

BESIKI LUKA KUTATELADZE



FLORIDA
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

[Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice](#)

[Center for the Administration of Justice](#)

11200 SW 8th ST, PCA 364A and MARC 270, Miami, FL 33199

Tel.: (305) 348 4892 Email: bkutel@fiu.edu Twitter: [@BesikiLuka](#)

- I am a jurist from Georgia and a Ph.D. from the United States. I currently serve as an Associate Professor in the *Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice*, and as an Associate Director for Prosecution and Courts in the *Center for the Administration of Justice* at Florida International University (FIU) where I manage research projects and mentor doctoral students.
- Prior to joining FIU, I served as the Research Director at the *Institute for State & Local Governance* where I oversaw a department of 15 researchers. From 2010 to 2014, I was the Research Director in the Prosecution and Racial Justice Program of the *Vera Institute of Justice* where I led research projects in five district attorney's offices.
- I have also worked on various rule-of-law and justice reform initiatives supported by the United Nations and DFID. I have 20 years of experience conducting criminal justice research internationally, including in DR Congo, Georgia, Haiti, Liberia, and across the United States.
- Over the past decade, my focus has been on prosecutorial reform through research and technical assistance. My areas of interest include prosecution, equality, racial justice, hate crimes, international rule of law, measurement and evaluation, and the development of performance indicators.
- My research has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Miami Herald*, and *The Huffington Post*.

Education

2008: PhD in Criminal Justice. The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. USA.

Dissertation: Introducing a new measurement of state punitiveness and testing it across the United States

Committee: Candace McCoy, James P. Lynch, and Diana R. Gordon

2005: MA in Criminal Justice. John Jay College of Criminal Justice. New York, USA.

Thesis: U.S. versus Europe: A comparative analysis of American, German, French and Russian punitiveness

2002: U.S. State Department Fellow from the Republic of Georgia – *Regional Scholar Exchange Program*

2002: ABD PhD in Criminal Procedure Law. Tbilisi State University, Criminal Procedure. Republic of Georgia.

1999: Qualification of a Jurist. Kutaisi State University, Faculty of Law. Republic of Georgia.

Work Experience

2019 – present: tenured **Associate Professor** in the *Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice*, Florida International University (FIU)

Since January 2020: **Associate Director for Prosecution and Courts**, the *Center for the Administration of Justice*, FIU

2016 – 2019: **Assistant Professor** in the *Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice*, FIU

In 2019, named as an FIU Top Scholar for Research

Current funded research projects:

Prosecutorial Performance Indicators: A research and technical assistance project: - *Principal Investigator* [Co-PIs: D. Stemen and R. Richardson]. The goal is to help prosecutors' offices to redefine the ways they measure success using a new set of performance indicators. The project also aims to update and advance the social science research on prosecution and sentencing using recent quantitative and qualitative data. Visit www.ProsecutorialPerformanceIndicators.org

LGBTQ/GNC hate crimes in Miami-Dade County: Improving awareness, service delivery, reporting, investigation, and prosecution - *Principal Investigator* [Co-PI: R. King]. The goal of this study is to enhance public safety through effective identification, investigation and prosecution of anti-LGBTQ/GNC hate crimes in Miami. The research was featured on the front page of [The Miami Herald](#) (Monday, Sep 21, 2020). For more information, see [Technical Report](#) and [Policy Brief](#).

Courses taught:

Applied Research in Human Rights and Criminal Justice, CCJ6675:

Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2019, Spring 2020

Research Methods, CCJ4700: Spring 2017

2014 April – 2016 May: **Research Director** for the *Institute for State and Local Governance*, the City University of New York. Responsible for developing the vision and plan for the institute's research department, hiring and supervising research staff, overseeing all research projects and building and maintaining relationships with funders and clients. Founder of the Equality Indicators Project, which measures equality over time (see equalityindicators.org).

2012 August – 2014 April: **Governance Consultant**, United Nations Development Program (UNDP). In 2012-2013, developed the guide to help UNDP country offices design Rule of Law programs/projects, monitor their implementation, and measure their effectiveness (see "Measurement, Evaluation and Technical Guides" below).

2010 March – 2014 March: **Research Director**, Prosecution & Racial Justice Program, *Vera Institute of Justice*.

Select projects:

Race and Prosecution in New York County. Measuring racial and ethnic disparities in prosecutorial decisions in Manhattan, and developing policy recommendation to remedy them. The New York Times [article](#) and [editorial](#) were devoted to study findings.

Disability Service Indicators. Developing indicators and guides to help disability and domestic violence organizations, as well as rape crisis centers, build their capacity to serve survivors with disabilities and track performance over time.

Evaluation of Victim Service Agencies for LGBTQ Survivors of Sexual and Domestic Violence. Developing indicators to measure the capacity and commitment of victim service agencies to serve LGBTQ survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

Continued serving as a senior researcher for Vera's International Department.

In 2011-12, headed up data collection, analysis and report development for the UN Rule of Law Indicators project in Haiti and Liberia.

2008 March – 2010 February: **Senior Research Associate**, International Program, *Vera Institute of Justice*.

Select projects:

United Nations Rule of Law Indicators. The project involved the development of the UN Rule of Law Indicators and piloting them in Haiti and Liberia. Responsibilities included: building relationships with the UN country missions, local governments and civil societies; assessing data availability and

data collection capacity; developing data collection instruments; designing a public opinion sampling frame; cleaning and analyzing data; interpreting results; and writing technical reports for the UN Security Council on countries' progress toward building criminal justice institutions (see "Reports" and "Measurement and Evaluation Guides" below).

Security Reform Project in the DR Congo. Served as a research consultant to the Effective Development Group (funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID)). Developed a quasi-experimental design framework for evaluating DFID-funded justice and security reforms in the Kivu region.

Police Stations Visitors Week, a project of the Altus Global Alliance (funded by DFID). Served as a lead researcher responsible for overseeing data entry in 25 countries, data accuracy, analyses, and drafting reports.

2008 March – 2008 May: **Research Consultant:** World Justice Project, American Bar Association
The project was carried out in Chile, India, Nigeria and the U.S. Responsible for public opinion and administrative data collection, statistical analysis, and the preparation of a final report for New York City.

2005 September – 2008 May: **Adjunct Professor/Graduate Teaching Fellow,** John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Courses taught:
Statistics, STA250: Fall 07, Spring 08 (2 sections per semester)
Comparative Corrections, COR303: Spring 07
Eastern European Criminal Justice, PSC250: Spring, Fall 06; Winter, Spring 07
Introduction to Criminal Justice, Spring 05

2001-2002: Lecturer and Research Fellow at Tbilisi State University, Georgia.
Lectured on *Criminal Procedure* and *Criminalistics* in Georgian and Russian languages (4 semesters)

Successful Fundraising History

2020-2022: The MacArthur Foundation: "Prosecutorial Performance Indicators: A research and technical assistance project."
Principal Investigator [Co-PIs: D. Stemen and R. Richardson] (\$2,000,000)

2020-2022: Bureau of Justice Assistance: "Assisting the combating violent crime in Jacksonville through strategic partnerships with communities, law Enforcement, and data scientists."
Co-Principal Investigator [PI: R. Richardson] (\$119,710)

2019-2020: The Charles Koch Foundation: "Advancing research on prosecutorial charging decision making."
Co-Principal Investigator [Co-PIs: R. Richardson and R. Meldrum] (\$36,000)

2018-2020: **The National Institute of Justice**, DOJ: "LGBTQ/GNC hate crimes in Miami-Dade County: Improving awareness, service delivery, reporting, investigation, and prosecution." 2017-IJ-CX-0031
Principal Investigator [Co-PIs: M. Williams and R. King] (\$499,597)

2018-2020: The MacArthur Foundation: "Advancing prosecutorial fairness and effectiveness through data and innovation: A multi-jurisdictional initiative."
Principal Investigator [Co-PIs: D. Stemen and R. Meldrum] (\$1,700,000)

2018-2018: The Charles Koch Foundation: "A study of the influence of charging decisions on disproportionate Sentencing."
Principal Investigator [Co-PI: R. Meldrum] (\$82,734)

- 2015-2017: The Rockefeller Foundation: “The implementation of equality indicators in New York City in 2016 and 2017, and expansion to five other cities.”
Co-Principal Investigator [Co-PI: V. Lawson] (**\$3,500,189**)
- 2015: The Rockefeller Foundation: “The implementation of equality indicators in New York City in 2015.”
Principal Investigator [Co-PI: V. Lawson] (**\$400,000**)
- 2015-2017: The New York County District Attorney’s Office: Serving as the technical assistance consultant on “The Criminal Justice Investment Initiative.” (**\$2,500,000**). Worked on the fundraising strategy with M. Jacobson, S. Carney, and V. Lawson
- 2015-2017: The MacArthur Foundation: “Performance Measurement for the Safety and Justice Challenge.” (**\$2,880,000**) Worked on the fundraising strategy with M. Jacobson, S. Carney, R. Daly & V. Lawson
- 2014: The Rockefeller Foundation: “Developing Indicators for Measuring Equality over Time”
Principal Investigator [Co-PI: V. Lawson] (**\$350,000**)
- 2012-2014: The Office on Violence against Women, DOJ “Developing Disability Service Indicators for Victim Agencies.”
Principal Investigator (**\$400,000**)
- 2012-2014: **The National Institute of Justice**, DOJ “Race and Prosecution in New York County.”
Principal Investigator (**\$389,000**)
- 2012-2013: The United Nations Development Programme: “Developing a Guide for Measuring Programme Effectiveness.”
Principal Investigator (**\$40,000**) [Co-PI: J. Parsons]
- 2011-2014: Office for Victims of Crime, DOJ “Evaluation of Victim Service Agencies for LGBTQ Survivors of Sexual and Domestic Violence.”
Principal Investigator (**\$180,000**)
- 2011-2012: The Ford Foundation, “Helping Prosecutors Manage Discretion and Reduce the Risk of Racial Bias.”
Principal Investigator (**\$450,000**)
- 2010-2012: The United Nations, “The Rule of Law Indicators Project, Phase II.”
Senior Researcher (**\$982,822**) [Chief researcher: J. Parsons]

Measurement, Evaluation, and Implementation Guides

[Implementation Guide for Prosecutorial Performance Indicators](#)

B. L. Kutateladze, R. Richardson, R. Meldrum, L. Liu, D. Stemen, D. Olson, & B. DuPont. Florida International University and Loyola University Chicago (2020)

[Why, What and How to Measure? A User’s Guide to Measuring Rule of Law, Justice and Security Programmes](#)

B. Kutateladze & J. Parsons. United Nations Development Program (2014)

[The United Nations Rule of Law Indicators: Implementation Guide and Project Tools](#)

(no authorship attributed) The United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (2011)

Publications

- Richardson, R., & Kutateladze, B. L. (2020). Tempered expectations: A qualitative study of prosecution reform. *Journal of Research in Crime & Delinquency*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022427820940739>
- Meldrum, R., Stemen, D., & Kutateladze, B. L. (2020). Progressive and traditional orientations to prosecution: An empirical assessment in four prosecutorial offices. *Criminal Justice & Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0093854820956672>
- Kutateladze, B. & Leimberg, A.* (2019). The influence of type of defense counsel on prosecutorial and judicial decision making in domestic violence cases. *Crime & Delinquency*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0011128718806901>
- Kutateladze, B. (2018). Tracing charge trajectories: A study of the influence of race in charge changes at case screening, arraignment, and disposition. *Criminology*, 56(1): 123-153.
- Kutateladze, B., & Lawson, V.* (2018). Is a plea really a bargain? An analysis of plea and trial dispositions in New York City. *Crime & Delinquency*, 26(7): 856-887.
- Kutateladze, B., & Lawson, V.* (2016). A new look at inequality: Introducing and testing a cross-sectional equality measurement framework in New York City. *Social Indicators Research*, 132(3): 993-1022.
- Kutateladze, B., & Lawson, V.* (2016). How bad arrests lead to bad prosecution: Exploring the impact of prior arrest on plea bargaining. *Cardozo Law Review*, 37(3), 973-993.
- Kutateladze, B., Andiloro, N.,* & Johnson, B. (2016). Opening Pandora's Box: How Does Defendant Race Influence Plea Bargaining Outcomes? *Justice Quarterly*, 33(3), 398-426.
- Kutateladze, B., Lawson, V.,* & Andiloro, N.* (2015) Does evidence really matter? An Exploratory analysis of the role of evidence in plea bargaining in felony drug cases. *Law & Human Behavior*, 36(5), 431-442.
- Kutateladze, B., Andiloro, N.,* Johnson, B., & Spohn, C. (2014). Cumulative disadvantage: Examining Racial and Ethnic Disparity in Prosecution and Sentencing. *Criminology*, 52(3), 514-551.
- Johnson, B., Spohn, C., King, R., & Kutateladze, B. (2014). Understanding Guilty Pleas: The National Science Foundation's Research Coordination Network. *The Criminologist*, 39(6).
- Kutateladze, B. (2011). Measuring state punitiveness in the United States. *Kriminalität und Kriminalpolitik (Crime and Crime Policy, German publication)*, 8(1), 151-179.
- Parsons, J., Kutateladze, B., Thornton, M., Bang, A., & Yaya, A. (2010). Justice indicators for post-conflict settings. *Hague Journal on the Rule of Law*, 2(2), 203-217.
- Kutateladze, B. (2009). *Is America really so punitive? Exploring a continuum of the U.S. criminal justice polices*. LFB Scholarly Publishing (298 pages).
- Kutateladze, B., & Crossman, A. M. (2009). An exploratory analysis of gender differences in punitiveness in two countries. *International Criminal Justice Review*, 19(3), 322-343.

*denotes graduate students, research associates or post-doctoral associates under my supervision

Reports

[Anti-LGBTQ hate crimes in Miami-Dade County: Research Summary and Policy Recommendations](#). Besiki Luka Kutateladze. Center for the Administration of Justice, Florida International University. September 16, 2020.

[Anti-LGBTQ hate crimes in Miami-Dade County: Improving awareness, service delivery, reporting, investigation, and prosecution: Technical Report](#). Besiki Luka Kutateladze. Center for the Administration of Justice, Florida International University. September 16, 2020.

[Race, Ethnicity and Prosecution in Duval, Clay and Nassau Counties, Florida](#). Center for the Administration of Justice, Florida International University (2019).

[Race, Ethnicity and Prosecution in Hillsborough County, Florida](#). Center for the Administration of Justice, Florida International University (2019).

[Prosecutorial Attitudes, Perspectives, and Priorities: Insights from the Inside](#). Center for the Administration of Justice, Florida International University (2018).

[Equality Indicators: Baseline Data for Measuring Progress Toward Greater Equality in New York City](#). Institute for State and Local Governance (2015). Victoria Lawson, Qian Zhang, Shawnda Chapman Brown, and Besiki Kutateladze

[Race and Prosecution in Manhattan: Research Summary](#). B. Kutateladze, W. Tymas & M. Crowley. Vera Institute of Justice (2014).

[Prosecution and Racial Justice in New York County: A Technical Report](#). B. Kutateladze & N. Andiloro. National Institute of Justice (2014).

[Prosecution and Racial Justice in New York County: A Partnership Report](#). O. Sideman. N. Andiloro & B. Kutateladze. National Institute of Justice (2014).

[Do Race and Ethnicity Matter in Prosecution: A Review of Empirical Studies](#). Vera Institute of Justice (2012)

Country Report – Liberia; The United Nations Rule of Law Indicators Project - Submitted to the Steering Committee of the United Nations Rule of Law Indicators Project (2010).

Country Report – Haiti; The United Nations Rule of Law Indicators Project - Submitted to the Steering Committee of the United Nations Rule of Law Indicators Project (2010).

Police Stations Visitors Week: Global Report 2009. Altus Global Alliance (March 2010).

Rule of Law Indicator Instruments: A Literature Review. A report to the Steering Committee of the United Nations Rule of Law Indicators Project (2008).

Research Covered in the News *(selection)*

[Hate crimes against gay Hispanic community in Miami rising](#) (Sep 21, 2020). The Miami Herald (front page)

[A new law was supposed to make Florida's criminal justice data radically transparent. It failed.](#) (July 2, 2020). The Florida Times Union

[Change Agents: A new wave of reform prosecutors upends the status quo](#) (June 1, 2019). The ABA Journal

[Hillsborough prosecutors dish on racial disparities, fairness for FIU study](#) (Dec 18, 2018). The Tampa Bay Times

[What makes a good prosecutor? A new study of Melissa Nelson's office hopes to find out](#) (March 12, 2018). The Florida Times Union

[Study Finds Racial Disparity in Criminal Prosecutions](#) (July 8, 2014). The New York Times

[How Race Skews Prosecutions](#) (July 14, 2014). The New York Times

[Study Finds Racial Disparities In Manhattan DA's Office](#) (July 8, 2014). The Huffington Post.

Study Finds Racial Disparity in Criminal Prosecutions (July 9, 2014). The New York Foundation.

Conference and Symposia Presentations

- 2019: European Society of Criminology *Ghent, Belgium, September 18-21*
Kutateladze, B. "Prosecution of Hate Crimes in Miami."
- 2019: American Society of Criminology *San Francisco, USA, November 13-16*
Kutateladze, B. "Advancing Prosecutorial Fairness and Effectiveness through Data and Innovation."
- 2018: American Society of Criminology *Atlanta, GE, USA, November 13-17*
Kutateladze, B. "Advancing Prosecutorial Fairness and Effectiveness through Data and Innovation."
- 2015: Cardozo Law School Symposium *New York City, NY, USA, December 3-4*
Paper presentation on Race and Prosecution in New York County, as part of "The Underbelly of the beast: Misdemeanor practice in the era of broken windows and saturation policing".
- 2014: American Society of Criminology *San Francisco, CA, USA, November 17-20*
Kutateladze, B. & Andiloro, N. "Opening Pandora's box: How does defendant race influence plea bargaining outcomes."
- 2012: American Society of Criminology *Chicago, IL, USA, November 13-17*
Kutateladze, B. "Race and prosecution in a large north-eastern urban jurisdiction."
- 2011: American Society of Criminology *Washington DC, USA, November 17-21*
Kutateladze, B. "An analysis of racial disparity in case outcomes in Milwaukee county DA's office."
- 2010: American Society of Criminology *San Francisco, CA, USA, November 17-21*
Kutateladze, B., McKenzie, W., Turner, E. & Menyard, Y. "Prosecution and Racial Justice: Lessons Learned in Addressing Racial Disparity in Case Outcomes."
- 2010: Justice Research and Statistics Association and Bureau of Justice Statistics National Conference
Portland, ME, USA, October 28-29

Kutateladze, B. "Examining Racial Disparity in Prosecution: Preliminary Findings from Two Jurisdictions."

2010: Annual Indicators Conference of the Justice Systems

Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA, USA, October 14-15

Kutateladze, B., & Thornton, M. "Police Stations Visitors Week 2009".

2010: National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts

New Brunswick, NJ, USA, April 28-May 1

Kutateladze, B. "Race and prosecution: Preliminary findings from Mecklenburg County".

2010: Twelfth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Salvador, Brazil, April 12-19

Kutateladze, B., & Ribeiro, L. "Improving public engagement with the police in diverse settings: Police Station Visitors Week 2009".

Parsons, J., & Kutateladze, B. "Justice indicators: A flexible approach to measuring rule of law."

2010: Altus Global Alliance International Conference

Abuja, Nigeria, March 22-27

Kutateladze, B. "Global findings from the Police Stations Visitors Week 2009 in 20 countries."

2009: Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

Boston, MA, USA, March 11-15

Kutateladze, B., & McCoy, C. "A test of 'state punitiveness' of fifty U.S. states."

2008: Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

Cincinnati, OH, USA, March 11-15

Kutateladze, B. "Understanding public attitudes toward punishment: Methodological suggestions."

2007: American Society of Criminology

Atlanta, Georgia, GA, November 14-17

Kutateladze, B., "Westernizing the criminal justice systems of Eastern European countries: From the Soviet criminal process to the Inquisitorial-Accusatorial criminal trials."

2007: American Psychological Association

San Francisco, CA, USA, August 17-20

Kutateladze, B., & Crossman, A. M. "Reconceptualizing punitiveness: Distinguishing among individuals' attitudes toward punishment across sex, race and victimization history."

2007: Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

Seattle, WA, USA, March 14-17

Kutateladze, B. "U.S. vs. Europe: A comparative analysis of American, German, French and Russian punitiveness."

Graduate Student and Post-Doctoral Fellow Mentorship

Dylan Matthews, 2020-present – *Dissertation chair*

Rebecca Richardson, 2018-2019, Post-doctoral associate – *Primary mentor/supervisor*

- In 2019, she received a tenure-track assistant professor position in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida International University

Peculiar Awa, 2016-2019, doctoral student – *Dissertation chair*

- In 2019, she received a tenure-track assistant professor position in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Central Missouri

Britanee Kane, 2018-2019, doctoral student – *Dissertation committee member*

Connor Concannon, 2018-2020, doctoral student at John Jay College of Criminal Justice – *External reviewer*

Service

Peer reviewer for: *Crime & Delinquency* (since 2017); *Criminology & Public Policy* (since 2017); *Social Forces* (since 2015); *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* (since 2015); *Criminology* (since 2013); *Justice Quarterly* (since 2012); *the International Criminal Justice Review* (since 2009); *Criminal Justice Review* (since 2009).

Peer reviewer for: *The University of California Press* (since 2014)

Steering committee membership: Research Coordinating Network: Understanding Plea Bargaining, funded by the National Science Foundation. Shawn Bushway (PI), Allison Redlich (co-PI) (2013-2015)

CUNY Equality Conference organizing committee (2015). The conference included 26 high-profile speakers and more than 300 invited guests from community groups, policy think-tanks, government agencies and academia.

Advisor on the research project examining racial and ethnic disparities in Brooklyn's District Attorney's Office by the Institute for State and Local Governance with funding from the Arnold Foundation.

Languages - Fluent in *Georgian* (native), *Russian*, and *English*. Learning *Spanish*.
