Juan N. Pava

Education

Stanford University 2026–Present
M.A. in International Politics – Track: Governance and Development

New York University 2018–2023
B.A. in Economics; B.A. in Philosophy – Minors: Mathematics, French
Honors: *Cum Laude* (GPA 3.8/4.0); High Honors in Philosophy; Presidential Honors Scholar Program; Dean's List (all semesters); Founder's Day Award

Additional coursework

- MITx MicroMasters in Data, Economics, and Design of Policy (2023–present): Foundations of Development Policy; Political Economy of Development; Designing & Running Randomized Evaluations; Data Analysis for Social Sciences
- Harvard University — Economics of Innovation (Summer 2019); Columbia University — Ethics of War and Political Violence (Summer 2017; Dean's Leadership Award).

Research Experience

Tech Ethics & Policy Research Fellow, Stanford University 2023–Present
McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society (2023–2024); Stanford HAI (2024–2026)

- Author and support institutional research on AI governance in the Global South (white papers, RFIs, issue briefs), covering AI sovereignty, digital inclusion, and low-resource languages.
- Core research-team member for the AI Index (2025–26), Stanford HAI's flagship annual report. Chapters 3, 8 & 9.
- Helped launch and coordinated Stanford HAI's educational program on AI for social impact, developed in partnership with the Stanford d.school for social sector leaders.
- Program Manager for the AI for Accessibility Collective (Google.org-funded), a multi-institution partnership (Stanford, UCL, MIT, UW) building an AI toolkit for disability communities.
- Conducting quantitative and qualitative analyses for Stanford HAI impact evaluations.
- Coordinating panelist for the Ethics & Society Review (Stanford's IRB-like board for AI research).

Research Assistant, Stanford University 2024–Present
Human Trafficking Data Lab, Stanford University

- Currently co-authoring a paper with faculty evaluating legal and statistical frameworks for human trafficking and labor exploitation.
- CITI/HIPAA Certification (September 2024).

Research Assistant, Private Council for Competitiveness Summer 2022
Consejo Privado de Competitividad, Colombia

- Researched government efficiency, healthcare systems, and digitalization in Latin America.
- Produced case studies and public-policy analyses; drafted sections of the national competitiveness report.

Student Assistant, Colombian Studies Initiative 2021–2023
New York University

- Supported the development of the first Inter-American Colombian research center in the United States.
- Supported academic and cultural programming; built outreach and communications infrastructure reaching 40,000+ users.

Teaching & Editorial Roles

Teaching Assistant, "Demystifying AI: Insights from Stanford HAI" Summer 2026

Stanford Continuing Studies

- Support instruction for a non-technical course based on the AI Index, offered with Stanford HAI, on AI's social, ethical, and policy dimensions.

Staff Writer, The Economics Review Spring 2022
New York University

- Wrote economics articles on welfare, political economy, and the Russo-Ukrainian conflict.

Editor and Paper Reviewer, The Philosophy Forum Spring 2022
New York University

- Reviewed and edited papers for NYU's 1st Undergraduate Philosophy Conference; moderated presentations and discussions.

Publications

Institutional Publications (Stanford HAI)

Sajadieh, S., Fattorini, L., Perrault, R., Gil, Y., Parli, V., Santarlasci, L., **Pava, J. N.,** Maslej, N., Altman, R., Brynjolfsson, E., Brodley, C., Clark, J., Dignum, V., Kumar, V., Landay, J., Lyons, T., Manyika, J., Niebles, J. C., Shoham, Y., Tabassi, E., Wald, R., Walsh, T., Weld, D., (2026) AI Index Report, 2026. preprint arXiv. https://arxiv.org/abs/2606.15708

Meinhardt, C., **Pava, J. N.,** Yee, C., Landay, J. A., (2026) "The Commercial Landscape of AI Sovereignty Offerings" Stanford HAI.

Pava, J. N., Mullaney, T.S., Meinhardt, C., Gao, A., Yang, D., (2026) "How Can AI Support Language Digitization and Digital Inclusion?" Stanford HAI.

Pava, J. N., Meinhardt, C., Cryst E., Landay, J.A., (2026) "AI Sovereignty's Definitional Dilemma" Stanford HAI (blog post).

Pava, J. N., Meinhardt, C., Badi-Uz-Zaman, H., Friedman, T., Truong, S.T., Zhang, D., Cryst, E., Marivate, K., Koyejo, S. (2025) "Mind the (Language) Gap: Mapping the Challenges of LLM Development in Low-Resource Languages." Stanford HAI.

Meinhardt, C., Friedman, T., Badi-Uz-Zaman, H., Zhang, D., Balbotín, R., **Pava, J. N.,** Raman, V., Klyman, K., Schaake, M., Caers, J., Fukuyama, F. (2024). "Response to USAID's Request for Comment on AI in Global Development Playbook." Stanford HAI.

Di Troia, S., Parli, V., **Pava, J. N.,** Badi-Uz-Zaman, H., Fitzsimmons, K. (2024). "Inspiring Action: Identifying the Social Sector AI Opportunity Gap." Stanford HAI.

Working Papers

Pava, J. N., Aletrais, L., Brunner J., Miller, G., Babiarz, K., *"Words that Bind"* (working title). Stanford Human Trafficking Data Lab. In progress.

Other Writing

Pava, J. N. (2023). "Countering Belief Resistance: Reflections on Tommie Shelby's Tanner Lectures." McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society, Stanford.

Pava, J. N. (2023). "Civility and Its Discontents: A Letter on When We're Permitted to Break the Law." *The Harper Review*, University of Chicago.

Conferences and Presentations

Pava, J. N., (May 2026) "How Can AI Support Language Digitization and Digital Inclusion?" TETHICON, 2026

Mullaney, T.S., Diyi Y., **Pava, J. N.,** Meinhardt, C., (April 2026) "How Can AI Support Language Digitization and Digital Inclusion?" HAI & SDS Seminar.

Pava, J. N. (July 2024) *"Ni equidad ni recursos: el doble desafío de los idiomas subrepresentados."* Institute of Innovation, Science & Entrepreneurship for Competitiveness (Mexico).

Pava, J. N. (May 2023) "Reconciling the Status Quo: A Defense of Liberal Well-Being Policy" at the 49th Undergraduate Research Conference at New York University.

Pava, J. N. (May 2022) *"Evolutionary Autonomy: Debunking the Darwinian Dilemma."* University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

Selected Media & Press

Quoted on AI Sovereignty and the objectives around it – *IT Brew* (April 2026)
Quoted on AI Index on Responsible AI findings – *VKTR* (May 2026)

Research Interests

Political theory; political economy of development; AI governance; digital labor and exploitation theory; human rights; technology & society.

Awards and Honors

- **Founders Day Award**, NYU
- **High Honors in Philosophy**, NYU
- **Dean's Honors List (every semester)**, NYU
- **Prix d'Excellence en Français**, NYU
- **Dean's Leadership Award**, Columbia University

Technical Skills

Programming & Data: R, Stata, SurveyCTO, Qualtrics
Other Research Tools: LaTeX, MS Office, data visualization tools
Languages: Spanish (native), English (native-level), French (advanced)

Service

Volunteer, Justice at Last, Ongoing
Newsletter, outreach, and logistics support.

Teacher, Big Questions at NYU Fall 2021
Taught introductory philosophy classes for middle-school students (STRIDE Program).

Student Activist Coordinator, Amnesty International 2016–2019
Spokesperson, event organizer and student leader for NYC student groups.