



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Summer 2022 Practicum

Terms of Reference

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Practicum on Puerto Rico

Summer 2022

Equally American Team

Key Questions:

In what ways is Puerto Rico discriminated against by the federal government? How and why are Puerto Ricans treated like second-class citizens?

What is the significance of Puerto Ricans being ineligible for benefits like SSI and SNAP?

How have these policies affected life for Puerto Ricans on the island (those in need of these benefits but are unable to receive them)?

How does this discriminatory treatment affect U.S. citizens on the mainland? Is it in the U.S. national interest that federal benefits become more inclusive to U.S. territories and how so?

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ICP – Fábricas Culturales Team

Key Questions:

What challenges do the Fábricas Culturales face due to COVID-19, budgetary cuts, and the island's economic situation, and what options does ICP have for overcoming them as it re-launches and expands?

What development, programmatic and marketing strategies/tools has ICP utilized in the past to successfully promote and implement its fábricas culturales program? What ideas were tested but ultimately failed, and why?

How can ICP use the fábricas to help artists expand their local and export markets to the mainland and Latin America?

What can ICP do to further enhance the fábricas to strengthen the arts, promote economic growth, and help artists' professional development?

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ICP – UNESCO TEAM

Key Questions:

Why hasn't UNESCO recognized Puerto Rico's intangible cultural property, and what can be done to overcome the obstacles to recognition?

What precedents exist that could allow for Puerto Rico gain recognition for its own cultural property? How can those precedents be used to strengthen Puerto Rico's application?

In what ways can community engagement be utilized to change UNESCO's position? Is there a potential role for Washington to become an advocate for Puerto Rican recognition?

How can the international narrative, including rallying Latin America's and other countries' support, be shifted to recognize Puerto Rico's cultural sovereignty?

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