

## Ms Torunn Wimpelmann, PhD

### PERSONAL DETAILS

---

*Name:* Wimpelmann, Torunn Madsen  
*Citizenship:* Norwegian  
*Date of birth:* 25.12 1979  
*Private address:* Geble Pederssensgt. 5, 5034 Bergen, Norway  
*E-mail:* torunn.wimpelmann@cmi.no  
*Phone number:* +4748198799/ +93706267214  
*Current position:* Postdoctoral Researcher, Chr Michelsen Institute, Norway

### CORE COMPETENCIES

---

PhD in Development Studies with a focus on gender, violence and the justice system in Afghanistan. 8 years of experience in academic and applied research including fundraising, project design, data collection, analysis and writing. Excellent editing, writing and presentation skills. Track record of academic publications. Long term field experience in Afghanistan (2 years) and shorter field experience in West Africa (Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone). Reasonable Dari language skills (ability to read and converse). Good understanding of development programming and extensive aid evaluation experience.

### EDUCATION

---

*PhD Development Studies*

2008 -2013 Department of Development Studies,  
School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London  
Supervisor: Prof Deniz Kandiyoti

*MA Conflict, Security and Development*

2004-2005 Department of War Studies  
Kings College, University of London

*BA Politics and Development Studies*

2001-2004 School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

- 2013-present *Postdoctoral Researcher, Chr Michelsen Institute*
- Lead researcher on 2 year research project on violence against women and the Afghan justice system
  - Acquisition and implementation of various commissioned research including aid evaluations and policy briefs.
  - Managing budgets and external reporting on various research projects
- 2007–2013 *Researcher, Chr Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway*
- Research project development on the interlinkages between gender, justice and politics with a focus on Afghanistan
  - PhD Fellow; Gender-based violence in post-2001 Afghanistan
  - Acquisition and implementation of various commissioned work /applied research including impact assessments of aid programmes
  - Managing budgets and external reporting on various projects
  - Coordinator of research cluster: *The Politics of Violence and Security*
- 2006-2007 *Project Coordinator, Chr Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway*
- Working on the project *Violence in the Post-Conflict State*, researching and authoring case studies
  - Acquisition and implementation of various commissioned work /applied research
- 2005 – 2006 *Research Assistant, Chr Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway*
- Writing funding proposals, conducting literature reviews, organizing seminars and conferences

## SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

---

### **Violence against women and criminal justice in Afghanistan: Towards a more systematic understanding of attrition and conviction.**

Lead researcher, 2014-2015. Funded by the Research Council of Norway, the project will map patterns and causes for the exit of cases of violence against women from the Afghan justice system.

### **Legal Aid and Women's access to justice in Afghanistan: Options for FOKUS**

Sole researcher, 2014 Commissioned study for Norwegian women's rights NGO outlining options for a legal aid program in Afghanistan

**Evaluation of Training For Peace**

Project Member, 2013-2014. Review of Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs support to African peacekeeping

**Protection of Civilians: From Principle to Practice**

Project Member, 2012-2015. Funded by the Research Council of Norway, the project is a multidisciplinary exploration of the role and impact of contemporary policies and practices of Protection of Civilians.

**Governance, Justice and Gender in Afghanistan: Between formal and informal dynamics**

Project member. 2010-2013. Funded by the Research Council of Norway, the project examines the role of women in formal and informal processes of local governance and justice in Afghanistan

**The Price of Protection. Gender, Violence and Power in Afghanistan.**

PhD project 2008-2012. Funded by the Research Council of Norway. Based on 14 months of fieldwork, the thesis explores how shifting definitions of violence against women in Afghanistan affect gender relations, and the broader political and legal orders at stake in contestations over gender violence.

**Appraisal of extended rule of law project in Faryab, Afghanistan.**

CMI team leader. 2010. Appraisal commissioned by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, discussing the possible contributions of a proposed project in the field of justice sector reform in Afghanistan.

**Everyday Peacebuilding.**

Lead author on Afghanistan case study. 2009-2010. Funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This project, comparative in scope, investigates negotiations between local and international actors in the field of legal and justice sector reform.

**Violence in the Postconflict State**

Project Coordinator and author of Liberia case study. 2006 -2008. Funded by the Research Council of Norway, the project explores and compares patterns and dynamics of postwar violence

**Review of support for Afghans returning from Norway**

Lead Researcher. 2007-2008. Commissioned research project for the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### Journal articles and book chapters

**Nexus of knowledge and power in Afghanistan: The rise and fall of the informal justice assemblage** (2013) in *Central Asian Survey*, Vol 32:3 ( Special issue on statebuilding and transition in Afghanistan edited by Jonathan Goodhand and Mark Sedra. )

**The informal justice paradigm and the appropriation of 'local reality'** (2013), in Legal appropriation: Taking of and by law. Article in special Issue of the *Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly*, No 3 2013

**Beyond the Excombatant: The Political Economies of Violence in Postwar Liberia** (2012) in Mats Berdal and Astri Suhrke ( eds.) *The Peace in Between: Post-War Violence and Peacebuilding*. Routledge

**Promoting Women's Rights in Afghanistan: The Ambiguous Footprint of the West** (2011) with Orzala Ashraf Nemat and Astri Suhrke in Susanna Campbell, David Chandler and Meera Sabaratnam: *A Liberal Peace? The Problems and Practices of Peacebuilding*. London, New York: Zed Books

**From conflict to peace-building** with Astri Suhrke (2011) in Peter Burnell, Vicky Randall and Lise Rakner (eds.): *Politics in the developing world*. 3rd. ed. Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press pp. 241-256

**Conflict and Development** with Astri Suhrke (2009, second revised edition 2012) )in Paul A. Haslam, Jessica Schafer and Pierre Beaudet (Eds.): *Introduction to International Development. Approaches, Actors and Issues*. Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press pp. 384-405

---

### Other selected publications

**Leaving them to it? Women's Rights in Transitioning Afghanistan** (2014) Chatham House Policy Brief. May 2014

**Supporting legal aid and access to justice for women in Afghanistan: Options for FOKUS** ( 2014) Report commissioned for FOKUS, March 2014

**Problematic protection: the law on Elimination of Violence against Women in Afghanistan** (2013) Article written for OpenDemocracy 21 May 2013

**The Price of Protection. Gender, Violence and Power in Afghanistan**, Wimpelmann, Torunn (2013) PhD dissertation, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

---

**Promoting women's rights in Afghanistan: a call for less aid and more politics**  
Wimpelmann, Torunn (2012), NOREF Policy Brief

**Appraisal of extended rule of law project in Faryab, Afghanistan**  
Bauck, Petter, Torunn Wimpelmann Chaudhary, Orzala Ashraf Nemat, Arne Strand  
(2010) Oslo: Norad (Norad Report Discussion no. 19/2010)

**Agenda: Nødutgang fra Afghanistan. Om Vestens fiasko og «afghansk virkelighet».** Torunn Wimpelmann Chaudhary. Prosa 06 | 10.

**Return with Dignity, Return to What? Review of the Voluntary Return Programme to Afghanistan** (2008) Arne Strand Arghawan Akbari, Torunn Wimpelmann Chaudhary, Kristian Berg Harpviken, Akbar Sarwari, Astri Suhrke, Bergen: Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI Report R 2008: 6) 70 p

---

#### PERSONAL GRANTS AND MEMBERSHIP

---

Doctoral Fellowship, the Research Council of Norway 2009-2012

Young Scholar, The Missing Peace Symposium, United State Institute of Peace

---

#### SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

---

**How have aid organizations transformed Afghanistan? Towards a research agenda.** Concept note prepared for and presented at The Afghan Crisis in Perspective: Understanding the Vectors of Social Change International Exploratory Workshop, Graduate Institute, Geneva, 21-22 March 2013

**Formal and informal (in)justice in Afghanistan,** Gendered Horizons in the Middle East and Central Asia, A Day in Honour of Professor Deniz Kandiyoti, SOAS Conference, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2012

**The informal justice agenda in Afghanistan,** Legal appropriation: Taking of and by law, SOAS School of Law-LIDC Seminar 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011

**Violence against Women as Analytical Entrypoints: Gendered Violations and Contending Sovereign Practices in Afghanistan,** Gendering the Nation , Resilience, Trauma, Memory and Silence, Seminar CMI , 28<sup>th</sup> October 2011

---

## RECENT DISSEMINATION AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

**Forhandlinger med Taliban**, Interview ( live) on TV2 Nyhetskanalen, 22.06.13

**Afghanistan: Hva slags fred?** Chair, debate at Litteraturhuset, Oslo; 09.04.2013

**Ingen fred i Afghanistan utan kvinnors rättigheter**, Panel member, Fryshuset, Stockholm, 08.03.13

**The Rule of Law industry in Afghanistan**, presentation, The Politics of Practice: Security and Justice Programming in Fragile and Conflict Affected States –ODI Expert Meeting on Security and Justice, London 06.11.2012

**Humanitarian Exchange: Reframing Humanitarianism? The Challenges of State-Building**, Panel member, Norwegian Institute of Foreign Affairs, 05.06.2012

**Kvinner og vold i Afghanistan**, Lecture, UDI ( Norwegian Immigration Directorate, 15.11.2012

**Angrep på Shia prosesjon i Kabul**, Interview ( live) on TV2 Nyhetskanalen, 11.12.2011

---

## LANGUAGES

Norwegian (mother tongue), English ( fluent ) , Dari (conversational)