

PREETI RAGHUNATH, PhD

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My current work focuses on historicising and contextualising governance and inequities pertaining to the data industries in South and Southeast Asia. Over the past decade, I have conducted qualitative research in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh and Malaysia. I bring with me international teaching, research, administrative and professional experience.

WORK EXPERIENCE (*Post-PhD*)

- **Lecturer (Communication and Media), School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University, Malaysia** – from November 2021
 - Teaching as part of the Masters in Communications and Media Studies (MCMS), the Bachelors of Digital Media and Communication (BDMC) and the graduate research coursework; supervision of Honours research theses.
 - Courses include Digital Asia Research Project (undergrad capstone), Global Media Industries (Masters), Communications and Media Management (Masters capstone), Creative Thinking Workshops (Masters), and sessions on Qualitative Digital Research (Honours) and Digital Ethnography (Graduate Coursework)
 - Coordinator, Masters in Communications and Media Studies (MCMS), School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University, Malaysia – from July 2022
 - Committee member for a potential new Masters programme
 - Instrumental in the signing of a five-year MoU focused on research cooperation between United Nations University-Macau and the School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University Malaysia; empanelled research consultant
 - Committees: School Executive Committee, School Education Committee, School Graduate Research Committee, Faculty Graduate Studies Committee, MCMS Board of Studies, Industry Advisory Board

- **Country Expert, India - Bottom-Up Initiatives and Anti-Corruption Technologies (BITACT): How citizens use ICTs to fight Corruption (ERC-funded) – University of Bologna, Italy** –April 2021 – March 2023
 - Facilitating qualitative research for the India part of the multi-country research project

- **Assistant Professor, Symbiosis Institute of Media and Communication (SIMC), India** – March 2020 – October 2021
 - Teaching as part of the Master of Arts (Mass Communication) and the MBA (Communication Management) programmes; supervision of Masters dissertations

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- **PhD in Communication** – “*Deliberating Community Radio in South Asia: A Critical Policy Ethnography*” - University of Hyderabad, India – 2019
- **Master of Arts (MA) in International Relations and Politics** – Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India – 2011 – 7.68/9 CGPA
- **Bachelor of Arts (BA – Triple Major) in Mass Communication and Journalism, Literature, Political Science**, St. Francis’ College for Women, an autonomous college of Osmania University, Hyderabad, India – 2009 – 79% overall

Summer Schools

- **Summer School of the Digital Methods Research Centre** - Queensland University of Technology (QUT) - 2022
- **Annenberg-Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute** - University of Oxford - 2013

PUBLICATIONS (*since 2012*)

Books

- Raghunath, Preeti. (2020). *Community Radio Policies in South Asia: A Deliberative Policy Ecology Approach*. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Raghunath, Preeti and Narasimhan, HariPriya (Eds.) (under contract). *A Media Anthropology of India*. Routledge.

Journal Publications

- Raghunath, Preeti. (submitted). ‘Critical is Decolonial, Critical is Southern’: Towards Critical Data Governance. Special Issue of *Technology and Regulation*.
- Raghunath, Preeti. (under revision). “Of mountains, islands, and policy”: Conducting a Critical Policy Ethnography in South Asia. *Qualitative Research*.
- Editorial for Special Issue: Raghunath, Preeti and Koshy, Susan (2022). (Re)iterations, Transgressions, Recognition: Politics and Practices of Media Policies in South Asia, *Journal of Digital Media and Policy*, 13(1)
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2022). Airing Imperium: A Historiography of Radio Governance in South Asia. *Global Media and Communication*, 18(1)
- Dutta, M., Ramasubramanian, S., Barrett, M., Elers, C. H., Sarwatay, D., **Raghunath, P.**, Kaur, S., Dutta, D., Jayan, P., Rahman, M., Tallam, E., Roy, S., Falnikar, A., Johnson, G. M., Mandal, I., Dutta, U., Basnyat, I., Soriano, C. R. R., Pavarala, V., Sreekumar, TT., Ganesh, S; Rathina Pandi, A, Zapata, D. (2021). Decolonizing open science: southern interventions. *Journal of Communication*, 71(5), 803-826
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2021). Translating Experience into Enunciation: On Conducting a Policy Ethnography in South Asia, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 56 (22)
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2021). MacBride Commission’s Legacy: Towards Equitable and Sustainable Technology Futures. *Media Development*, 2021 (2)

- Raghunath, Preeti. (2019). Human Security in a Datafying South Asia: Approaching Data Protection. *International Journal of Media Studies*, 1(1).
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2014). [The unfinished business of Nepal's community radio policy](#). *Media Asia*, 41(1), 22–23.
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2014). [Quelled voices and amplified silences](#), Himal Southasian's special issue on 'Growing Media, Shrinking Spaces', June, Vol. 27 (2).

Book Chapters

- Raghunath, Preeti (forthcoming, 2023/2024). Deliberation as Pedagogy: Gender, Intersectionality and Journalism Education in India. In Borges Rey et al (Eds) *The Routledge Companion to Journalism in the Global South*
- Raghunath, Preeti. (forthcoming, 2023). "Hated Speech": The Communicative Dimension of Progressive Politics and (Un)Democracy in India. In Alice Mattoni (Eds) *The Handbook of Progressive Politics*, Edward Elgar Publishing
- Raghunath, Preeti and Rahman, Anis. (forthcoming, 2023). Opening up the Black Box of Communication Governance in South Asia: Critical Policy Ethnography as Methodology. Gerard Goggin et al (Eds) *Communication Governance at the Crossroads*, Palgrave Macmillan.
- Parthasarathi, Vibodh and Raghunath, Preeti. (forthcoming, 2022) Reformulating Media Bazaars: The Digital Media Economy in India. In Terry Flew et al (Eds) *Sage Handbook of Digital Media Economy*, Sage.
- Raghunath, Preeti. (forthcoming, 2022). The Deliberative Policy Ecology Approach: Media Policy Studies from South Asia. In Sarah Anne Ganter and Hanan Badr (Eds) *Media Governance: A Cosmopolitan Critique*, Palgrave Macmillan
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2021). COVID-19 and Non-Personal Data in the Indian context: On the Normative Ideal of Public Interest. In Milan et al (Eds.) *COVID-19 from the Margins: Pandemic Invisibilities, Policies and Resistance in the Datafied Society*. Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences: Institute of Network Cultures.
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2020). Deliberating Community Radio in India: A Critical Policy Ethnography. In Kanchan K Malik and Vinod Pavarala. (Eds.) *Community Radio in South Asia: Reclaiming the Airwaves*. Routledge.

Research Reports

- Raghunath, Preeti. (2022). ['Hated Speech' and the Costs of Freedom in India](#), Principal Investigator and Author of research report for sub-grant from the Association of Progressive Communications (APC)
- Research Team for Factly Research and Media's Research Report (2019) on [Countering Misinformation \(Fake news\) in India: Solutions and Strategies](#).
- Pavarala, Vinod, Malik, Kanchan K., Belavadi, Vasuki, Deshbandhu, Aditya, **Raghunath, Preeti** (2013). [Community Radio - Continuous Improvement Toolkit \(CRCIT\)](#).
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2013). Interface between Social Innovators and Government: Challenges and Recommendations, Sole author of the Research Report for 'Building Innovation

Ecosystems for Mega Impact: A National Conference on Social Innovation, Technology and Government’, organized by IIT Delhi.

Reviews

- Raghunath, Preeti. (2021). Book Review of ‘Create, Copy, Disrupt: India's Intellectual Property Dilemmas’, *International Journal of Media Studies*, 2 (1)
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2020). Book Review of ‘The Palgrave Handbook of Methods for Media Policy Research’, *Asia Pacific Media Educator*, 30 (1).

Conference Proceedings

- Raghunath, Preeti. (2012). ‘Communities in Solidarity: Going beyond traditional thinking in bilateral ties’. Conference Proceedings (Volume II) of the International Conference on India-Japan relations: Transformation into Potential Relationship, organized by the Centre for Southeast Asia and Pacific Studies, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India, December 7-9, 2012.

GRANTS/AWARDS

- Researcher for multi-country project on ‘AI and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Southeast Asia’, funded by UN Women, with United Nations University, Macau, 2022-23
- Researcher for multi-country project on ‘Gender and AI’, funded by the International Telecommunication Union, with United Nations University, Macau, 2022
- Grantee, “Challenging hate narratives and violations of freedom of religion and expression online in Asia” Grant of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), 2021
- Honorary Mention, Urban Communication Grant for the year 2020, awarded by the Urban Communication Foundation/IAMCR
- Best Paper Award for the Communication Policy and Technology (CP&T) Section and the Global Media Policy Working Group, at the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) annual conference, Oregon, US, 20 - 24 June, 2018, for my paper titled, ‘Airing Imperium: A Historiography of Radio Governance in South Asia’.
- Travel Grant by the annual conference of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Oregon, US, 20 - 24 June, 2018.
- Asian Scholar Grant – Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, for the International Public Policy Association (IPPA) annual conference at National University of Singapore, 2017.
- International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) – Open Society Foundation (OSF) Rapid Response Grant on Communication Policy, 2014 – Contributed to the Global Media Policy Working Group’s Mapping Project as part of the Grant requirement, besides written submissions and presentations.
- Indian Council Social Science Research (ICSSR) Data Collection Abroad Grant, 2013-14 – Funding covered my doctoral fieldwork in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal.

- Indian government's University Grants Commission – Junior and Senior Research Fellowship – 2010.
- Gold medals - Best Outgoing Student, Best All-Rounder, Topper in Part-1 subjects - St. Francis' College for Women, Hyderabad, India (Bachelor of Arts, 2009).

PRESENTATIONS/CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS (*Select*)

- 'Critical Policy Ethnography as Method to study Digital Urban Governance', at the 'Smart City: A Digital Transformation in Terms of Governance, Habitat & Mobilities' hybrid workshop organised by Alliance Francaise, Hyderabad, 2022
- "Critical is Decolonial, Critical is Southern": Towards Critical Data Governance, at Data Power conference (multi-location and hybrid), 2022
- 'Critical Data Governance', at the annual conference of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Beijing, (online), 2022
- "Count Me In or Count Me Out": Understanding Civil Society Engagement on Data and Justice in South Asia', at the annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris (hybrid), 2022.
- (with Anwasha Chakraborty) 'Designing Openness: Technologies of collective action against corruption in India', at the Digital Transactions in Asia IV conference (online), 2022.
- (with Anwasha Chakraborty) 'Mobilising citizen participation for 'good governance' in India: Multimodal Frame Analysis of two ICT-based civil society initiatives', at the annual conference of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Nairobi (online), 2021.
- 'Media Policy Studies: Towards a Deliberative Policy Ecology Approach', at the annual conference of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Tampere, Finland (online), 2020.
- 'Liminal Voices and Civil Conflict: Critical policy ethnography for community radio in Sri Lanka and Nepal', at the annual conference of the International Communication Association, at Gold Coast, Australia (online), 2020
- 'An Intervention in Method: Conducting a Critical Media Policy Ethnography', at the National Seminar held at the University of Hyderabad, 2019.
- 'Deliberating Community Radio in India: A Policy Ethnography', at the 12th Annual International Conference on Public Policy and Management, organized by the Centre for Public Policy (CPP), Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, India, 2017.
- 'Deliberating Community Radio: Narratives of Policies and Praxis from South Asia', at the 3rd International Public Policy Association's (IPPA) annual conference, at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 2017.
- 'Policy Ethnography as a qualitative method for Critical Policy Research', at the International Workshop on Internet Policy Research Methods for Asia, New Delhi, 2017.
- 'Reconstructing Histories: Community Radio Policies and Policymaking in South Asia', as part of the Working group on Global Media Policy, at the annual conference of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Hyderabad, 2014.

- Presentation of preliminary research on ‘Community Radio Policies in South Asia: A Comparative Study’, at the Annenberg-Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute, 2013.

POPULAR WRITING

- Raghunath, Preeti. (2022). [Disruptive Technologies, Surveillance as Governance: Data \(Un\)Democracy in India during COVID-19](#), published as part of Engage Media’s Pandemic of Control series
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2020). [Governance of Non-Personal Data in India: Early Reflections from Digital Ethnography](#), for NIICE Nepal
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2020). [All You Need To Know About India’s New Non-Personal Data Framework](#), for The News Minute
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2020). [COVID-19 and Non-Personal Data in the Indian context: On the Normative Ideal of Public Interest](#), for Big Data From The South
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2019). [Inscribing an Inclusive Idea of Data in India](#), for the NewsLaundry
- Raghunath, Preeti. (2013). Pioneer to a Passive Spectator: Community Radio in Sri Lanka, hosted on Cardiff University’s School of Journalism, Media and Culture’s blog.
- Contributor to the London School of Economics’ South Asia Blog:
 - Digital South Asia: a brief history of telecom policies in the region (2018)
 - South Asia’s new satellite: Signaling public engagement for sustainable regional diplomacy? (2017)
- Sample of an Op-Ed on recent shifts in the Education Policy in India and sustainable policy for education, Saving the Public University, dated September 30, 2016
- Sample of a special report for a newspaper: On Queer Street, Women’s Page, The Times of India, dated July 24, 2011.

INVITED TALKS AND RESOURCE ROLES

- Panelist on Data and Democracy, organised by the School of Business and the School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University, Malaysia, in October, 2022.
- Speaker as part on a panel on New Media Proliferation in the Indo-Pacific, organised by the Indo-Pacific Circle, in 2022.
- Speaker at the Research Colloquium organised by Doing Sociology, a public sociology research forum, in May, 2022
- Speaker at the Lecture Series of the School of Rural Development, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Tuljapur, India, in April, 2022.
- Session on ‘Critical Policy Ethnography: Why and How?’, at the week-long Faculty Development Programme organised jointly by the Jean Monnet Module, Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies, JNU, and the School of Liberal Education, Galgotias University, India, in February, 2022.
- Panel discussion on my book, hosted by the Critical Policy Studies Network anchored by Chiang Mai University, in January, 2022.

- Talk on “Policymaking for Community Radio: Cross-Country Experiences and Learnings in South Asia”, at Martin Chautari, Kathmandu, in October, 2021.
- Guest lecture for the course on ‘Media and Development’, for the students of M.A. (Development Studies) at the Department of Liberal Arts, IIT Hyderabad, in October, 2021
- Invited panelist for ‘Pramana’, the conference organised by the Symbiosis Centre for Media and Communication (SCMC), Pune, to be held in October, 2021
- Guest lecture for the course on ‘Media Advocacy’, for the students of M.A. (Media Governance) at the Centre for Culture, Media and Governance, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, in October, 2021
- Seminar at the BIT-ACT Seminar Series (University of Bologna), on ‘Towards Theory-Building: ‘Constructing Grounded Theory’ and Media Policy Ethnography’, in June, 2021
- Presentation titled 'Non-Personal Data in India: A Case of Digital Deliberative Democracy?', as part of panel on, 'Communication Boundaries and Democratic Wagers' at the Winter School organised by the Universities of Padova, Sao Paulo, and Leiden, in March, 2021
- Talk on ‘Conducting Media Policy Ethnography in South Asia: Multidisciplinary Moorings’, at the Department of Liberal Arts, IIT Hyderabad, in March, 2021
- Talk on ‘Politics of Global Media Policies’ organised by the Association of Indian Research Scholars, in January, 2021.
- Talk on ‘The Deliberative Policy Ecology Approach’ to the study of Media Policy, as part of the Talk Series of the School of Public Policy and Governance, Azim Premji University, Bangalore, India, in December, 2020.
- Lecture on ‘Constructing Grounded Theory’ by Kathy Charmaz: A Theoretical and Empirical Introduction’, for the MSW students at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Tuljapur, India, in October, 2020.
- Seminar on ‘Deliberation and Media Policy Studies: Towards A Deliberative Policy Ecology Approach’, at the Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance, University of Canberra, Australia, in October, 2020.
- Guest lectures on Community Media, and Ethnography, for the Manipal Institute of Communication (MIC), in September, 2020.
- Lecture on Explorations in Ethnographic Fieldwork, organised by the Anthropology Club of the University of Hyderabad, India, in March, 2019.
- Consultant for ‘Building Innovation Ecosystems for Mega Impact: A National Conference on Social Innovation, Technology and Government’, organized by IIT-Delhi, India, in August, 2013.
- Consultant for the Centre for Innovations in Public Systems (CIPS), an Autonomous Body of the Government of India, Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad, Telangana, India, July-August, 2013.

ORGANISATIONAL ROLES

- Co-organiser of workshop titled, ‘Governing Technologies’, as part of the Digital Asia research strength at Monash University, Malaysia, in October, 2022.

- Convener for a pre-conference titled, ‘‘Institutions, Interventions, Transgressions: Glocal Media Policies and Praxis from South Asia’’, as part of the Global Media Policy Working Group, for the 2021 annual conference of the IAMCR, Nairobi, Kenya.
- Organising Team of the Pre-Conference on Community Media for the Community Communication section of the IAMCR, ‘Building Community – Shaping Change: The Role of Community, Citizen, and Alternative Media in Regional Transformation’, at the Annual Conference in Hyderabad, in July, 2014.
- Organising Committee for CommClave 2013, a National Student Research Symposium on ‘Contextualisations and Conversations’, organized by the Department of Communication, on February 28, 2013, as part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Sarojini Naidu School of Arts and Communication, University of Hyderabad, India.

ADDITIONAL COURSES/WORKSHOPS COMPLETED

- Selected as a Fellow with the Indian School of Internet Governance (InSIG), held at New Delhi, October 12-15, 2018.
- Fully funded for the International Workshop on Internet Policy Research Methods for Asia, organized by the Internet Policy Observatory, Annenberg School of Communication, University of Pennsylvania and the Centre for Communication Governance, National Law University (NLU), New Delhi, India, April 10-14, 2017.
- Fully funded for the International Course titled, ‘How to Engage in Broadband Policy and Regulatory Processes’, organized by LinneAsia, Sri Lanka and the Centre for Communication and Media Governance (CCMG), Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, India, March 7-10, 2014.
- Fully funded for the Annenberg-Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute, organized by the Centre for Global Communication Studies, Annenberg School of Communication, University of Pennsylvania and the Programme for Comparative Media Law and Policy, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford, UK, in June-July, 2013.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Vice-Chair, Global Media Policy Working Group of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR)
- Editorial Board, Journal of Digital Media and Policy (Intellect)
- Reviewer for publishers, journals and conferences

MEMBERSHIP IN ASSOCIATIONAL BODIES

- Member, International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR)
- Member, International Communication Association (ICA)
- Member, Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)
- Member, Critical Policy Studies Network
- Life Member, Oral History Association of India (OHAI)