



# XXIII RIDGE FORUM

2026 RIDGE MAY FORUM

RIDGE/LACEA-PEG | WORKSHOP ON  
POLITICAL ECONOMY

## PROGRAM

LACEA-PEG co-directors

Ernesto Dal Bó (UC Berkeley)

Claudio Ferraz (UBC & PUC-Rio)

Scientific Committee

Carolina Arteaga (University of Toronto)

Claudio Ferraz (UBC & PUC-Rio)

Diana Moreira (UC Davis)

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Frederico Finan (UC Berkeley)

Luis R. Martínez (Emory University)

May 18-19, 2026

The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados

Day 1: May 18

Room: TBC

NOTICE: All times are in Barbados Time (UTC-4)

Presenters will have 45 minutes for their presentation

09:50-10:00	Opening Remarks
10:00-11:30	<p>▶ SESSION 1: POLITICS OF PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY</p> <p>Don't Know, Don't Care? Experimental Evidence on Barriers to Responsive Public Services in Ethiopia Daniel Agness (UMD)</p> <p>Brokers in Public Service Delivery Torsha Chakravorty (UCSD)</p>
11:30-12:00	Coffee break
12:00-13:30	<p>▶ SESSION 2: MEDIA AND POLITICS</p> <p>Broadcasting Activism: Evidence from the Civil Rights Movement Awa Ambra Seck (HBS)</p> <p>Allocating Influence: The Effects of Government Advertising on Mexico's News Market Camila Blanes (Stanford GSB)</p>
13:30-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-16:00	<p>▶ SESSION 3: INFORMATION AND ATTRIBUTION</p> <p>How Do Voters Process Information? The Case of Criminal Politicians in India Yusuf Neggars (Michigan)</p> <p>Ambiguous Attribution: Theory and Evidence from Public Service Provision Gerard Padró i Miquel (Yale)</p>
16:00-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-17:15	<p>▶ SESSION 4: PROTESTS</p> <p>The Limited Effects of U.S. Protests Amory Gethin, World Bank Development Research Group</p>
19:00-21:00	Conference Dinner

**Day 2: May 19****Room: TBC****10:00-11:30**    ▶ **SESSION 5: CONFLICT**

(De facto) Historical Ethnic Borders and Contemporary Conflict in Africa

**Emilio Depetris-Chauvin (UC Chile)**

The Alpha Political Male

**Mario Carillo (UAB)**

**11:30-12:00**    **Coffee break****12:00-13:30**    ▶ **SESSION 6: INFORMATION, ALGORITHMS, AND RHETORIC IN POLITICS**

Hate in the Time of Algorithms: Evidence on Online Behavior from a Large-Scale Experiment

**Aarushi Kalra (Oxford)**

Blameocracy: Causal Rhetoric in Politics

**Giacomo Manferdini (Bocconi University)**

**13:30-14:30**    **Lunch break****14:30-16:00**    ▶ **SESSION 7: FAMILY CONNECTIONS AND INCUMBENCY ADVANTAGE**

Family Connections, Nepotism, and Political Bargaining

**Paolo Pinotti (Bocconi University)**

The Global Incumbency Advantage

**Benjamin Marx (Boston University)**

**16:00-16:30**    **Coffee break**