

# VIDUSHI KAUSHIK

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## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Philosophy, School of Law, and Government** 2025

**Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellow - [Global India Project](#)**

**Dublin City University, Dublin, Republic of Ireland**

**Thesis Title:** India's Response to Internal Armed Violence: Surrender and Rehabilitation in Maoist India. The thesis was an ethnographic inquiry on the (un) intended consequences of 'surrender and rehabilitation' policy on State-society relations in central India.

**Master of Philosophy in Development Studies (Distinction)** 2016

**Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India**

**Dissertation Title:** Life After Surrender: A Look at the Surrender and Rehabilitation Policy in India's Maoist Conflict in Chhattisgarh.

**Master of Arts in Disaster Studies (Upper second-class honours)** 2010

**Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India**

**Specialization:** Conflict, Peace and, Development; Complex emergencies; Humanitarian Response

**Dissertation Title:** Civil Society and Peacebuilding in Armed Conflict: Case Study of Manipur.

**Bachelor of Journalism (Honors) (Second class honours)** 2005

**University of Delhi, India**

**Subjects:** Development Communication, Media Studies, Social-Psyche & Mass Culture, International Relations, Indian Government & Politics.

## EXISTING PUBLISHED WORK

**Kaushik V., Doyle J. (2026)** India's security approach and its space in global politics, *Revista UNISCI*. Doi:[10.31439/UNISCI-252](https://doi.org/10.31439/UNISCI-252)

**Kaushik V., Ripamonti D. (2021)** Maoist Conflict in India. In: Richmond O., Visoka G. (eds) *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Peace and Conflict Studies*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.  
[https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-11795-5\\_111-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-11795-5_111-1)

**Kaushik V., Ripamonti D. (2021)** "Debating Peace in Contested Spaces: Foregrounding Adivasi Assertion in Revolutionary India." IICRR blog. <https://iicrr.ie/debating-peace-in-contested-spaces/>

Engelbrecht G., **Kaushik V. (2015)** Community Based Protection Mechanisms, *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice*, 27:1, 43B 51. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10402659.2015.10001>

## PUBLICATION: WORK IN PROGRESS

**Kaushik V., (June 2026)** Running for peace or running from peace? *Conflict and Cooperation*. Under Peer Review.

**Kaushik V., Roads, bridges, and police camps: development as counterinsurgency.** Special Issue on 'Arboreal Nationalism' edited by Erella Grassiani and Hosna Shwely accepted in *Geoforum*. Submission in October 2026 for Peer Review.

**Kaushik V.**, Contentious politics: social movements and inner-state armed conflict. This is a chapter for an edited volume tentatively titled ‘South Asia—geographical perspectives on a dynamic region’. The book is an edited volume led by Dr. Miriam Wenner, University of Freiburg and published under the geography series by Springer-Nature. Planned date of publication: 2027.

**Book proposal underdevelopment:** Indigenous lifeworlds, state, armed violence and afterlives: Maoist conflict and contemporary India. Potential publisher: ‘The ethnographies of political violence’ series published by Penn Press by University of Pennsylvania Press. Planned date for proposal submission: Autumn 2026.

## **WORK HISTORY**

**Post-Doctoral Researcher, School of Law and Government, Dublin City University, Republic of Ireland** **August 2025 - July 2026**

Associated with the DCU Conflict Institute. Taught second-year module on ‘Guided Research’ to second-year undergraduate students of International Relations. Organised a two-day conference on 25 years of UNSC1325- ‘Women Peace and Security: Where are we? Where are we going?’. Pursued publications from doctoral thesis.

**Assistant Professor, School of Law and Government, Dublin City University, Republic of Ireland** **February 2025 - July 2025**

Taught second year undergraduate students of Economics, Politics and Law and International Relations module on ‘Research Design and Methods’, ‘Contemporary Political Terrorism’ and ‘IR and Emerging Challenges’.

**Researcher** **February 2024 – February 2025**  
**Dublin City University, Republic of Ireland**

Provided research support on women’s movement under DCU’s [Ireland North-South Project](#)

**Senior Research Consultant** **October 2023 – July 2025**  
**Sambodhi Research and Communications, India**

Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor on a UBS Optimus Foundation funded project on family-based alternative care in India—[Transform NEEV Collective](#). Led a team of three in designing and implementing a reflexive learning longitudinal MERL model for the entire consortium.

**Research Consultant** **June 2023**  
**Mapping Humanitarianism Initiative, India**

A cross-institutional initiative (OP Jindal University, Peace Centre Nagaland, and Doctors for You) in response to the outbreak of violence in Manipur in May 2023.

Leading a team of five, the project used open and local media sources for collating, tracking, and mapping violent incidents, casualty related data and local peacebuilding measures across Manipur.

**Program Manager** **July 2016 – July 2017**  
**Access to Justice Fellowship**  
**Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai**

Responsible for managing, reporting, and tracking the Access to Justice Fellows working across 12 states in India. Additionally worked on rapporteuring for the Universal Periodic Review for UNHRC. My responsibilities included:

- Monitoring of monthly activities of the Fellows
- Financial and Program Reporting

**Civilian Protection Officer  
Nonviolent Peaceforce, Philippines**

**October 2012 – January 2014**

My work involved implementing community-based protection mechanisms to reduce the impact of armed violence on civilians. Main responsibilities included:

- Implementation and monitoring of the Conflict Prevention Programme in Maguindanao Province, Mindanao, Philippines
- Advocacy and information sharing with state and non-state armed actors for proactive presence and to promote ‘Unarmed Civilian Peacekeeping.’
- Conflict mapping and analysis for area of responsibility
- Confidential reporting with UNICEF on Child Soldiers

Reporting on field activities and political analysis in area of responsibility

**Program Officer  
Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), New Delhi**

**September 2011 – July 2012**

Responsible for design, content and launch of their digital/online knowledge management initiative. The project aimed to synthesize and create a platform to share best practices on participatory research and programmatic practices in governance and strengthening democracy. Main responsibilities included:

- Synthesized papers on participatory practices in development initiatives vis-à-vis governance and democracy
- Travelled to field sites to document best practices and learning materials on participatory practices from partner organizations.
- Networking with partner organizations (domestic and international) for knowledge-sharing
- Documented case studies of community-based organizations as a part of a study on changing role of civil society organizations in South and Southeast Asia.

**Research Officer  
Conflict Risk, Vulnerability, and Impact Assessment  
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai**

**June 2010 – July 2011**

I was responsible for the overall management and implementation of a research study titled ‘Impact of Violence on Civilian Population in Manipur.’ My tasks included:

- Conceptualization of research design
- Supervised and implemented data collection in Manipur.
- Data cleaning, analysis and report writing.
- Coordinated field visits and meetings with government officials and authorities and other dissemination related activities.

**Trainee Journalist  
India Today Magazine, New Delhi**

**August 2006 – August 2007**

I worked as editorial and feature writer for the monthly supplement publication, ‘Simply’ under the India Today Group. My responsibilities included:

- Writing for the monthly edition of ‘Simply’ for New Delhi
- Editing features for seven other city editions of ‘Simply’
- Production and coordination of editorial content for all editions of ‘Simply’

**ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**February 2025:** Co-facilitating a two-day ‘EthnoLAB’ for post-graduate/doctoral students across the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, Dublin City University, Ireland

**September 2020 - February 2021:** Tutorial Assistant for module on 'Politics of South Asia' for 3<sup>rd</sup> year BA course in International Relations, Dublin City University (DCU)

**October 2020:** Conducted a one-day online seminar for graduate students for International Relations on 'Doing fieldwork- methods, pitfalls and ethical considerations', Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI)

**September 2018 – February 2019:** Taught 'Theoretical Perspectives to International Relations' for 2<sup>nd</sup> year BA course in International Relations, DCU

**November 2018:** Guest Lecture on 'Postcolonialism' to 3<sup>rd</sup> year students of BA in International Relations, DCU

**April 2018:** Guest Lecture on 'Internal Conflicts in India' for 3<sup>rd</sup> year students of BA in International Relations, DCU

### **SELECT WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES**

**July 2026:** Co-convened panel 'Matters of Risk: Infrastructures and Technologies of (In)Security and Polarization at the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), Poznan and Presented a paper on 'Roads, Bridges, and Police Camps: Infrastructure as Counterinsurgency' at the same conference on panel 'Towards an Anthropology of complicity: resistance, collaboration and the everyday labour of social transformation'.

**October 2025:** Organised a two-day conference on 25 years of UNSC1325- Women Peace and Security: Where are we? Where are we going?" at Dublin City University.

**November 2023:** Co-organised a two-day workshop on 'Deliberation, Participation and Democracy in Contemporary South Asia: Spaces, Practices, Voices' organized with funding from European Association of South Asian Studies (EASAS) at Dublin City University, Ireland.

**August 2023:** Co-convened a panel and presented my paper 'Mimetic rivalry and (de)legitimizing Adivasi agency in Chhattisgarh, India' under the Panel 'Changing contours of legitimacy and governance in India' at the European Conference on South Asian Studies, at Turin, Italy.

**May 2021:** Presented my paper 'Surrender/Insurgent: Leaving/Living a revolution' at online workshop on 'Perspectives on Governance by Non-State Armed Actors' organised by the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences, Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence.

**February 2020.** Presented observations from fieldwork in Chhattisgarh, India at a UNICEF staff workshop on working in 'Emergencies and Conflict', Chhattisgarh, India.

**October 2013.** Presented a paper titled 'Supporting Local Capacities of Conflict Affected Communities: Role of Community Based Protection Mechanisms and Unarmed Civilian Peacekeeping' at Human Security: Humanitarian Perspectives and Response Conference, Istanbul.

### **RESEARCH TRAINING**

**August - September 2020:** Virtual Summer School on 'Ethnographic Field Research Methods: Issues and Interpretations', European Consortium of Political Science Research (ECPR).

**August-September 2020:** Virtual Summer School on 'Critical Discourse Analysis', European Consortium of Political Science Research (ECPR).

**June 2016:** Summer School on Humanitarian Response and Post Conflict Reconstruction, Brown Advanced International Research Institute (BIARI), Brown University, USA.

### **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

- NVivo- Intermediate Level.
- Data Protection and Data Management and Ethical Considerations.
- Designing Monitoring and Evaluation for development interventions
- Research Design.
- Ethnographic field work and interviews.
- Narrative and interpretive analysis.
- Community work with vulnerable communities in complex emergencies.

### **LANGUAGES**

- Hindi: Fluency in Speaking, Writing and Reading
- English: Fluency in Speaking, Writing and Reading

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- Co-convenor, Anthropology of Peace, Conflict and Security Network (AePCS), EASA
- European Association for Social Anthropology (EASA)
- British International Studies Association (BISA)
- European Consortium of Political Research (ECPR)
- European Association of South Asian Studies (EASAS)

### **VOLUNTEER WORK AND INTERNSHIPS**

#### **Ireland India Institute, Dublin City University, Dublin**

Member of the organizing committee for Annual Conference on South Asia since 2018.

#### **Human Rights Alert, Manipur, North-East India**

Involved in documenting and verification of Human Rights Violations in the State.

#### **Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India**

Conducted damage and needs assessment for fire in squatter settlements in Bandra-east, Sub-urban Mumbai, India.

#### **Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai India**

Organised Relief support for Kosi Flood victims in the state of Bihar, India.

#### **Indian Express Newspaper, New Delhi**

Reported with the newspaper's Features section.

### **REFERENCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST**