COMPARATIVE POLITICS / YOAV DUMAN / VERSION 4

On the Record Instructor Guide

Use the assignment after students have studied state capacity and domestic autonomy. Everyone starts with Ecuador's 2019 diesel decision. Students make one judgment, work through new records, and then apply the reasoning to Colombia's 2024 negotiations. Read the strength of the inference in the report alongside the words filed before the reveal.

Assignment settings

Phase	Suggested time	Student action	Writing minimum
Setup	5 min	Open the HTML file and choose For Class.	
First judgment	21 min	Read EC1–EC2. File a claim using these records of events through October 4.	50 words
Ecuador audit	32 min	Read EC3–EC5. Explain what changed and test one rival.	170 words
Colombia transfer	17 min	Read CO1–CO4. Apply the distinction to the revised rule.	120 words
Review	5 min	Save and inspect one PDF for Canvas.	
Total	About 80 min	Three filed responses. The grade is out of 100.	340 words

Canvas assignment text

Download On_the_Record_V4.html and open it in a browser. Choose For Class and enter your name and section. Work through the three responses in order. Your first judgment is preserved when you open the later Ecuador records. Write at least 340 words in total across the three boxes. Your instructor grades your reasoning out of 100.

At Review, choose Print or save as PDF. Open the saved PDF and check that it contains your name, all three responses, and an end marker. Upload that PDF to Canvas. The JSON backup lets you move or recover a draft.

Before class

Use the Version 4 file and rubric together. Check the download and print workflow on a student device. All required evidence is embedded, and later source links provide provenance. Use the same three prompts in an accessible alternate workflow when needed. Give EC1–EC2 first, collect the initial response, then release EC3–EC5 and finally CO1–CO4.

Use the pacing as an estimate. A learner's device, reading time and prior familiarity affect how long the assignment takes.

GRADE THE REASONING

The 100 Point Rubric

Use one judgment per criterion. Award within a band according to the completeness and precision of the evidence. A well-supported decision to retain or narrow the first claim can earn full credit. Grade a rival account on what it explains and how the evidence could distinguish it.

Criterion	Strong	Grounded with gaps	Partial or weak
Authority and evidence 25 points	23–25. Names who could change the rule and what a public body actually did. Correctly scopes the cited task, prices or observations.	18–22. Identifies the decision and implementation evidence, with a modest gap in role, scope or warrant.	10–17. Names a body or observation with an incomplete link to its role. 0–9. Little valid evidence or a materially wrong reading.
Mechanism and rival 30 points	27–30. Connects a group's actions to a specific decision. A plausible rival could produce the same decision. One feasible source gives distinct expected findings.	21–26. A supported mechanism with a plausible rival or test that needs more precision.	12–20. Recognizes a sequence or demand with a weak causal link. 0–11. A label or chronology substitutes for an explanation.
Challenging evidence 25 points	23–25. Identifies the actual initial claim and explains what a dated record changes in its warrant. States a defensible revised or retained claim and what remains open.	18–22. Correctly uses the update but is less precise about the original inference or remaining limit.	10–17. Describes later history with limited reflection on the initial claim. 0–9. Little relevant use of the later record.
Transfer 20 points	18–20. Compares the first effective diesel rules. Uses a Colombian bargaining record and traces a distinct delivery task with a defensible limit.	14–17. Applies the distinction accurately but leaves a major part of the comparison or scope implicit.	8–13. Identifies part of one case with little cross-case reasoning. 0–7. Comparison is missing or materially wrong.

Assign each element once

Score the test that distinguishes the rival under Mechanism. Score the change in the student's warrant under Challenging evidence. Keep correct legal or measurement work creditable if the causal argument goes too far. The word floors open the next stage. Instructors assign the points.

CALIBRATION

Read for the Claim and Its Warrant

A strong first judgment and audit

At the October 4 cutoff, a fare deal gives some reason to expect one group to end its strike. Continued Indigenous mobilization leaves the wider claim open. After EC3 and EC4, an answer can say that putting Decree 883 itself on the table made accommodation through fares alone less plausible for the remaining coalition. The negotiated end to mobilization and repeal support a bargaining account. EC5 supports specific dispatch and price-check activity.

For a rival about the same decision, a draft reversal independently prepared because officials could not restore supply under the new rule could also explain repeal. A dated executive instruction showing reversal was already decided for that reason would favor the rival. A record showing officials agreed to repeal only after an assurance that collective action would end would favor the bargaining account. Grade the test as proposed evidence. The current packet leaves the counterfactual open.

A strong Colombia transfer

In Ecuador, the first effective rule after the agreement about diesel restored the old authorized price. In Cali, the regulator’s reference rose from COP 9,892 to 11,800 and the first revised rule set it at COP 10,292. Thus COP 400 of Cali’s COP 1,908 rise remained. The Ministry’s COP 1,904 headline is a separate series. The second COP 400 increase was scheduled for December.

CO2 supports an inference that bargaining shaped the size of the first increase. The delegates sought later dates than the final agreement specified, so timing shows a further limit. CO3 records a real administrative task, CREG’s calculation and publication. CO4 adds local observations from different stations or visits. Those observations cannot measure actual amounts paid countrywide.

Two useful boundary responses

Student wording	Scoring implication
The first filing said the fare deal addressed only transport leaders. The new demand and settlement support keeping that claim. I now know what CONAIE put on the agenda and what was conceded.	Can earn full credit for a justified retention when the response explains the specific record and bounds the warrant.
The initial diesel rise was followed by protest, so all Indigenous groups forced repeal. Lower prices at sampled stations show full Colombian compliance.	Award independently correct chronology. Reduce the unsupported influence and implementation inferences on their relevant criteria.

A later settlement is evidence about the bargain. It is also useful to ask which actor’s internal reasons the file actually records.

TEACHING USE

Handling Drafts and Extending the Lesson

Three points to listen for in the debrief

First ask which task the government carried out. Issuing and repealing a price rule, publishing a reference schedule, and observing a sale are separate acts. Ask what kind of source could establish each one.

Next ask students who bore the costs and had the means to change the decision. A fare agreement concerns the costs of transport operators and riders. A diesel change also affects the public subsidy budget. Ask how these stakes might have made two settlements attractive to different groups.

Finally, ask how a justified revision differs from a reversal. Have a learner name the new record, explain whether it changed the claim or its warrant, and state the strongest argument the remaining evidence can support.

Drafts and class records

For Class preserves a first judgment, supports moving or copying the learner’s own writing within one field, and provides a report for Canvas after all three filings. For Fun provides the same staged records with optional notes and separate progress. The current edition uses a separate backup format. Use the earlier activity to open its older draft.

If browser storage is unavailable, use Draft tools to download a JSON backup before closing. On another device, open Version 4 in the same mode and restore the backup. Review must contain your three current filed responses. Any new editing requires another filing before the report is current.

The local file sequences the records as part of ordinary use. For a formally controlled exam, use an instructor-controlled release of the evidence. The student-device browser and print workflow should be verified before a class launch.

Optional sovereignty extension

If your lecture also assesses sovereignty directly, use the existing Micronesia record separately. Ask which document establishes the FSM’s international standing, who holds a specified defense authority under the Compact, and what an external obligation can tell students about legal authority in that particular domain. This extension sits outside the 100-point fuel assignment.

UN General Assembly admission · Compact of Free Association

PREPARATION

Record Map and Source Locators

First release

EC1 A new diesel price · October 1–3, 2019

Central Bank of Ecuador (October inflation report, p. 27, diesel price row and margin note) · Primicias (October 1 announcement and benefit)

EC2 A fare agreement with transport leaders · October 3–4, 2019

Central Bank of Ecuador and World Bank (Chronology for October 3 and 4, compiled after the events)

Audit release

EC3 What CONAIE put on the table · October 12, 2019

Primicias, reproducing the organization's public announcement (October 12 report and embedded CONAIE announcement) · El Universo (October 12 report of the public announcement)

EC4 The agreement changes the rule · October 13–15, 2019

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (2019 report, paragraphs 276–278) · Executive Decree 894 (Registro Oficial 59, p. 4, articles 1–2 and transitional provision)

EC5 Fuel dispatch and price checks · October 15, 2019

Ecuador Ministry of Energy (October 15 bulletin, dispatch and checks paragraphs)

Transfer release

CO1 An increase in the price rule · August 30–31, 2024

Colombia Ministry of Transport (August 30 announcement, stated change and projected fiscal savings) · CREG circular 49 (Cali row, effective August 3) · CREG circular 62 (Cali row, effective August 31)

CO2 Two offers on size and timing · September 6, 2024

Noticias Caracol (September 6, 12:27 a.m. update, delegates' proposal) · Colombia Ministry of Transport (September 6 agreement, first bullet and next steps)

CO3 The regulator publishes a new schedule · September 6–7, 2024

Colombia Ministry of Transport (September 7 bulletin describing resolutions 40372 and 40373) · CREG circular 66 (September 6, city reference prices effective September 7)

CO4 Two looks at prices on the ground · August 31 and September 7, 2024

El País of Cali, August 31 (Station observations in the body) · El País of Cali, September 7 (Paragraph beginning Cali es, hoy)

Opening source locators appear with the first records. Publication links open after the initial filing to reduce accidental exposure to the outcome.