

# SERGIO VERDUGO

Associate Professor of Law | IE University – Law School

Co-President, International Society of Public Law (ICON·S) | Editor, *International Journal of Constitutional Law*

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### IE University – Law School

Madrid, Spain · 2022–present

*Associate Professor of Law (2025–present); Assistant Professor of Law (2022–2025)*

Coordinator, Bachelor in Philosophy, Politics, Law & Economics (PPLE); Coordinator, Human Rights courses

Teaching Excellence Award, 2022–2023 and 2023–2024 academic years

### Universidad del Desarrollo

Santiago, Chile · 2011–2022

*Associate Professor of Law (2018–2022); Assistant Professor of Law (2011–2018)*

Visiting scholar (2022-)

Director, Centro de Justicia Constitucional (2021–2022); Director, Centro de Derecho Regulatorio y Empresa (2021–2022)

"Profesor de Excelencia" Award (best professor elected by students): 2018, 2020

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## EDUCATION

### New York University School of Law

New York, USA · 2014–2018

*Doctor of Juridical Science (JSD) · Beca Chile CONICYT scholarship*

### University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Berkeley, USA · 2010–2011

*Master of Laws (LLM) · Beca Chile CONICYT scholarship*

### Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Santiago, Chile · 2010

*Master of Public Law · Ranked 1st*

### Universidad del Desarrollo

Santiago, Chile · 2008

*Licenciado en Ciencias Jurídicas (LLB equivalent) · Summa cum laude · "Alejandro Silva Bascuñán" Award (best graduate)*

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative constitutional law · Constitutional theory · Constitution-making and constituent power · Constitutional courts and judicial behavior · Authoritarianism and democratic backsliding · Separation of powers

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## JOURNAL ARTICLES (ENGLISH)

Forthcoming "How can Constitution-Making disrupt Separation of Powers Structures?" *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*

- 2025 "How Can Courts Encourage Constitutional Replacement?" *Law and Ethics of Human Rights* 19(1): 117–141.
- 2025 "Why Do We Need a New Theory for Justifying Constituent Assemblies?" *Theoretical Inquiries in Law* 26(2): 129–158.
- 2025 "Is the *Ius Constitutionale Commune* in Latin America Missing the Point?" *European Yearbook of Constitutional Law* 6: 181–216.
- 2024 "Constitutions as Moving Targets." *Global Constitutionalism* 13(1): 250–263.
- 2024 "The Law as a Conversation Among Equals. A Skeptical View." *Rivista di Diritti Comparati* 3: 30–56.
- 2023 Issacharoff, S., & Verdugo, S. "The Uncertain Future of Constitutional Democracy in the Era of Populism: Chile and Beyond." *University of Miami Law Review* 78(1): 1–64.
- 2023 "Is It Time to Abandon the Theory of Constituent Power?" *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 21(1): 14–79.
- 2023 "Is It Time to Abandon the Theory of Constituent Power? A Rejoinder." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 21(4): 1213–1224.
- 2023 "Can Brazil's Democratic Institutions Be Re-bounded from Bolsonaro's Authoritarian Agenda?" *Quaderni Costituzionali* 1: 175–177.
- 2021 "How Can Constitutional Review Experiments Fail? Lessons from the 1925 Chilean Constitution." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 19(3): 1062–1083.
- 2021 "How Judges Can Challenge Dictators and Get Away with It: Advancing Democracy while Preserving Judicial Independence." *Columbia Journal of Transnational Law* 59(3): 554–607.
- 2021 "Limited Democracy and Great Distrust: John Hart Ely in Bolivia and Chile." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 19(2): 515–532.
- 2021 Prieto, M., & Verdugo, S. "How Political Narratives Affect the Self-Enforcing Nature of Interim Constitutions." *Hague Journal on the Rule of Law* 13: 265–293.
- 2021 Verdugo, S., & Prieto, M. "The Dual Aversion of Chile's Constitution-Making Process." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 19(1): 149–168.
- 2021 Benítez-R., V., & Verdugo, S. "One Size Does Not Fit All Courts." *William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal* 29(2).
- 2020 "Chile's New Constitutional Experiment." *Quaderni Costituzionali* 4: 842–845.
- 2019 Díaz de Valdés, J., & Verdugo, S. "The ALBA Constitutional Project and Political Representation." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 17(2): 479–488.
- 2019 "The Fall of the Constitution's Political Insurance: How the Morales Regime Eliminated the Insurance of the 2009 Bolivian Constitution." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 17(4): 1098–1124.
- 2017 "Birth and Decay of the Chilean Constitutional Tribunal of 1970: The Irony of a Wrong Electoral Prediction." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 15(2): 469–494.
- 2017 "The Value of the Concept of Unconstitutional Constitutions." *Cornell International Law Journal Online* 50: 39–46.

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## ARTÍCULOS EN REVISTAS (ESPAÑOL)

- En prensa Verdugo, S., y López, G. "Constitucionalismo Cuesta Arriba: Cargas de Inercia y Consensos." *Isonomía – Revista de Teoría y Filosofía del Derecho*.
- 2024 "Constitucionalismo chileno y poder constituyente: una rectificación al uso del pensamiento de Emmanuel Sieyès." *Actualidad Jurídica* 49: 355–382.
- 2023 Issacharoff, S., y Verdugo, S. "Populismo constituyente, democracia y promesas incumplidas: el caso de la Convención Constitucional Chilena (2021–2022)." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 21(5): 1517–1548.

- 2023 "Referéndum y proceso constituyente: ¿extorsión electoral o veto ciudadano?" *Actualidad Jurídica* 47: 245–275.
- 2021 Dixon, R., y Verdugo, S. "Los derechos sociales y la reforma constitucional en Chile: hacia una implementación híbrida, legislativa y judicial." *Estudios Públicos* 162: 31–73.
- 2021 "Los derechos sociales y el debate constituyente chileno." *Actualidad Jurídica* 43: 547–576.
- 2020 Pardow, D., y Verdugo, S. "Estabilidad, profesionalismo y politización en los nombramientos de directivos de agencias reguladoras independientes." *Revista Derecho del Estado* 46: 223–252.
- 2019 "¿Es la 'doctrina de las constituciones inconstitucionales' un instrumento útil para preservar la democracia?" *Actualidad Jurídica* 39: 143–181.
- 2016 "Lastarria y la revisión judicial de la ley en el marco de la Constitución chilena de 1833." *Revista Chilena de Derecho* 43(3): 927–953.
- 2015 Pardow, D., y Verdugo, S. "El Tribunal Constitucional chileno y la reforma de 2005." *Revista de Derecho (Valdivia)* 28(1): 123–144.
- 2014 "Las debilidades de la crítica a las súper-mayorías." *Revista de Derecho de la PUCV* 42: 355–395.
- 2013 "La discusión democrática sobre la revisión judicial de las leyes." *Revista Chilena de Derecho* 40(1): 181–223.
- 2011 "Aportes del modelo de disidencias judiciales al sistema político." *Revista de Derecho UCN* 18(2): 217–272.
- 2010 "Control preventivo obligatorio: auge y caída de la toma de razón al legislador." *Estudios Constitucionales* 8(1): 201–248.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming "Constitution-making as a politically contingent argument." In R. Fasel & L. Vinx (eds.), *Cambridge Handbook of Critical Perspectives on the Constituent Power*. Cambridge University Press.
- Forthcoming "Constitution-making and separation of powers." In E. Delaney et al. (eds.), *Cambridge Handbook on the Separation of Powers*. Cambridge University Press.
- Forthcoming Prieto, M., & Verdugo, S. "Not a Zombie Constitution: Limited Resilience and Chile's Unfinished Constitutional Journey." In *Constitutional Democracy in Crisis?* (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming Issacharoff, S., & Verdugo, S. "Elections Under Autocracy: The Opposition's Dilemma." In *Oxford Handbook of Law and Authoritarianism*. Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming "Why bother with judges?" In *Oxford Handbook of Law and Authoritarianism*. Oxford University Press.
- 2025 "Popular Constitutionalism." In *Research Handbook on Constitutional Interpretation*. Edward Elgar.
- 2024 "Global Canons, Term Limits, and the Constituent Power Theory." In *Global Canons in an Age of Contestation*. Oxford University Press.
- 2024 "How the Pandemic Changed Democratic Regimes." In *Pandemocracy in Latin America*. Hart Publishing.
- 2024 "The Jurisprudence of the Bolivian Constitutional Court." In *Constitutional Reasoning in Latin America and the Caribbean*. Hart Publishing.
- 2019 "How to Identify Quasi-Constitutional Legislation." In *Quasi-Constitutionality and Constitutional Statutes*. Routledge.
- 2019 "The Role of the Chilean Constitutional Court in Times of Change." In *Constitutional Change and Transformation in Latin America*. Hart Publishing.

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## EDITED VOLUMES & EDITORIAL WORK

### Edited Books

Forthcoming Delaney, E., Mendes, J., Leloup, M., Hailbronner, M., Kosar, D., & Verdugo, S. (eds.).  
Cambridge Handbook on the Separation of Powers. Cambridge University Press.

2019 Niembro O., R., & Verdugo, S. (eds.). La justicia constitucional en tiempos de cambio. Suprema  
Corte de Justicia de la Nación, México.

### International Journal of Constitutional Law (I·CON) — Oxford University Press

Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Spanish Issues (2021–present). Edited issues: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024.

Organized symposia: 2021, 2023, 2024.

Associate Editor, English Issues (2016–2021).

### Selected Editorials & Symposium Introductions

2025 Hailbronner, M., & Verdugo, S. "The Future of the I·CON·S Project." I·CON 23(2): 343–352.

2024 "El círculo vicioso de la polarización política y las cortes constitucionales." Symposium  
introduction. I·CON 22(5): 1362–1379.

2024 Verdugo, S., & García-Huidobro, L. E. "How Do Constitution-Making Processes Fail? The Case  
of Chile's Constitutional Convention (2021–22)." Symposium introduction. Global  
Constitutionalism 13(1): 154–167.

2023 Verdugo, S., & Prieto, M. "¿Cómo pueden fracasar los procesos constituyentes?" Symposium  
introduction. I·CON 21(5): 1387–1402.

2022 Prieto, M., & Verdugo, S. "Editorial." I·CON 20(4): 1431–1446.

2021 Prieto, M., & Verdugo, S. "Understanding Chile's Constitution-Making Procedure." I·CON 19(1):  
1–5.

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## PEER REVIEW & GRANT EVALUATION

### Journal Peer Review (selected)

Global Constitutionalism · Law & Society Review · Government and Opposition · Democratization ·  
European Journal of International Law · Contemporary Political Theory · Constitutional Political Economy  
· Comparative Constitutional Studies · ICL Journal · Revista Chilena de Derecho · Revista Derecho del  
Estado · Revista de Derecho (Valdivia) · Oxford Journal of Legal Studies

### Book & Proposal Review

Oxford University Press (2023) · Hart Publishing (2024) · Edward Elgar Publishing (2026)

### Grant Evaluation

European Research Council / Horizon (ERC-2026-SyG, Panel SyG2F)

ANID / FONDECYT Regular: 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2025

ANID / Becas de Doctorado y Magíster: 2020, 2021

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## SELECTED TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

2026 "*Electoral Rights in Autocratic Systems*". XI Conference of Diritti Comparati, LUISS University,  
Rome

2025 "*Constituent Power, Constitution-Making, and the Politics of Change*". Conference on the 1975  
Greek Constitution, Zappeion Megaron, Athens

- 2025 *"Analyzing Court-Packing: Legitimacy, Strategy and Democratic Safeguards"*. International Conference on the Rule of Law, Cascais, Portugal
- 2025 *"How can Constituent Assemblies disrupt Separation of Powers Structures"*. Münster Comparative Law Workshop, University of Münster
- 2025 *"De la democracia digital a la ilusión de la representación política"*. III Conferencia Anual ICON·S Chile, Universidad del Desarrollo
- 2024 *"The Dark Side of the Unconstitutional Constitutional Amendment Doctrine"*. ICON·S Annual Conference, IE University, Madrid
- 2024 *"Why do we need a new theory for justifying and designing constituent assemblies"*. "Liberal/Democracy" Symposium, Sciences Po / NYU / Tel Aviv University
- 2023 *"How Can Courts Encourage Constitutional Replacement?"*. Workshop on Polarized Constitutionalism, University of Oxford
- 2023 *"Can Courts Help to Build an Authoritarian Form of Constitutionalism?"*. "Authoritarian Law" Workshop, Columbia University / Reid Hall, Paris
- 2023 *"Is It Time to Abandon the Theory of Constituent Power?"*. Seminario GEDECO, Universidad de Barcelona; Universitat Pompeu Fabra
- 2022 *"Why do constitution-making processes fail? The case of Chile"*. Università Bocconi, Milan
- 2021 *"The Unconstitutional Constitutional Amendment Doctrine arrives in Chile"*. ICON·S Annual Conference (online)
- 2019 *"The Chilean 1925 Supreme Court Doomed to Fail"*. ICON·S Annual Conference, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago
- 2019 *"A case study on Judge Valenzuela triggering a Constitutional Paradox"*. "Towering Judges" Symposium, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 2018 *"Judicial Challenges Against the Original Constitution"*. ICON·S Annual Conference, University of Hong Kong
- 2017 *"The Role of the Chilean Constitutional Tribunal under the Pinochet Regime"*. ICON·S Annual Conference, University of Copenhagen
- 2016 *"How to Identify Quasi-Constitutional Legislation?"*. Symposium on Quasi-Constitutionality, Victoria University of Wellington
- 2015 *"The Politics of Judicial Review Before the Military Coup in Chile"*. ICON·S Annual Conference, New York University
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## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

### **International Society of Public Law (ICON·S)**

Co-President (2024–2027) · Secretary-General (2021–2023) · Deputy Secretary-General (2018–2021)

### **Teaching**

Constitutional Law · Human Rights · Introduction to Legal Systems · Comparative Jurisprudence · Political Institutions · Fundamental Rights (IE University, Universidad del Desarrollo, PUC Chile)

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