

Kirandeep Kaur

Researcher and Educator

Contact & Personal Details

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English Language Native Speaker

Dutch Permanent Resident

Objective: To contribute to critical, reflexive research projects which aim for socially engaged impact

I am experienced in research in rights, borders, gender-based violence and asylum at doctoral level. I have strong interests in decoloniality and participatory methods. I aim for inclusivity through co-writing and co-action to create courses, inform policy and deliver strategic support to community-based organisations (CBOs).

Education

2024 Ph.D. In Law and Development, Tilburg University Law School and University of Oslo

2013 MSc Social and Community Development, Distinction, Queens University Belfast

2009 BA Politics, Third, School of Oriental and African Studies, London

Networks and Memberships

Social Legal Studies Association (SLSA)

Women in Refugee Law (WiRL)

Editorial Board Member of Journal of Displaced Voices

European Doctorate in Law and Development

Feminist Autonomous Centre for Research

Core skills

- Transdisciplinary Collaboration
- Participatory Research
- Co-writing with participants/co-researchers and Ethical Approaches
- Academic Event Coordination and Presentations

European Doctorate in Law and Development

Trial Lecture 1st March 2024 and Defense 6th March 2024

Thesis: Imaginaries of Law, Borders, & Rights: Forced Migrant Voices of Change

- Engaged in critical participatory action research with 8 Community Based Organizations (CBO) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Created impactful outcomes such as the spearheading of the 'Displaced Voices' special issue in 2021 and cowriting with 4 participants, enhancing gender sensitivity and communication.
- Co-created with Somali women for 16 days SGBV activism FGM project (2021), to show 16 stories from Somali women and underscoring a commitment to diversity and integrity.
- Organized and led 5+ major academic networking events between 2017 and 2020, enhancing collaboration among refugees and academia, including workshops and exhibitions that connected over 25 universities across Europe through the EU-funded COST Action IS1306.
- Chaired and coordinated 12 plus events, panels, workshops, and roundtables, contributing to international discourse on asylum, research, and gender-based violence.
- Delivered 8 plus presentations on key topics ranging from trauma in fieldwork to refugee women's employment, across international venues from 2015 to 2022, highlighting expertise in law, development, and the impact on research from PTSD.

Upcoming and Recent Projects: Community-led Projects, Research and Course Development

PhD Trial Lecture titled "What can an autonomy of migration (AoM) approach offer to research at the intersection of law and migration studies?" invites a reflective exploration into how researchers the interdisciplinary potential of law and migration studies. I answer the question by critiquing the concepts within AoM and migration studies researchers to be epistemically disobedient and to research with those who are excluded by borders and seek social change. 1st March 2024

Neurodiversity: Participation in Education and Research Course development partnering with colleagues from the University of Amsterdam and Inholland Hogeschool. I'm co-developing an innovative, inclusively designed master's elective (for 2024/25 academic year), focusing on teaching Participatory Research (PR) with neurodiverse communities - [see here](#).

Shifting Discourse in Rule of Law Development Policy In collaboration with former PhD colleagues, I'm offering expert input on participatory community engagement for a project focusing on integrating decolonial perspectives into rule of law (ROL) development. The aim is to transition from traditional top-down approaches to more inclusive, community-driven policymaking, thereby connecting decolonial theoretical insights with practical Rule of Law (ROL) applications and supporting people-centered interventions.

Work Experience: Research and Teaching

Mid-March to May 2024 Academic Writing Lecturer with Erasmus University Leveraging my expertise in academic writing, I'm guiding biomedical students at Erasmus University to refine their writing skills, ensuring they effectively communicate complex research ideas and findings. This role underscores my commitment to enhance students' academic proficiency and facilitate their success in the biomedical field. Courses start from Mid-March for two half days per week.

August 2022 – August 2023: Module Leader and Lecturer in Academic Writing in International Creative Business at Inholland Hogeschool Designed and delivered 8 interactive, student-centered modules on writing to 147 first-year Creative Business students at The Hague campus. Further, coordinated a team of six lecturers, ensuring effective collaboration to create an integrated academic writing course in English & Dutch across three campuses: Rotterdam, Haarlem, and The Hague. Conducted stakeholder interviews and discussions with module leaders.

October 2019 - August 2021: Communication in Science Lecturer, Leiden University Medical Centre (LUMC) Part-time role teaching scientific communication skills, including thesis writing and academic presentations, to medical and bio-medical students. Taught scientific communication skills, focusing on thesis writing and academic presentations, integrating research principles and practices in courses. Transitioned courses to online blended learning formats, applying research on digital pedagogies to ensure effective learning outcomes.

September 2019 – December 2020: Freelance Tutor, Academic Language Centre, Leiden University Designed and delivered tailored courses according to student-directed learning objectives. Offered Business English sessions to journalists and editors, and provided one-to-one intensive online courses for teaching qualification exam preparation

September 2019 - December 2019: Academic Reading and Writing Lecturer, Bachelors in International Studies, Leiden University Taught academic skills in three parallel courses, integrating research-based curriculum, with research skills and using materials from Global History. Supported students through workgroups and individual tutorials, focusing on critical thinking, argumentation, referencing, and close textual analysis.

For my Work History & Chronological CV [see here](#).

Selected Grants, Publications and Presentations

Grant from University of Amsterdam: Fair, Resilient & Inclusive Societies (FRIS) empowers us to development the "Neurodiversity: Participation in Education and Research" master's elective. The program integrates Participatory Research (PR) with neurodiverse communities to enhance inclusive learning environments.

Kaur, K., Grama, B., Chaudhuri, N. R., & Vela, M. J. R. (2023). Ethics and Epistemic Injustice in the Global South: A Response to Hopman's Human Rights Exceptionalism as Justification for Covert Research. [see here](#).

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Community-Led Research and Organisational Support - [Click here](#)