



# UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

*and*

## PCED

Philippine Center for  
Economic Development

in coordination with International Alert

*present a seminar on*

## **Cattle ranchers and massacres in Colombia (1982-2007)** **Social underpinnings of patterns of violence against civilians during civil war**

**4pm | 20 January 2017**  
**Room 303, UP School of Economics**

### ***Abstract***

We explored the relationship between rural inequality and violence during the Colombian civil war. We found that a Colombian municipality was significantly more likely to suffer a massacre if it was home to large-scale cattle ranching. Our results thus suggest that specific patterns of violence can be highly correlated with social inequalities, and that such inequalities are context-dependent, counteracting the predominant hypothesis in the civil war literature that no such relationship exists. Second, we build on the literature's understanding of the participation and role of economic elites in civil wars, delving into how their behavior is both a reaction to – and a driver of – conflict. Third and finally, we explore the ways in which context-specific inequalities, like the land accumulation caused by cattle ranching, are also related to patterns of violence.

### ***About the Speaker***

Francisco Gutiérrez-Sanín is a researcher at the Instituto de Estudios Políticos y Relaciones Internacionales – Universidad Nacional de Colombia. His research interests include armed conflict, patterns of violence against civilians, peace processes, state configurations, and rural inequality. He received his PhD in Political Science from the Warsaw University.



**Free and open to the public**

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