

# Gayatri Sahgal

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## EDUCATION

### PhD Area Studies (Africa)

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

2023

### M.A. Public Policy

BROWN UNIVERSITY

2014

### M.A. Development Studies

INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX

2009

### B.A. (Hons.) Political Science

LADY SHRI RAM COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

2007

## ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

### CHR MICHELSEN INSTITUTE | POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Bergen | 08/2025 –

### UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA | POST DOCTORAL FELLOW

USA | 01/2024 - 05/25

### INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TAX AND DEVELOPMENT | RESEARCH CONSULTANT

UK | 06/2024 –

### ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE | RESEARCH FELLOW

UK & East Africa | 01/2017 - 11/2023

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD | TUTOR

UK | 10/2019 – 12/2023

- Taught the undergraduate paper in the Politics of South Asia at Christchurch, Merton, St Hilda's, St Hughes, and St. Peters colleges.
- Taught the undergraduate paper in the Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa paper at Worcester College.

### BROWN UNIVERSITY | TUTOR

UK | 10/2013 – 05/2014

- Taught the graduate course in Introductory Statistics at the Department of Education.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### ADAM SMITH INTERNATIONAL | M&E ADVISER - CONSULTANT

Somalia | 11/2022 – Present

- Leading the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) component of the FCDO PREMIS II programme, which aims to improve the country's fiscal capacity and public finance management (PFM) processes.
- Specific Tasks:
  - Methodology Design: Developing the M&E methodology to measure programmatic achievement.
  - Data collection: Implementing baseline and endline surveys (500 plus survey respondents).
  - Data analysis: Leading and conducting descriptive and qualitative data analysis.
  - Monitoring: Developing a tailored Dashboard (in R software) to provide real-time updates.
  - Evaluation: Assessing the programme's success in improving fiscal capacity.

### ALTAI CONSULTING | M&E PROJECT MANAGER

Somalia | 07/2014 – 12/2016

- Designed and led third-party evaluations of donor-funded governance and economic development-related programmes in the Horn of Africa.
- Specific Tasks:
  - Methodology Design: Developed the evaluation methodology and sample survey design for nine programmes.
  - Data collection: Implemented quantitative and qualitative surveys (1500 plus respondents).
  - Data analysis: Led descriptive and inferential analysis (in STATA and Q-GIS).
  - Policy advice: Advised donors and governments to improve programme delivery.
- Specific Projects Managed (select):
  - FCDO, Somalia Monitoring Programme II, Somalia
  - UNDP, Access to Justice Programme, Somalia
  - World Bank, Somalia High Frequency (Poverty Assessment) Survey, Somalia
  - Oxfam, Safety Net programme, Somalia

## **WORLD BANK | SHORT TERM CONSULTANT, TRANSPORT URBAN AND DRM UNIT** US | 02/2014 – 09/2014

- Developed a policy note on best practices for urban service delivery, slum upgradation, and land tenure in East Asia.
- Specific Tasks:
  - Policy review: Synthesized key resource policies and programs related to urban service delivery.
  - Policy analysis: Identified successful and failed approaches to national and local policies.
  - Policy Recommendations: Recommended strategies for policy improvements.

## **CENTER FOR POLICY RESEARCH | PROGRAMME COORDINATOR** India | 04/2010 – 04/2012

- Managed an action research study to monitor public expenditure in social sector programmes in two states.
- Specific Tasks:
  - Implementation: Led surveys to monitor public expenditure.
  - Research: Led a research study on the relationship between village level transparency and accountability structures.
  - Training: Led the training of 30 State-level administrators on public finance management.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Published Works**

- Sahgal, G. (2025). The State-Capital Nexus in Fragile Contexts: A Case Study of Tax Relations in Somalia, *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 63(1), 25-50. doi:10.1017/S0022278X25100943
- Sahgal G. (2025). Tax dealing: State and private sector relations in Somalia. WIDER Working Paper 2025/66. Helsinki: UNU-WIDER. <https://doi.org/10.35188/UNU-WIDER/2025/625-4>.
- Chonka, P., Sahgal, G., & Wasuge, M. (2025). Somali Mobile Innovation and Internationalised State-building: Power, Inequality and Virtual Sovereignty in a 'Cashless' Conflict Zone, *International Affairs*, 101(1), 117–136. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiae273>
- Sahgal, G. (2025). Unpacking Tax Relations in Contexts of Fragility: A Case Study of Somalia, *ICTD Working Paper* 217, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies. 10.19088/ICTD.2024.117
- Bokasola, Y., Ngwakoyo, E., van den Boogaard, V., & Sahgal, G. (2025). Informality, Tax, and Markets in Kinshasa: Everyday Realities and Everyday Resistance, *ICTD Working Paper* 224, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies, 10.19088/ICTD.2025.033.
- Sahgal, G., & Kimaiyo, T. (2020). Youth Resilience to Violent Extremism: An Evaluation of Mentorship Intervention in Kenya, *The Journal for Deradicalization*, Fall(24), 113-160.
- Sahgal, G., and Zeuthen, M. (2020). The Nexus between Crime and Violent Extremism in Kenya: A Case Study of Two Maximum Security Prisons, *The RUSI Journal*, 165(4), 54–67.

- Sahgal, G. et al. (2019) 'Clan Conflict and Violent Extremism in the North-Eastern Counties of Kenya', Conference Paper, Royal United Services Institute, UK.
- Zeuthen, M. and Sahgal, G. (2018) 'Gender and Violent Extremism', Conference Paper, Royal United Services Institute, London, UK.
- Sahgal, G. and Zeuthen, M. (2018) 'Analytical Framing of Violent Extremism and Gender in Kenya: A Review of the Literature', *The Journal of African Review*, Special Issue, 45(1), pp. 1-18.
- Kapur, A., Sahgal, G., and Choudhary, P. (2014). A Study of School Grants: Case Study from India. In Poisson, M. (Ed.), *Achieving Transparency in Pro-Poor Education Incentives*, (pp. 131-161). UNESCO and IIEP, France.
- Sahgal, G. (2012), 'Unpacking Transparency and Accountability Measures: A Case Study of Vijaiपुरा Panchayat, Rajasthan', *Engaging Accountability: Working paper series*, Center for Policy Research, India.

### Forthcoming

- van den Boogaard, V., Bokasola, Y., Sahgal, G., & Jérémie Dohou, C. Beyond the State, but Supporting it? Informal Tax Institutions and State Legitimacy in the DRC, (*Accepted for publication: UNU WIDER Working Paper*).
- Sahgal, G. Tax Relations in Contexts of Fragility: A Case Study of Somalia, (*Review and Resubmit: Journal of International Development*).
- Bokasola, Y., Ngwakoyo, E., Sahgal, G., & van den Boogaard, V. 'Informality, Tax, and Markets in Kinshasa: Everyday Realities and Everyday Resistance', (*Submitted: Journal of African Affairs*).

## ACADEMIC AWARDS

- First Position in BA (Hons.) Political Science, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University, 2007
- Excellence in Political Science, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University, 2007
- Meritorious Contribution to Academic Forum, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University, 2007

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER) Research Grant, The Political Economy of Taxation, 2024
- Global Challenge Research Fund QR Fund, University of Oxford, 2021
- Africa Oxford (AfOx) Travel Grant, University of Oxford, 2021
- Laura Bassi Scholarship, 2019-20
- Academic Scholarship awarded by the Taubman Centre for Public Policy, Brown University, 2012
- Latin American Studies Association Mellon Grant, 2013
- Alumni Seed Fund Grant awarded by Brown University's International Advanced Research Programme, 2012

## PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

- African Studies Association Conference, Panel on Political Economy of Development, Chicago, USA, 2024
- African Studies Association Conference, Panel on Taxation, Philadelphia, USA, 2022
- North East Africa Forum, Oxford, UK, 2023
- EU Workshop on Lessons for Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism, Brussels, 2019
- EU Workshop on Lessons for Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism, Brussels, 2020
- Conference on Disengagement and Desistance, UK Home Office, Sussex, UK, 2017
- Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop, Ottawa, Canada, 2017
- International CVE and Research Conference, Antalya, Turkey, 2017
- American Political Science Association Conference, Washington DC, USA, 2013

## SKILLS

**Statistical Software:** STATA, R, SPSS

**Other Software:** NVIVO, QGIS, Excel,  $\LaTeX$

**Technology:**  $\LaTeX$