

# Roberto Duran-Fernandez

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*Seasoned economist bridging academia, private sector, and public policy for global economic resilience with a regional perspective.*

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## EDUCATION

**Oxford University, Oxford, UK**, Doctor of Philosophy (D.Phil. March 2009); **Research area.** Economic geography, infrastructure, and regional development

**London School of Economics (LSE), London UK**, Master in Science, Economics (M.Sci. July 2005); **Research area.** Economic development, and quantitative methods

**ITAM, Mexico City**, Bachelor in Arts, Economics (Licenciatura, May 2002)

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey Campus.** *Professor (08/2017-present)*

- Spearheaded undergraduate courses as a Professor in the Department of Economics, focusing on integrating real-world economic scenarios and contemporary research into the curriculum to enhance student learning and engagement.
  - Led postgraduate programs as a Professor at the School of Government, emphasizing on interdisciplinary approaches and practical policy analysis.
  - Appointed as the Coordinator for the Postgraduate Public Finance Certificate in Continuing Education, overseeing program development, curriculum design, and fostering industry partnerships to ensure relevance and practical applicability of the course content.
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**World Bank.** *Consultant (Contracts since 2023)*

- Led a comprehensive study aimed at reforming infrastructure and public transport systems in collaboration with the Mexico Federal Government. This pivotal study involved in-depth analysis, stakeholder engagement, and innovative problem-solving.
  - Developed and proposed a new financing model, tailored to optimize resource allocation and enhance the efficiency of public transport systems, ensuring sustainable and economically viable solutions for urban transportation challenges.
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**Interamerican Development Bank.** *Consultant (Contracts since 2018)*

- Directed key regional development projects across Latin America, including countries like Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and the Caribbean, with a focus on nearshoring strategies, innovative financing strategies, and public policy solutions. This role required a deep understanding of diverse economic landscapes and the ability to tailor strategies to regional specifics.
  - Pioneered extensive research and led studies on subnational public finances in emerging countries. These initiatives provided actionable insights for improving financial governance and fiscal responsibility in developing economies.
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**World Health Organization, Secretariat Department of Health Systems Governance and Finance.** *Researcher (02/2022-05/2023)*

- Served as an Economic Consultant with the Secretariat of the Council on the Economics of Health For All, located at the WHO Headquarters in Geneva. This role involved high-level analysis and strategic thinking in the realm of global health economics.
  - Led initiatives to identify and develop new public policy narratives aimed at catalyzing commitment from top political echelons. Focused on promoting long-term investments to foster more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable global economies, with a special emphasis on low-resource settings.
  - Devised and proposed comprehensive engagement strategies targeting key stakeholders such as national leaders, finance ministries, economic platforms, country groupings, and international financial institutions. These strategies were designed to shift perspectives on health valuation and drive substantial policy changes in health economics.
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**Corporación Andina de Fomento.** *Consultant (2011-2018)*

- Integral member of IDEAL (Infrastructure Development in Latin America), a multidisciplinary research group, where I played a pivotal role in studying and analyzing infrastructure dynamics across Latin America.
  - Spearheaded several key projects focused on evaluating and innovating infrastructure financing models in the region. These projects involved comprehensive analysis, collaboration with diverse stakeholders, and development of strategic recommendations to enhance infrastructure investment and efficiency.
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**Evercore.** *Managing Director (03/2017-11/2020)*

- Pioneered and led Evercore's Restructuring practice in Mexico, providing expert guidance to subnational governments and a diverse range of corporate clients. My leadership in this area was instrumental in navigating complex financial challenges and implementing effective restructuring solutions.
  - Successfully managed debt restructuring and issuance operations for both corporate and public sector clients in Mexico, demonstrating adeptness in financial strategy and a deep understanding of the Mexican financial landscape.
  - Led the development of strategic infrastructure investment plans and regional development strategies for subnational governments and multilateral development agencies. My work in this area was crucial in driving sustainable growth and regional development.
  - Conducted in-depth fairness opinions and due diligence processes for the acquisition and tender offers of publicly traded infrastructure companies, with a specific focus on transport infrastructure. My expertise in this field was pivotal in ensuring transparent and effective transactions.
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**McKinsey & Co.** *Associate (03/2009-11/2010) Associate Partner (01/2015-02/2017)*

- Played a key role in designing national development plans for various Latin American governments, with a focus on promoting international trade, integrating domestic value chains, and integrating the least-developed regions into the global economy.
  - Worked closely with financial and fiscal authorities in Mexico, Panama, and Saudi Arabia, contributing to the optimization of their public budgets through innovative fiscal strategies and efficient allocation of resources.
  - Led transformational programs for national development financial institutions in Mexico, driving significant changes in strategic planning and operational optimization.
  - Involved in the development of Mexico's national energy strategy, playing a critical role in shaping the future of the country's energy sector.
  - Assisted in designing and implementing strategic infrastructure investment plans for a multinational telecommunications company in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, contributing to the company's growth and regional expansion.
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## **Ministry of Finance, Mexico's Federal Government.** *Chief of Staff to the Deputy Minister (01/2012-07/2014)*

- Oversaw the economic, financial, and legal advisory units of the Deputy Minister, ensuring effective policy development and strategic decision-making.
- Coordinated the development of Mexico's National Development Plan in 2013, playing a pivotal role in shaping the country's economic future and developmental strategies.
- Actively contributed to the creation of Mexico's National Infrastructure Plan in 2013, focusing on sustainable and impactful infrastructure development across the nation.
- Led the coordination and economic assessment of Mexico's Financial Reform enacted in 2013, a key reform that significantly influenced the country's financial landscape.
- Represented the Mexican Delegation at the 2014 IMF/WB Spring Meetings, playing a crucial role in international financial discussions and collaborations.
- Acted as a representative for the Ministry of Finance in the USA-Mexico High-Level Economic Dialogue (HLED), fostering cross-border economic relations and collaborative initiatives.

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## **Protego Casa de Bolsa, Mexico City.** *Head of Corporate Trust Division and Special Projects (12/2010-11/2012)*

- Established and led the Corporate Trust Division, pioneering its establishment from the ground up. This involved strategic planning, team building, establishing operational procedures, and developing client relationships to position the division as a key player in the corporate trust landscape.

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## **The Pension Regulator UK.** *Senior analyst (09/2008-10/2008)*

- Conducted in-depth assessments of the financial viability of private pension funds across the UK. This role involved comprehensive analysis of financial health, risk assessment, and regulatory compliance of various pension funds, contributing to the overall stability and reliability of the UK's pension system.

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## **Library House UK.** *Researcher (06/2005-09/2005)*

- Conducted a comprehensive assessment of Cambridge University's economic contribution to the East of England. This involved detailed analysis of the university's impact on the local economy, including factors such as employment, innovation, and economic growth. My research provided valuable insights into the university's role as a key economic driver in the region.

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## **Protego Asesores, Mexico City.** *Senior Analyst (02/2004-07/2004)*

- Conducted a thorough evaluation of the economic impact of the newly implemented payroll tax in the State of Querétaro. This involved analyzing the tax's effects on various sectors, assessing potential financial implications for businesses, and forecasting long-term economic outcomes. My analysis provided crucial insights for policymakers and stakeholders in understanding the tax's broader economic ramifications.

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## **Ministry of Finance and Planning, Government of Veracruz.** *Deputy Director of Public Policy (05/2002-01/2004)*

- Served as the State's representative at the National Fiscal Coordination System, playing a key role in liaising and coordinating with national fiscal authorities to align state policies with national objectives.
- Proactively proposed and conducted detailed assessments of various fiscal policy initiatives. My work involved analyzing the potential impact of these policies on economic development, revenue generation, and financial stability, thereby aiding in the formulation of effective and sustainable fiscal strategies.

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## **Bank of Mexico, Mexico.** *Economist (01/2001-05/2002)*

- Actively collaborated within a specialized research team responsible for setting Mexico's long-term inflation target. This role involved in-depth economic analysis, forecasting, and policy recommendation, contributing to the establishment of a key macroeconomic parameter for the country's financial stability.

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## **BOARDS**

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### **G20/G7 Health and Development Partnership.** *Global Ambassador (08/2023-present)*

- Serve as a key representative of the partnership in various multilateral and academic fora, actively engaging with global leaders, policymakers, and academic experts to foster dialogue, share insights, and build strategic alliances in the field of health and development.
- Undertake representative duties on country missions, liaising with government officials, local stakeholders, and international bodies to advance the partnership's objectives, facilitate knowledge exchange, and strengthen international cooperation in health and development initiatives.

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### **Nuevo Leon Council.** *Counselor (03/2023-present)*

- Serve as a Counselor on the Public Finance Commission of the Council, providing expert advice and strategic guidance to the Minister of Finance of Nuevo Leon State. My role involves analyzing financial policies, suggesting improvements, and helping shape the fiscal strategy to enhance the state's financial health and economic development.

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### **Tactiv.** *Board Member/Managing Director (01/2021-02/2022)*

- Served as a Counselor on the economic analysis board of Tactiv Group, playing a pivotal role in guiding the company's economic strategy, analyzing market trends, and advising on investment decisions.
- As a Board Member of Tactiv Casa de Bolsa, contributed to the strategic oversight and direction of the firm, ensuring alignment with market opportunities and regulatory requirements, and fostering sustainable growth and financial stability.

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### **PEMEX.** *Representative to the Strategy Committee (01/2012-07/2014)*

- Served as a member of Pemex's strategy committee and as an alternate member of the Board of Management, contributing to strategic decisions in one of the country's most vital sectors.
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## PUBLICATIONS

### PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES - [ORCID ID: 0000-0002-9681-7693](#)

- [1] Duran-Fernandez, R., Bernal-Serrano, D., Garcia-Huitron, J. A., & Hutubessy, R. (2024). **Pandemic Preparedness and Response Financing: A Critical Systematic Review**. Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Forthcoming
- [2] Sadana, R., Duran-Fernandez, R., Bernal-Serrano, D., Garcia-Huitron, J. A., Obrizan, M., Dutt, D., Ileri, S.G., Framework for Building Up an Economy for Health for All. Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Forthcoming
- [3] Duran-Fernandez, R., & Santos, G. (2014). **An empirical approach to public capital, infrastructure, and economic activity: A critical review**. Research in Transportation Economics, 46(C), 3-16.
- [4] Duran-Fernandez, R., & Santos, G. (2014). **Gravity, distance, and traffic flows in Mexico**. Research in Transportation Economics, 46(C), 30-35.
- [5] Duran-Fernandez, R., & Santos, G. (2014). **A regional model of road accessibility in Mexico: Accessibility surfaces and robustness analysis**. Research in Transportation Economics, 46(C), 55-69.
- [6] Duran-Fernandez, R., & Santos, G. (2014). **A GIS model of the National Road Network in Mexico**. Research in Transportation Economics, 46(C), 36-54.
- [7] Duran-Fernandez, R. (2014). **Infrastructure policy in the USA-Mexico border: Evaluation and policy perspectives**. Research in Transportation Economics, 46(C), 70-102.
- [8] Duran-Fernandez, R., & Santos, G. (2014). **Road infrastructure spillovers on the manufacturing sector in Mexico**. Research in Transportation Economics, 46(C), 17-29.
- [9] Duran-Fernandez, R., & Santos, G. (2014). **Regional convergence, road infrastructure, and industrial diversity in Mexico**. Research in Transportation Economics, 46(C), 103-110.
- [10] Clark, G. L., Durán-Fernández, R., & Strauss, K. (2010). **'Being in the market': the UK house-price bubble and the intended structure of individual pension investment portfolios**. Journal of Economic Geography, 10(3), 331-359.
- [11] Duran-Fernandez, R. (2003). **La movilidad al interior de la distribución del ingreso en México durante el periodo 1984-2000**. Gaceta de Economía, ITAM, 9(17), 5-40.

### POLICY PAPERS, ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS [GOOGLE SCHOLAR](#)

- [1] Duran-Fernandez, R. **El nearshoring y México: Pasado, Presente y Visión de Futuro de la Globalización**. in Nearshoring: Retos y Oportunidades para la Integración y el Fortalecimiento de las Cadenas Globales de Valor en México. Ed. Tirant lo Blanch & Tecnológico de Monterrey. Mexico City, 2024.
- [2] Fuentes, R., Duran-Fernandez, R. & Montoya, M.A. (2024) Prices versus quantities: Re-thinking Electricity Subsidies in the context of Nearshoring in Mexico. The Oxford Institute for Energy Studies. <https://www.oxfordenergy.org/publications/prices-versus-quantities-re-thinking-electricity-subsidies-in-the-context-of-nearshoring-in-mexico/>
- [3] Duran-Fernandez, R. (2024). **Exploring innovative financing solutions for pandemic preparedness and response**. World Health Organization, Geneva, Forthcoming.
- [4] Duran-Fernandez, Roberto & de Carvalho Coutinho, Taciana. **The Amazon: A Puzzle Between Development and Sustainability?**, ZBW-Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, Kiel, Hamburg, 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/281668/3/240126%20Amazon%20Review.pdf>
- [5] Duran-Fernandez, R. **Nearshoring: Amazônia: Um Dilema entre Desenvolvimento e Sustentabilidade?**, Escuela de Gobierno y Transformación Pública. Mexico City & Monterrey, September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://egobiernoytp.tec.mx/es/blog/amazonia-um-dilema-entre-desenvolvimento-e-sustentabilidade>
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- [7] Duran-Fernandez, R. **Nearshoring: ¿Cómo responder a los retos económicos de América Latina? Repensar el Estado con una perspectiva orientada por misiones**, Escuela de Gobierno y Transformación Pública. Mexico City & Monterrey, September 2023. Retrieved from: <https://blog.egobiernoytp.tec.mx/misiones>
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- [10] Duran-Fernandez, R. y García Huitrón, A. **México a tres años de la pandemia del COVID-19: ¿Qué hacemos ahora?**, Revista Este País, Número 381. Mexico City, February 2023. Retrieved from: [https://estepais.com/tendencias\\_y\\_opiniones/mexico-pandemia-covid-19-que-hacemos/](https://estepais.com/tendencias_y_opiniones/mexico-pandemia-covid-19-que-hacemos/)
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- [13] Duran-Fernandez, R. **Nearshoring: 10 preguntas y respuestas sobre el tema del que todos hablan**, EGADE Ideas Thought Leadership in Action. Monterey, February 2023 Retrieved from: <https://egade.tec.mx/es/egade-ideas/investigacion/nearshoring-10-preguntas-y-respuestas-sobre-el-tema-del-que-todos-hablan>
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- [7] Inter-American Development Bank. **The Caribbean in the New Global Commercial Context Identification of Niches in Global Value Chains Identification of niches in Global Value Chains in Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, Guyana, Surinam, and Trinidad & Tobago**. 2023 Washington, D.C.: Inter-American Development Bank,
- [8] The WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All: **One year overview**. Geneva: World Health Organization, November 2022. Retrieved from: [https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/council-on-the-economics-of-health-for-all/who-council-eh4a\\_oneyearoverview\\_30112022.pdf?sfvrsn=a9f52edf\\_3&download=true](https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/council-on-the-economics-of-health-for-all/who-council-eh4a_oneyearoverview_30112022.pdf?sfvrsn=a9f52edf_3&download=true)
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## CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

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- "2023 International Conference on Resilient Systems (ICRS)"* Pandemic Preparedness and Response Financing: A Critical review, Mexico City, 25-30 June, 2023
- "H20 Summit"* Geopolitical Order at Turning Point & Implications on the Future of Health4All, G20 Health and Development Partnership, Geneva, 20 May 2023
- "The Roadmap to Sustainable Finance in Health Roundtable"* Discussion in the side-lines of the IMF Spring Meetings, G20 Health and Development Partnership, Washington D.C. 11 April 2023
- "Prince Mahidol Award Conference (PMAC),"* Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, Bangkok, 2023
- "7th Mexico Infrastructure Project Forum,"* Industry Exchange LLC, Monterrey, 2022
- "Financiamiento de la Agenda Metropolitana: el Sistema Nacional de Coordinación Fiscal,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, Puebla, 2021
- "Financiamiento de la Agenda Metropolitana: el Sistema Nacional de Coordinación Fiscal,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, Hidalgo, 2020
- "Liderazgo e Innovación gubernamental,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey, 2020
- "Liderazgo Transformacional para Sonora: Reactivación Económica,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, Hermosillo, 2020
- "Estrategias de Reconstrucción: México después de la Pandemia Implicaciones para las Finanzas Públicas,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey, 2020
- "Perspectivas Económicas: Oportunidades y Riesgos,"* Speyside Group México, Mexico City, 2019
- "Gestión Estratégica de las Finanzas Públicas,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, Ciudad Obregón, 2018
- "Seminario Estratégico de Administración Municipal,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, San Pedro Garza García, 2018
- "Planeación para el Desarrollo Municipal: Gestión en Base a Resultados,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, San Pedro Garza García, 2018
- "Taller de trabajo - programa Infraestructura para el Desarrollo en América Latina,"* Corporación Andina de Fomento, Bogotá, 2018
- "Seminario de liderazgo y gestión de proyectos,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey, 2018
- "Seminario Estratégico de Administración Municipal,"* Escuela de Gobierno Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey, 2018
- "Seminario de Infraestructura en el Desarrollo de América Latina,"* Corporación Andina de Fomento, La Habana, 2015
- "Seminario Modelos para el Análisis de Accesibilidad Carretera,"* Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público, Mexico City, 2009
- "Regional convergence, infrastructure, and industrial diversity in Mexico,"* 48th European Congress of the Regional Science Association International, Liverpool, 2008
- "Gravity, Distance, and Traffic Flows in Mexico,"* Universities Transport Research Group, Southhaption, 2008
- "Assessing the Economic Impact of Transport Infrastructure on Regional Economic Development in Mexico,"* World Conference on Transport Research, Berkeley 2007
- "Economic Spillovers of Transport Infrastructure on the Manufacturing Sector in Mexico: An Empirical Assessment at Regional Level,"* European Association of Young Economist, Hamburg 2007
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## MISCELLANEOUS

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<i>Languages</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Spanish (native)</li><li>English (fluent)</li><li>French (basic)</li></ul>
<i>Quantitative skills</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advance statistics</li><li>Advanced econometrics, times series analysis, and spatial econometrics</li><li>Multivariate analysis</li><li>Supervised learning and unsupervised learning</li><li>Software: Stata, R, Arc/GIS</li></ul>

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