of International Law, 2017 Spring Meeting, Washington, D.C.

March 18, 2017. Presenter, *Recent Changes on Immigration Laws and its Impact on Human Rights Protections*. Discussion on President Trump's immigration executive orders and their implementation in Puerto Rico. Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, School of Law, Hato Rey, P.R.

February 15, 2017. Panelist, *See you in Court: National Protection or Xenophobia?* Discussion on President Trump's Muslim Ban and restrictions on refugee determination procedures, at the Inter-American University, School of Law, Hato Rey, P.R..

February 25, 2017. Presenter, *International Human Rights Framework and the general human rights situation in Puerto Rico*. Presented at the first preparatory workshop for Trayecto Dignidad. co-sponsored by Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico (Puerto Rico Lawyer's Bar Association), Santurce, P.R.

October 21, 2016. Trainer, Course for Social Workers on *International Human Rights Framework and Social Work*. Presented at the Seminary "Human Rights in social work studies and research." San Juan, P.R.

February 22-26, 2016. Guest Lecturer, *Derechos Humanos, Control de Convencionalidad y Garantías Fundamentales*. Programa Formación Interinstitucional del Sistema Penal Acusatorio, Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá.

September 27, 2015. Conference Speaker, *Discriminatory Migration Policies in the Caribbean*. The 2nd Disasters, Displacement and Human Rights, at the University of Tennessee. Knoxville, TN., US.

September 8-11, 2014. Invited Participant and Working Group Facilitator, *Consultation Process for the 30th Anniversary of the Declaration of Cartagena on Refugees, "CARTAGENA+30"*. Invited by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to participate as representative of the academia in the sub-regional consultations for Caribbean countries. Cayman Islands.

June 26, 2014. Speaker, *The international human rights framework applicable to Latin America and the Caribbean*. Inter-American Federation of Lawyers 50th Conference. San Juan, P.R.

March 24, 2014. Co-coordinator and presenter, Public Hearing before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on *Women's rights and the right to nationality in the Dominican Republic*. Washington, D.C. Provided legal advise to civil organizations in the preparation of the hearing on the right to nationality, and presented at the hearing on women's rights.

February 17-21, 2014. Visiting professor, Advanced course on *Litigation of human rights cases before the Inter-American System of Human Rights*. LLM Program on Constitutional Law, Ibero-American University, School of Law, Santo Domingo, R.D.

November 14, 2013. Trainer, *The preparation for public hearings before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights*. Conducted a workshop on the preparation, submission and presentations of public hearings before the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights. University of Puerto Rico, School of Law, San Juan, P.R.

October 24, 2013. Panelist, Conference on *The Right to Nationality in the Dominican Republic*, Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico, San Juan, P.R. Speaker in a conference about the right to nationality and statelessness after the Dominican Republic Constitutional Court's Ruling No. 168-13.

June 6, 2012. Co-Lecturer with Prof. Rebecca Cook on *The litigation of gender discrimination cases and the use of gender stereotypes by the judiciary*. Analysis of the Case *Gladys Carol Espinoza Vs. Perú*. Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, American University, Washington, D.C.

April 14, 2011. Presenter, on *Strategic litigation of human rights violations before the Inter-American Human Rights System*. Ibero-American University, School of Law, Santo Domingo, R.D.

March 4, 2011. Trainer, Workshop on *The regulatory framework and preparation of public hearings before the Inter-American Human Rights System*. The Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa, Banjul, The Gambia..

March 1, 2011. Presenter, Invited as expert on the rights to an identity and nationality to participate in a private expert meeting before the African Commission of Human and People's Rights. African Commission of Human and People's Rights, Banjul, The Gambia.

June, 2010. Judge, Invited to participate as Judge in the Annual Moot Court Competition on the Inter-American Human Rights System. Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, D.C.

June 17, 2010. Panelist, Conference on the *Strategic litigation of human rights cases before the Inter-American Human Rights System*. Ibero-American University, School of Law, Santo Domingo, R.D.

AWARDS

Medal "Juan Santiago Nieves". Distinction awarded by the Puerto Rican Bar Association (Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico) to lawyers in their early professional years, who have demonstrated a strong commitment to human rights and social justice. June 2016.

Amnesty International –Section of Puerto Rico. Special distinction awarded to persons or institutions that have made significant contributions to the protection of human rights in Puerto Rico. May 2016.

SELECT PRESS ARTICLES

January 15, 2015, *Immigration Rules in Bahamas Sweep Up Haitians*, by Frances Robles. Press article on the cover page of the New York Times quoted Annette Martínez Orabona on the discriminatory migration policies in The Bahamas. Available at:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/31/world/haitians-are-swept-up-as-bahamas-tightens-immigration-rules.html?smid=fb-share&r=0>

December 19, 2013. *The Right to a Nationality*. El Nuevo Día. Article written by Annette Martínez Orabona. Available at:

<http://www.elnuevodia.com/voz-derechoalanacionalidad-1669918.html>

November, 2012. Interview for Contagio Radio, Colombia, on the legal status of Guantanamo detainees. Audio Recording available at: <http://www.contagioradio.com/otra-mirada/10-anos-del-centro-de-tortura-de-guantanamo>

January, 2012. *The limbo of Guantanamo Detainees*. Opinion provided to journalist William Vázquez, BBC Mundo. Available at:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/mundo/noticias/2012/01/120111_eeuu_guantanamo_prisioneros_limbo_wb_m.shtml

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

April 2021, "*Sin Información ante el Desastre: Gestión de la información para el manejo de riesgos socioambientales en Puerto Rico*", Lead researcher, Co-writer and Editor. Available at: <https://periodismoinvestigativo.com/lcdm-informe/>

Forthcoming. "*Research Report on Statelessness in The Bahamas*". coauthored by Annette Martínez Orabona and Marco Abarca Díaz. Conducted in partnership with UNHCR.

April 26, 2020. "*Covid-19 and Persons Deprived of Liberty in Puerto Rico*", Co-Editor.

December 2017. "*Justicia Ambiental, Desigualdad y Pobreza en Puerto Rico*". Report on the violations of economic, social and environmental rights following the impact of hurricanes Irma and María in Puerto Rico. Research coordinator, co-author and editor.

April 2016. ***Deuda Pública, Políticas de Austeridad y Pobreza en Puerto Rico***. Report on Puerto Rico's financial crisis and the effects of government policies on economic, social and cultural rights. Research coordinator, co-author and editor.

March 2015. ***Puerto Rico: Territorio Hostil para las Mujeres***. Report on the human rights situation of women in Puerto Rico. Research coordinator, co-author and editor.

April, 2014. Translator (Spanish). ***Left Behind: How Statelessness in the Dominican Republic Limits Children's Access to Education***. Georgetown Law Human Rights Institute Fact-Finding Project.

December, 2013. ***Human Trafficking and Forced Labor in Latin-America and the Caribbean***. Voz, Justicia y Reparación. Published by the Commission on the rights of Victims of Crime, of the Puerto Rico's Lawyers Bar Association. Vol.1, Núm. 2.

August, 2011. The Human Rights Brief, Washington College of Law, American University. ***Commentaries on the Case Smith & Armendariz vs. United States***, Interview with Annette Martínez. Available at: <http://www.wcl.american.edu/hrbrief/18/3martinez.pdf>

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Bar Admission, Puerto Rico Supreme Court
 - Member, Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico (CAAPR)
 - Commissioner, Human Rights Commission, (CAAPR)
 - Commissioner, Immigrant's Rights (CAAPR)
 - American Bar Association (ABA)
 - Amnesty International – Puerto Rico Section [President – Board of Directors]
 - Member, Latin American Studies Association
 - Member, LatCrit
 - Member, American Society of International Law (ASIL)
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