

PREETI RAGHUNATH, PhD, SFHEA

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Over more than a decade, I have researched and taught on communication technologies (including the digital and AI) and policy, placing people at the centre of policies and transformations. Most recently, I have worked on research in AI, policy and society (gender, AI Safety and environment) in India, Malaysia and Southeast Asia, and the UK. My teaching practice has involved lecturing, programme direction and research supervision as part UG, PG and doctoral programmes with an interdisciplinary approach to media studies. I bring international research and teaching experience having traversed academic landscapes in India, Malaysia and the UK.

WORK (*Post-PhD*)

- **Lecturer (Digital Media and Society), Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield, UK (May 2023 onwards)**
 - Teaching as part of MA and BA programmes in Digital Media and Society; research supervision
 - Accreditation as Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA), 2025
 - Department/School Internationalisation Officer (2023 onwards)
 - Fellow and ECR co-lead, Institute for Global Sustainable Development (2023 onwards)
 - Co-Lead, Interest Group on Data-driven Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at [Shef.AI](#) (2024 onwards)
 - Co-Lead, Technology and Care Group, CIRCLE (2025 onwards)
- **Lecturer (Communication and Media), School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University, Malaysia (November 2021 – March 2023)**
 - Taught as part of Master of Communications and Media Studies (MCMS), Bachelor of Digital Media and Communication (BDMC), graduate research coursework; research supervision
 - Director, MCMS; Member of various School-level Committees
 - Two research consultancies on Gender and AI Policies in Southeast Asia undertaken with the United Nations University (UNU), Macau
 - Promoted inter-institutional research cooperation between United Nations University (UNU), Macau and the School
- **Assistant Professor, Symbiosis Institute of Media and Communication, India (March 2020 – October 2021)**
 - Taught as part of MA (Mass Communication) and MBA (Communication Management); research supervision of Masters dissertation projects.

EDUCATION

- **PhD (Communication)** – University of Hyderabad, India – 2019
- **MA (International Relations and Politics)** – Jawaharlal Nehru University, India – 2011
- **BA (Communication & Journalism, Literature, Political Science)** – Osmania University, India – 2009

PUBLICATIONS *(select)*

Books

- Raghunath, P. (*under contract*). Global Approaches to AI and Data: Theories and Practices. Bristol University Press
- Raghunath, P. (2020). Community Radio Policies in South Asia: A Deliberative Policy Ecology Approach. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan

Edited Collections

- Book: Raghunath, P. and Narasimhan, H. (Eds.) (in production). A Media Anthropology of India. Routledge
- Book: Raghunath, P. (Eds.) (2026). Critical Political Economy of AI: Southern Experiences. Palgrave Macmillan
- Special Issue: Bächtold, S; Raghunath, P; Lim, Joanne BY. (2024). Governing Technologies, *Journal of Digital Media and Policy*, 15 (3)
- Special Issue: Raghunath, P. and Koshy, S. (2022). (Re)iterations, Transgressions, Recognition: Politics and Practices of Media Policies in South Asia, *Journal of Digital Media and Policy*, 13(1)

Journal Publications

- Raghunath, P. (2026). Digital Public Infrastructure in India: A Deliberative Policy Ecology Approach, *International Journal of Communication*.
- Raghunath, P. (2024). Critical Data Governance: A Southern Standpoint to the study and practice of data. *Technology and Regulation*, 2024, 37-46
- Raghunath, P. (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, P. (2019). Human Security in a Datafying South Asia: Approaching Data Protection. [Available at SSRN](#)
- Raghunath, P. (2021). Book Review of ‘Create, Copy, Disrupt: India's Intellectual Property Dilemmas’, *International Journal of Media Studies*, 2 (1)
- Raghunath, P. (2020). Book Review of ‘The Palgrave Handbook of Methods for Media Policy Research’, *Asia Pacific Media Educator*, 30 (1)

Book Chapters

- Raghunath, P. (2025). “Hated Speech”. In Mattoni (Eds) Handbook of Progressive Politics, Edward Elgar
- Raghunath, P. and Rahman, A. (2024). Opening up the Black Box of Communication Governance in South Asia: Critical Policy Ethnography as Methodology. In Padovani et al (Eds) Global Communication Governance at the Crossroads, Palgrave Macmillan
- Raghunath, P. (2023). Deliberation as Pedagogy: Gender, Intersectionality and Journalism Education in India. In Mutsvairo et al (Eds) The Routledge Companion to Journalism in the Global South
- Parthasarathi, V. and Raghunath, P. (2022) Reformulating Media Bazaars: The Digital Media Economy in India. In Flew et al (Eds) Sage Handbook of Digital Media Economy, Sage

- Raghunath, P. (2022). The Deliberative Policy Ecology Approach: Media Policy Studies from South Asia. In Ganter and Badr (Eds) Media Governance: A Cosmopolitan Critique, Palgrave Macmillan
- Raghunath, P. (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, P. (2020). Deliberating Community Radio in India: A Critical Policy Ethnography. In Malik and Pavarala. (Eds.) Community Radio in South Asia: Reclaiming the Airwaves. Routledge

White Papers and Research Reports

- Jaimee S, Raghunath P & Guariso D (2025) Unpacking the Interrelationships between the Global Digitalization Index and Human Development. United Nations University
- Fournier-Tombs, E., Lee, J., Min Yang, M., **Raghunath, P.** (2024). [Artificial Intelligence and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in South-East Asia](#). UN Women and UNU Macau
- Fournier-Tombs, E., Lee, J., Suriyawongkul, A., **Raghunath, P.**, Dailey, M., Chatterjee, J., Doney, P., Suthorn, W., Thongprasert, S., Villanueva K., and Belda, F. (2023). [Gender-sensitive AI Policy in Southeast Asia](#). UNU Macau
- Raghunath, P. (2022). [‘Hated Speech’ and the Costs of Freedom in India](#), Association of Progressive Communications
- Raghunath, P. (2013). [Interface between Social Innovators and Government: Challenges and Recommendations](#)

Public Writing

- Interview on the state of media in contemporary India, in the Southasia Review of Books newsletter
- [Radio’s role in making and unmaking Southasia’s borders](#), *Himal Southasian*
- [‘Data Industries’: Towards tracing the Global Data Economy](#), *Sociological Studies Research Blog, University of Sheffield*
- [Disruptive Technologies, Surveillance as Governance: Data \(Un\)Democracy in India during COVID-19](#), *Engage Media*
- [Translating Experience into Enunciation: On Conducting a Policy Ethnography in South Asia](#), *EPW*, 56 (22)
- [MacBride Commission’s Legacy: Towards Equitable and Sustainable Technology Futures](#). *Media Development*, 2021 (2)
- [All You Need To Know About India’s New Non-Personal Data Framework](#), *The News Minute*
- [Inscribing an Inclusive Idea of Data in India](#), *Newslaundry*
- [Saving the Public University](#), *The Hindu*
- [The unfinished business of Nepal’s community radio policy](#). *Media Asia*, 41(1), 22–23
- [Quelled voices and amplified silences](#), *Himal Southasian’s* special issue on ‘Growing Media, Shrinking Spaces’, 27 (2)

PROJECTS/GRANTS/AWARDS/COLLABORATIONS

- Principal Investigator, ‘AI and Progressive Chronic Conditions’, Research Stimulation Fund from the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Sheffield 2026 (GBP £5,000)
- Principal Investigator, ‘Negotiating Sustainable AI: Policies and lived experiences of the socio-ecological impacts of AI infrastructures from India and Mexico’, Grantham Amplification

- Fund, Grantham Centre for Sustainability Studies 2026 (GBP £25,497)
- Shortlisted, UKRI Policy Fellowship at the UK Government’s Foresight Team, 2025-2026
- Project Lead, ‘Weaving an AI Safety Net for UK and Canada’, UKRI-SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grant 2025-26 (CAD \$30,000)
- Research Consultancy for a project on Digital Maturity and Sustainability, funded by Huawei, United Nations University, Macau, 2024 (USD \$4,000)
- Funding to participate in the workshop on Cultures of Datafication in South Asia, jointly organised by the University of Pennsylvania and Data & Society, United States, 2024 (USD \$750)
- Recipient of Sociological Studies Departmental Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund for developing a UG module on Global Data Industries, 2024 (GBP £500)
- Associate Member, Southeast Asia Research Centre for Digital Technologies and Society (SEADS), Monash University, Malaysia
- Co-Investigator, Industry SEED project on volunteer-driven governance of community platforms in Sri Lanka, with Action Lab, Monash University, Australia, 2023 (AUD \$29,872)
- Research Consultancy for a multi-country project on ‘AI and WPS Agenda in Southeast Asia’, funded by UN Women, with UNU, Macau, 2022-23 (USD \$12,500)
- Research Consultancy for a multi-country project on ‘Gender and AI’, funded by ITU, with UNU, Macau, 2022 (USD \$9,250)
- Country Expert, India on an ERC-funded BIT-ACT project, University of Bologna, Italy, 2021-2023
- Fully funded to attend the Summer School by the QUT Digital Media Research Centre (DMRC) (online), 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 (USD \$3,300)
- Honorary Mention, Urban Communication Grant 2020, awarded by Urban Communication Foundation/IAMCR
- Best Paper Award for ‘Airing Imperium: A Historiography of Radio Governance in South Asia’ from the Communication Policy and Technology Section at IAMCR, Oregon, United States, 2018
- Travel Grant to attend annual conference of IAMCR, Oregon, United States, 2018 (USD \$1,500)
- Asian Scholar Grant – Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, for ICPP3, Singapore, 2017 (SGD \$500)
- IAMCR-OSF Rapid Response Grant on Communication Policy, 2014 (USD \$2,500)
- Fully funded to attend the Annenberg-Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute at University of Oxford, 2013
- Indian Council Social Science Research (ICSSR) Data Collection Abroad Grant, 2013-14 (INR 2,00,000)

CONFERENCES (*most recent*)

- Workshop convenor, ‘Teaching and Learning AI Policy: Practice and Impact’, AI Impact Summit, hosted by India, 2026
- Paper Presenter, ‘Socio-environmental impacts of AI-Data infrastructures’, Workshop on AI, Universities of Warwick and Amsterdam, National Law School University of India, Bangalore, 2026
- “Frontier Living”: Ecologies of Policies, Infrastructures and Practices for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in India”, International Public Policy Association’s annual conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand, July 2-4, 2025.
- ‘Imperial Datafication: Historicising the Modern Global Data Economy’ - Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association’s annual conference, at a workshop organised by the University of Pennsylvania and Data & Society, US, and at the Work and the Data Economy meeting, Tufts University, US, all in 2024.

- ‘Critical Is Decolonial, Critical is Southern’: Towards Critical Data Governance, at panel organised by *Critical Policy Studies* journal, at ICPP6, Toronto (online), 2023
- ‘Critical Media/Technology Policy Studies in South and Southeast Asia: Possibilities for imagining a connected agenda’, at ICPP6, Toronto (online), 2023

INVITED TALKS/LECTURES (*most recent*)

- Invited Speaker, The Data Interface, University of York (*forthcoming in 2026*)
- Keynote Speaker, Governing Technologies conference, Monash University Malaysia, 2026
- Invited Speaker, Jean Monnet module on EU-India technology governance, at the International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad, India, 2025
- Invited Speaker at the Gandhi Institute of Technology (GITAM), Hyderabad, India, 2025
- Invited Speaker at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Indian Institute of Science campus, Bangalore, India, 2024
- Invited Speaker at panel on Data and Democracy, Monash University, Malaysia, 2022
- Invited Speaker at lecture series of the School of Rural Development, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Tuljapur, India, 2022
- Panel discussion on my book, at the Critical Policy Studies Network, Chiang Mai University, 2022
- Invited Speaker at the BIT-ACT Seminar Series (University of Bologna), on ‘Towards Theory-Building: ‘Constructing Grounded Theory’ and Media Policy Ethnography’, 2021
- Invited Speaker on ‘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 Universities of Padova, São Paulo, and Leiden, 2021
- Invited Speaker on ‘Conducting Media Policy Ethnography in South Asia: Multidisciplinary Moorings’, at the Department of Liberal Arts, IIT Hyderabad, 2021
- Invited Lecture for module on ‘Media Advocacy’ (MA in Media Governance) at the Centre for Culture, Media and Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, 2021

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Co-Chair, Global South Policy Process Research Network, International Public Policy Association (IPPA) - 2025-2027
- External Examiner, BA (Radio and Television), British University in Egypt, Cairo/London South Bank University, UK - 2024 onwards
- Co-Editor, Palgrave Global Media Policy and Business book series – 2024 onwards
- Editorial Board, *Critical Policy Studies* journal (Taylor and Francis) – 2025-2030
- Editorial Board, *Journal of Digital Media and Policy* (Intellect) – 2022 onwards
- Vice-Chair, Global Media Policy Working Group, IAMCR – 2020-2024
- Reviewer for various presses, journals and grant-making bodies