

Dr. Carlos Ponce

Dr. Carlos Ponce is the Latin America Director and Senior Fellow at Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation (VOC), Senior Lecturer at Columbia University and lecturer at Northeastern University, where he developed the curriculum and taught courses for the Global Studies and International Relations Master of Science Program. Dr. Ponce was also a lecturer at Tufts University, Venezuelan Central University, and Andres Bello Catholic University. Dr. Ponce earned a Doctorate in Law and Policy from Northeastern University, a Master of Arts in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning from Tufts University, a Master of Studies in Environmental Law from Vermont Law School and a JD/Lawyer from the Universidad Catolica Andres Bello

Dr. Ponce has over three decades of experience working in the fields of Governance, Civil Society Development, Nonprofit Management, Networking, Public-Private Partnerships, Human Rights and Democracy Empowerment in the US and globally. He has monitored, fundraised and executed program activities of over \$90 Million, for an extensive portfolio of private and public donor-funded programs. Additionally, Dr. Ponce has played important roles as social, political, economic, policy and management consultant to countless national and international nonprofits, government agencies, private companies and institutions. Dr. Ponce also played a role at international and regional non-profits networks; he is a former member of the Steering Committee of the World Movement for Democracy, a former member of the International Steering Committee of the Community of Democracies, former Latin American and Caribbean Director at Freedom House and former General Coordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (Redlad).

He is active in the media as El Tiempo Latino newspaper Anti-Corruption Source/Columnist, and he writes op-eds and articles for several newspapers in the US and Latin America, published several books and he was the Co-Editor of the Nueva Politica Magazine.

He manages programs for Nicaragua, Cuba and Venezuela at the VOC and managed numerous USG LAC programs at Freedom House for 5 years, including multiple programs for Nicaragua. He has been supporting, organizing and training local groups, students Campesinos, journalists and democracy leaders in Nicaragua for two decades, including several election observation/monitoring groups back in 2011 and 2016. In February 2016, Mr. Ponce was detained, held overnight and expelled from Nicaragua when he traveled to Managua to meet with local civil society organizations, media and diplomatic officials to present the Freedom in the World Report. He has been interviewed in numerous media outlets and wrote several articles about the crisis in Nicaragua.