

# HIA

Hemispheric Institute  
on the Americas

## *The Conflictive Emergence of Human Rights in Colombia (1978-1985)*

*Friday  
May 19, 2017  
2pm to 3:30pm  
Andrews Conference  
Room (2203 SS&H)*

*Free and open to the public  
Followed by a book signing with the author*

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**Jorge González-Jácome** obtained a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, a Master of Laws (LL.M) from Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá and a Doctorate in Juridical Science (SJD) from Harvard Law School. His areas of research are legal history, human rights, comparative constitutional law, and law and humanities. He will present how just as human rights ideas started to take hold of the legal and political imagination of thinkers and activists around the world, Colombia was one of the places where the hope of left wing revolution was still alive. The liveliness of idealistic projects in Colombia led to different understandings of what human rights entailed. Some activists connected the term with social revolution, others sought to find in them a key towards democratization, and the Colombian government drifted between accepting the language criticizing those who employed it. This historical reconstruction invites us to think about the ways to recover human rights as an engaging political project open up for grabs and not merely as a recipe for good governance.

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