

# Gobernar: The Journal of Latin American Public Policy and Governance

---

Volume 5 | Issue 9

Article 2

---

December 2021

## Editorial

Nadia Rubaii

*SUNY Binghamton*, [nadia.rubaii@binghamton.edu](mailto:nadia.rubaii@binghamton.edu)

Maria Fernanda Ramirez Brouchoud

*Universidad EAFIT*, [mframire@eafit.edu.co](mailto:mframire@eafit.edu.co)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/gobernar>



Part of the [Comparative Politics Commons](#), [Education Policy Commons](#), [Latin American Studies Commons](#), [Other Public Affairs](#), [Public Policy and Public Administration Commons](#), [Public Administration Commons](#), and the [Public Policy Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Rubaii, Nadia and Ramirez Brouchoud, Maria Fernanda (2021) "Editorial," *Gobernar: The Journal of Latin American Public Policy and Governance*: Vol. 5 : Iss. 9 , Article 2.

Available at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/gobernar/vol5/iss9/2>

This Editorial Note is brought to you for free and open access by The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). It has been accepted for inclusion in *Gobernar: The Journal of Latin American Public Policy and Governance* by an authorized editor of The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). For more information, please contact [ORB@binghamton.edu](mailto:ORB@binghamton.edu).

## **CONTENT // CONTENIDO**

As editors of *Gobernar*, we hope that this issue finds you safe and healthy despite the ongoing risks and challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. For public policy scholars and practitioners, the pandemic offers many opportunities to learn. Systematic and evidence-based evaluation of local, national and global responses can inform not only improvements in our ongoing responses to the evolving coronavirus we are currently combating, but also help us be better prepared for the next global pandemic or other crises of this magnitude. Perhaps equally importantly, careful analysis and reflection of COVID experiences can inform improvements in public policies and public administration more generally.

For that reason, this issue includes articles focused on evaluating COVID-19 responses across Latin America. The four articles that comprise this issue represent scholars and perspectives from South, Central and North America, and they evaluate social policies and policy frameworks at the local, national, region-wide and global levels. We encourage readers to consult the previous issue of *Gobernar* (Volume 5, Number 8) to place the articles in this issue within the broader context of evolving understanding of social welfare regimes.

Our focus here is on examining social policies in the COVID-era and the authors use a variety of approaches. We begin with a case study regarding social programs targeted to the youngest members of society. Culebro and Hernández provide a qualitative case study of policies to protect infants in Mexico City that illustrates the heightened challenges and inequities associated with the pandemic. Diaz-González then provides a comparative analysis of early pandemic responses across four governments in Central America. He traces the COVID infection and mortality rates in relation to policy responses within Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Panama. Following that, Puerta Alcaraz examines how pandemic-related restrictions created additional challenges for efforts to engage youth in sports as a means to protect them from forced recruitment into violence; the focus here is on the experiences in Metropolitan Area of Aburrá Valley in Colombia. The final article by Chinkousky Giraldo, Pérez-Restrepo and Silva-Jaramillo reviews the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic through the light of social norms and prosociality. They present their findings in the form of recommendations for policy makers and with an eye toward application of other public health crises.

It is fitting that an issue focused on the challenges created by the coronavirus pandemic also demonstrates how the *Gobernar* has been affected by it. Like many academic journals, *Gobernar* experienced a decrease in the number of manuscript submissions during 2020 and 2021 and more difficulty in securing timely reviews as authors and reviewers directed their attention to other priorities. As a result, the release of several issues were delayed because we were not willing to sacrifice quality for the sake of the planned publication schedule. With this issue, we have opted to publish a smaller number of articles in order to be able to return to release dates that coincide with the publication dates of the issue.

**Editors:** Prof.: Nadia Rubaii  
Binghamton University, USA

Prof.: María Fernanda Ramírez Brouchoud  
EAFIT University, Colombia