Designing Effective, Resilient and Trusted Police Organizations in Mexico

Faculty Member: Rodrigo Canales

Proposal Description:

Mexico is currently facing a crisis of security. The Mexican State has been unable to control an upsurge in violent crime since the end of the last decade. One of the problems for the Mexican government is the structural weakness of police departments across the country. It is not only that the system is fractured among the more than 2,000 police forces, but also that the Federal, and most State and Local police departments in and of themselves have not been able to overcome obstacles to ensure proper law enforcement and, what’s worse, are often accused of multiple human rights violations.

This project starts from the premise that police forces are, first and foremost, organizations. Much of what drives a police force’s behavior and interactions with public institutions, citizens, and criminal organizations, therefore, will be defined by its organizational design. With this in mind, this project aims to develop a better understanding of the organizational capabilities and structural design that systematically allow police forces to be more effective, more resilient, and more trusted by the citizens they serve.

Requisite Skills and Qualifications:

We are looking for two RA’s to help on the data side of this project. Each RA will be responsible for integrating and cleaning up databases, analyzing crime data and generating reports on said data. An ideal candidate is somebody who (1) has done coursework in or has experience with data work with a programming language, preferably Python and R and (2) who has an interest and expertise in data visualization.

Award: Jesus Ayala Lara '19
Tobin Application Link: Tobin Application
Project Type: Tobin RA
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