

Livio Silva-Muller

Curriculum Vitae

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Education

- 2019-2025 **The Geneva Graduate Institute, Switzerland**
Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology (ABD, defending March 2025)
- 2023-2024 **London School of Economics, United Kingdom**
Visiting Ph.D. Research Student, Department of Methodology
- 2017- 2019 **The Geneva Graduate Institute, Switzerland**
M.Phil. in Development Studies
- 2013 – 2016 **University of St. Gallen, Switzerland**
B.A. in International Affairs
2015: Exchange Semester, Hosei University, Tokyo-Japan

Honours and Prizes

- 2024 Political Sociology Section Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association
- 2024 Sociology of Development Section Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association
- 2024 Best Paper in Amazonian Studies, Latin American Studies Association

Publications

Silva-Muller, L., & Sposito, H.* (2023). Which Amazon Problem? Problem-constructions and Transnationalism in Brazilian Presidential Discourse since 1985. *Environmental Politics*, 0(0), 1–24. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09644016.2023.2220639>

** Graduate student co-author; 2024 Best paper in Amazonian Studies, Latin American Studies Association*

Silva-Muller, L., (2022). Payment for ecosystem services and the practices of environmental fieldworkers in policy implementation: The case of Bolsa Floresta in the Brazilian Amazon. *Land Use Policy*, 120. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2022.106251>

Silva-Muller, L., & Faul, M. (2022) "Protecting the Amazon and its people: the role of civil society in the local effectiveness of transnational partnerships." In *Partnerships for Sustainability: Pathways to Effectiveness*. Edt. by Andonova, L., Faul, M. and Piselli, D. Routledge: London. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003148371-6>

Working papers

Silva-Muller, L. "Pathways of the Environmental State: Global Climate Politics in the Amazon Rainforest" [Revise and Resubmit]

* 2024 Political Sociology Section Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association

*2024 Sociology of Development Section Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association

Silva-Muller, L. "Climate Finance as Transnational Policy Insulation: Evidence from Brazil, 1990-2020" [Draft available upon request]

Teeger, Chana; **Silva-Muller, Livio**; Moraes Silva, Graziella. "How Race Matters for Elites' Views on Redistribution: Evidence from South Africa" [Draft available upon request]

Moraes Silva, Graziella & **Silva-Muller, Livio**. "Whose merit and which redistribution? Deservingness and varieties of redistributive preferences in Brazil, South Africa, and beyond"

Silva-Muller, L. "Who pays for the World Society? Evidence From International Geneva, 2000-2023"

Book manuscripts under development

Moraes Silva, G; Lopez, M; Teeger, C; & **Silva-Muller, L.** "Fear and Trust: Elites and the Politics of Redistribution in the Global South"

Silva-Muller, L. "The Amazon as a Global Carbon Sink: How Scientists and Bureaucrats Built Climate Capacity in Brazil and What Can We Learn from it."

Other writings

Silva-Muller, L. & Gassmann, R. (2024) "Paying for Multilateralism: Taking Stock on the Financing of International Organisations in Geneva, 2000-2020", study commissioned by the Swiss Mission the United Nations in Geneva:
<https://www.genevapolicyoutlook.ch/interantionalgeneva/>

Competitive Grants & Fellowships

2023	Swiss National Science Foundation Project Doctoral Mobility Grant
2023	The Swiss Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation Early-Career Grant
2021	Swiss Network of International Studies International Organizations Research Grant
2018	The Davis Peace Project Grant by Davis UWC Scholars
2015	The Japanese Government JASSO scholarship

Teaching Experience

2022, 2023	Lecturer (graduate level), Fundamentals of R, The Geneva Graduate Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none">- With another graduate student, we designed and taught an introduction to the Fundamentals of R programming language and quantitative methods. All materials were designed from scratch and course was offered multiple times in different formats (eight weeks, four weeks, and one-week versions). This included all teaching-related administrative tasks such as grading, undergoing evaluation, and pastoral care.
Since 2021	Guest Lecturer (graduate level), Research Methods in Anthropology and Sociology, The Geneva Graduate Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Within a compulsory Research Methods course for graduate students, I teach two classes introducing the logic of quantitative and computational thinking to qualitative scholars. This includes grading an assignment and providing feedback to students.
Since 2021	Guest Lecturer (graduate level), Elites & Inequality, The Geneva Graduate Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Within an elective class on Elites & Inequality, I teach a class on the normative justifications and methods to study philanthropy. This included grading reading responses and meeting students interested in writing the class paper about the topic.

Languages and Skills

Languages	Portuguese: native English: proficient (CPE C2 level) German: proficient (Abitur C2 level) French: intermediary (speaks, reads, listens)
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Spanish: basic (reads, listens)

Data Science Advanced user of **R** programming language (github; baseR; network analysis; text-as-data; web scrapping; survey analysis; tidyverse; markdown)

Professional Activities

- Since 2020 **Research Assistant, Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, Geneva Graduate Institute**
- Project: "[How elites shape unequal democracies: Perceptions of redistribution in Brazil and South Africa](#)", led by Prof. Graziella Moraes Silva.
 - I assisted in steps from conceptualization to analysis of the survey, as well as organization of academic events.
- 2019- 2020 **Environment Programme Associate, Oak Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland**
- 2017 **Intern, UN's Resident Coordinator's Office, Maputo, Mozambique**
- 2016-2017 **Research Assistant, St. Gallen Institute of Management Latin America, São Paulo, Brazil**

Further education

- 2024 **Summer Workshop on Public Sector Organizational Effectiveness Hosted by Prof. Erin McDonnell (University of Notre Dame)**
- A three-days immersive workshop for early career scholars on the sociology of public sector.
- 2024 **PERSONALLY Writers Workshop Field Studio**
- Four weeks writing course on integrating personal material into academic and non-fiction writing.
- 2022 **Research Methods Summer School, University of São Paulo, Department of Mathematics**
- One-week intensive course on "Building Reproducible Research Pipelines with R."

- 2021 **Global School in Empirical Research Methods,
University of St. Gallen**
- 6 ECTS course on Text Mining with R
 - 6 ECTS course on Analyzing Survey Research Data with R

Invited talks

- 2023 "Transnational Climate Regimes in Rainforest States: The Case of Brazil from 1985 to 2022", FGV IR Department Research Seminar, São Paulo-BR
- 2022 "Expanding Payment for Ecosystem Services in the Brazilian Amazon," invited talk at FEA-USP's 3rd Bioeconomy Workshop, São Paulo, available here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLRvMAzIGYE>
- 2022 "How has the Brazilian Amazon been constructed as a problem?" invited talk at the Center of International Environmental Studies, Genève.
- 2019 "Payment for ecosystem Services in the Brazilian Amazon", invited talk at Oak Foundation, Genève.

Selected conference presentations

- "How Race Matters for Elites' Views of Redistribution" with Chana Teeger and Graziella Moraes Silva
- 2024 Conference of the British Journal of Sociology
 - 2024 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
 - 2024 American Sociological Association, Culture and Inequality Section Session
- "Pathways of the Environmental State: Global Climate Politics in the Amazon Rainforest"
- 2024 Conference of the British Journal of Sociology
 - 2024 Red para el Estudio de la Economía Política de América Latina
 - 2024 American Sociological Association, Environmental Sociology Section Session
- "Domesticating policy through transnational finance: climate funds in Brazil since 1985"
- 2024 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
- "Fear and Trust in Unequal Democracies: Elites and the Politics of Redistribution in the Global South" with G. Moraes Silva, M. Lopez & C. Teeger,
- American Sociological Association, 2023 Sociology of Development Section Session
 - 2024 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

"Seeing (merit) like elites: cultural processes and redistributive preferences at the top" with G. Moraes Silva

- 2023 American Sociological Association; Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility Section Session
- 2024 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

"The problem of climate change and comparative historical sociology"

- 2024 Doing Sociology Now, Department of Sociology, London School of Economics

"Transnational Climate Regimes in Rainforest States"

- 2024 Ph.D. Seminar, Doing International Political Sociology, London
- 2023 Red para el Estudio de la Economía Política de América Latina
- 2023 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

"The Amazon as a carbon sink: how transnationalism makes and breaks deforestation policy in Brazil from 1990 to 2020"

- 2022 American Sociological Association, Global and Transnational Sociology Section Session

Service to the profession

2021-2024 Member of the Geneva Graduate Institute Sustainability Target Initiative

- Conducted the 1st baseline analysis of how sustainability appears in the teaching and research curriculum of the Geneva Graduate Institute.
- Together with the direction of research, we drafted a directive on sustainable research practices, including regulation on flying and emissions.
- Together with the target initiative, we prepared the 2021 Sustainability Annual Report of the institute.

2021-2023 Anthropology and Sociology PhD Students Representative

- Represented the ANSO PhD students in multiple internal reform processes.
- Organized welcome events for new cohorts.
- Assisted in the revision of Doctoral Curricula, particularly 1st year obligatory Doctoral Seminars.

2021-2022 Student Representative of Research Assistants

References

Grégoire Mallard (Co-Supervisor)

Professor of Sociology
Director of Research
Geneva Graduate Institute
E-mail: gregoire.mallard@graduateinstitute.ch

Graziella Moraes Silva (Co-Supervisor)
Associate Professor of Sociology
Director of the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy
Geneva Graduate Institute
E-mail: graziella.moraes@graduateinstitute.ch

Chana Teeger (LSE Visiting Supervisor)
Associate Professor, Department of Methodology
London School of Economics
E-mail: c.teeger@lse.ac.uk

Rebecca Elliot (Dissertation External Committee Member)
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology
London School of Economics

Memberships

American Sociological Association (ASA)
Society for Advancement of Socioeconomics (SASE)
Latin American Studies Association (LASA)
Swiss School of Latin American Studies (SSLAS)
Red para el Estudio de la Economía Política de América Latina (REPAL)