

DEBAK DAS

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Denver Assistant Professor of Peace and Security Josef Korbel School of International Studies	2022 - present
Stanford University Stanton Nuclear Security Postdoctoral Fellowship Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC)	2021 - 2022
Stanford University MacArthur Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellowship Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC)	2019 - 2020

EDUCATION

Cornell University , Ithaca, New York Ph.D. Department of Government	2021
Jawaharlal Nehru University , New Delhi, India M.Phil in Diplomacy and Disarmament Centre for International Politics, Organisation, and Disarmament	2013
Jawaharlal Nehru University , New Delhi, India M.A. in Politics (with Specialization in International Relations)	2011
Presidency College, Kolkata, India B.A. in History (Honours)	2009

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Books and Monographs

Delivering the Bomb: The Spread of Nuclear Delivery Systems, and the Global Non-proliferation Order, Manuscript
Nuclear Learning in South Asia and the Levels of Analysis, RCSS Policy Studies 57, (New Delhi: Manohar, 2015).(with Rabia Akhtar)

Journal Articles

“Explaining the Proliferation of Nuclear Delivery Vehicles,” *Security Studies*, Volume 38, Issue 3, September 2025
“Cascades of Competition: Southern Asia, the Indo-Pacific, and AUKUS,” *Texas National Security Review*, Volume 8, No. 4.(*Forthcoming*)
“Standard Operating Barriers in International Studies,” *International Studies Review*, Volume 26, Issue 3, September 2024, viae038.
“‘The Courtroom of World Opinion’: Bringing the International Audience into Nuclear Crises,” *Global Studies Quarterly*, Volume 1, Issue 4, December 2021, ksab028.
“Warring from the Virtual to the Real: Assessing the Public’s Threshold for War over Cyber Security,” *Research and Politics* 4 (2): 1–8, June 2017.(with Sarah Kreps)

Book Chapters

“The Strategic Implications of the India-US Nuclear Deal,” in *The U.S.-India Civil Nuclear Agreement: History, Analysis, and Prospects*, ed. Sumit Ganguly and Dinsha Mistree, Stanford University Press, 2026) (*Forthcoming*)
“Challenges to the Global Nuclear Order: An Indian Perspective,” *Perspectives on the Evolving Nuclear Order*,

ed. Toby Dalton, Togzhan Kassenova, and Lauryn Williams, (Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2016)

“Addressing the Asymmetry in Space: India’s Strategy for Space Security,” *PANORAMA of global security environment*, 2014, ed. Peter Bátor and Róbert Ondrejcsák (Bratislava: Centre for European and North Atlantic Affairs, 2015)

“Strengthening Strategic Instability in South Asia: The Impact of Tactical Nuclear Weapons and Ballistic Missile Development,” *PANORAMA of global security environment*, 2013, ed. Marian Majer and Róbert Ondrejcsák (Bratislava: Centre for European and North Atlantic Affairs, 2014)

“Indian Nuclear Policy: A Case of Deliberate Strategic Ambiguity,” *PANORAMA of global security environment*, 2012, ed. Marian Majer, Róbert Ondrejcsák and Vladimir Tarasovič ((Bratislava: Centre for European and North Atlantic Affairs, 2013)

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Vipin Narang, *Seeking the Bomb: Strategies of Nuclear Proliferation* (Princeton University Press), *Political Science Quarterly*, Volume 138 (2), Summer 2023, pp. 301-302.

Review of Mark Bell, *Nuclear Reactions: How Nuclear Armed States Behave* (Cornell University Press), *H-Diplo: Robert Jervis International Security Studies Forum*, Roundtable Review 15-8, 13 October 2023, pp. 1-18.

Review of Rachel Whitlark, *All Options on the Table: Leaders, Preventive War, and Nuclear Proliferation* (Cornell University Press). *H-Diplo: Robert Jervis International Security Studies Forum*, January 2025, pp. 1-18.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“All Hands Holding the Umbrella? Negotiating the Multilateral Nuclear Guarantee”

“Nuclear Vulnerability, Credibility, and Strategic Forces”

“Leave Us Out of It: Keeping Third-Party Nuclear Forces Out of Arms Control”

”Global Public Opinion on Nuclear Energy Polarized in Shadow of Zaporizhzhia” (with Stephen Herzog et.al.) (under review)

“Defining the Bomb: Negotiating Uncertainty into the Making of the Global Nuclear Order” (with J. Luis Rodriguez)

“Whose Democracy is it Anyway? Public Opinion and Crisis Decision-making in India” (with Shubha Kamala Prasad)

POLICY BRIEFS, ANALYSES, FORUMS, AND ROUNDTABLES

“Biden opened the door to missile proliferation. Trump should close it,” *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, March 28, 2025.

“An Unreliable America Means More Countries Want the Bomb,”, *Foreign Policy*, March 14, 2025.(with Rachel Epstein)

“How India’s restructured rocket force makes conflict with China more likely,” *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, April 4, 2024.

“The State of Nuclear Instability in South Asia: India, Pakistan, and China,” *Lawfare*, September 3, 2023.

“Not much happened after India’s accidental cruise missile launch into Pakistan—this time.” *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, March 25, 2022.

“China’s Missile Silos and the Sino-Indian Nuclear Competition,” *War on The Rocks*, October 13, 2021.

“Australia Will Get Nuclear-powered Submarines. Some See a Proliferation Threat,” *The Washington Post*, September 24, 2021.

“An Indian Nuclear Power Plant Suffered a Cyberattack. Here’s What You Need To Know,” *The Washington*

Post, November 4, 2019.

“Introduction: A Changed Status Quo: Key Dynamics in the India-Pakistan Nuclear Relationship,” *Texas National Security Review*, October, 2019.

“Leveraging the Atom? Nuclear Weapons in Indian Foreign Policy,” *Observer Research Foundation Issue Brief*, Issue No. 259, September 2018.

“Americans Are United on Retaliating Against Russian Cyberattacks”, *The Washington Post*, January 19, 2017.(with Sarah Kreps)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Modi 2.0’s Foreign Policy: More Continuity than Change”, *South Asian Voices*, July 23, 2019.(with Shubha Kamala Prasad)

“Indian Diplomacy during the Kargil War: Success with a Limited Legacy,” *South Asian Voices*, May 29, 2019.

“Leaked Cables: Allende, Kissinger, Moynihan, and the Indian Nuclear Bomb,” *Sources and Methods*, March 2019.

“Nuclear Posture Review 2018: Its Implications for India,” *Observer Research Foundation*, February 21, 2018. .

“Indian Armed Forces Joint Doctrine: Unanswered Questions and Obvious Incongruities,” *South Asian Voices*, May 23, 2017.

“India’s Cold Start Doctrine: Better Left in Cold Storage,” *South Asian Voices*, January 26, 2017..

“A Nuclear Arms Race That Could Spell Disaster For India, Pakistan,” *The Wire*, August 31, 2016.

“Pakistan, MIRVs, and Counterforce Targeting,” *Stimson Center*, July 7, 2016.

“India’s Membership in the NSG is Symbolic: Lack of Success does it no harm,” *Catch News*, June 10, 2016.

“Status and Security and Inverse Relationship?” *South Asian Voices*, December 28, 2014.

“Increased FDI in Indian Defence: Feeding Conventional Asymmetry?” *South Asian Voices*, July 24, 2014.

“The Netherlands 2014 Nuclear Security Summit: An Agenda,” *Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies*, March 28, 2013.

“Review: India, Pakistan and Incremental CBMs,” *Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies*, February 18, 2013.

“Nuclear Weapons: Can They Be Made Strategically Obsolete?” *Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies*, February 2013.

“The Trident Debate: UK’s Strategic Nuclear Deterrent,” *Eurasia Review*, January 2, 2013.

“India: How Credible is its Ballistic Missile Defence,” *Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies*, October 29, 2012.

“India and Pakistan Missile Flexing: Cruising Towards Regional Instability,” *Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies*, October 22, 2012.

“Indian Membership to the NSG: American Interests and Chinese Opposition,” *Eurasia Review*, August 10, 2012.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

External Grants and Fellowships

2025	<i>Nuclear Security Research Grant</i> The Stanton Foundation
2024	<i>Course Development Grant</i> The Stanton Foundation
2023	<i>International Peace and Security Grant</i> (co-PI) Carnegie Corporation of New York
2022	<i>APSIA Junior Faculty Fellowship</i> (with Shubha Kamala Prasad) Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs

2021-2022	<i>Stanton Nuclear Security Postdoctoral Fellowship</i> Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University
2019, 2021	<i>Conference Travel Grant</i> American Political Science Association
2019-2020	<i>MacArthur Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellowship</i> Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University
2018-2019	<i>Visiting Fellowship</i> Le Centre de Recherches Internationales (CERI), Sciences Po, Paris, France
2018-2019	<i>Chateaubriand Fellowship in Humanities and Social Sciences</i> The Embassy of France in the United States
2018	<i>India Research Fellowship</i> The Wilson Center, Washington, D.C.
2018	<i>Visiting Fellowship</i> Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi, India
2017	<i>Conference Travel Grant</i> International Studies Association
2015	<i>Visiting Fellowship</i> Forum for Strategic Initiative, New Delhi, India
2013	<i>Mahbub-ul-Haq Award</i> Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Colombo
2012	<i>National Eligibility for Lectureship in International and Area Studies</i> University Grants Commission, India

Internal Grants and Fellowships

2023, 2024	<i>Korbel Research Support Fund</i> Josef Korbel School for International Studies, University of Denver
2023	<i>Professional Research Opportunities for Faculty (PROF) Grant</i> University of Denver
2023	<i>Internationalization Grant</i> University of Denver
2020	<i>Sage Dissertation Completion Fellowship</i> Graduate School, Cornell University
2020	<i>Herbert I. Flournoy Graduate Fellowship</i> Department of Government, Cornell University
2019	<i>Sage Dissertation Completion Fellowship</i> Graduate School, Cornell University
2018	<i>Stephen and Margery Russell Distinguished Teaching Award</i> College of Arts and Sciences, Cornell University
2018	<i>Michele Sicca Grant for Research in Europe</i> Cornell Institute for European Studies, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies
2018	<i>Graduate School Research Travel Grant</i> Graduate School, Cornell University
2017-2018	<i>Frank and Marion Long Graduate Research Fellowship</i> Judith Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies, Cornell University
2016	<i>Herbert I. Flournoy Graduate Fellowship</i> Department of Government, Cornell University, Cornell University
2016-2017	<i>Director's Fellow</i> Judith Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies, Cornell University

2016	<i>International Research Travel Grant</i> Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University
2015-2016	<i>Graduate Fellow</i> Judith Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies, Cornell University
2015	<i>International Research Travel Grant</i> Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University
2014-2015	<i>Sage Fellowship</i> Graduate School, Cornell University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Denver , Denver, Colorado	
INTS 2605 – Nuclear Weapons in International Security	Fall 2022, Spring 2024, Spring 2025
INTS 4702 – Emerging Issues in International Security	Winter 2023, 2024, 2025
Cornell University , Ithaca, New York	
<i>Instructor-of-Record</i> , Department of Government, Cornell University	
Govt 1101 - Military Innovation in World Politics	Fall 2016
<i>Co-Instructor</i> , John S. Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, Cornell University	
Writ 7101 – Writing in the Majors Seminar (for Graduate Students)	Spring 2017
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Department of Government, Cornell University	
Govt 3837 - The Cold War, with Matthew Evangelista	Spring 2021
Govt 1817 - Making Sense of World Politics, with Peter Katzenstein	Fall 2017
Govt 3897 - Human Rights at War, with Matthew Evangelista	Spring 2017
Govt 3837 - The Cold War, with Matthew Evangelista	Spring 2016
Govt 3877 - Nuclear Security in a Changing World, with Sarah Kreps	Fall 2015
Jawaharlal Nehru University , New Delhi, India	
<i>Student Tutor</i> , Centre for International Politics, Organisation, and Disarmament [appointed by a duly constituted board of the University]	2013

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<i>Graduate Assistant</i> , MacArthur Foundation Project on “Nuclear Stability at Low Numbers”	2015-2016
Judith Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies, Cornell University , Ithaca, New York	
<i>Programme Officer</i> (Track II India-Pakistan Dialogues)	2013-2014
Centre for Dialogue and Reconciliation , New Delhi, India	
<i>Research Officer</i> Nuclear Security Programme	2012-2013
Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies , New Delhi, India	

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

International Studies Association Annual Convention	2015-2025
American Political Science Annual Meeting	2019-2025
Stanton Nuclear Security Conference	2021
Midwest Political Science Association	2019, 2020
British International Studies Association Global Nuclear Working Order Working Group	2017
Judith Reppy Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies Graduate Student Conference	2016, 2017

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

The Spread of Nuclear Delivery Systems, and the Global Non-proliferation Order	April, 2025
Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University	
Standard Operating Barriers	April, 2025

American University, Washington, D.C.

The Spread of Nuclear Delivery Systems, and the Global Non-proliferation Order Centre for International Peace and Security Studies, McGill University	November, 2024
Opportunities to Bridge the Gap <i>New Era Workshop, Bridging the Gap, University of Denver</i>	October, 2024
Missile Technologies in Southern Asia <i>Virtual Panel, Stimson Center, Washington DC</i>	November, 2023
Proliferating the Means of Nuclear Delivery Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison	October, 2023
Redefining U.S. Foreign Policy for the Next Generation Metropolitan State University, Denver	September, 2023
Sapphire Series: Real Struggles, High Stakes: Cooperation, Contention, and Creativity <i>Virtual Panel, International Studies Association</i>	February, 2023
Proliferating the Means of Nuclear Delivery Center for International Security Studies, Princeton University	February, 2023
Delivering the Bomb Energy Seminar Series, Colorado School of Mines	October, 2022
Roundtable of Nuclear Issues in South Asia International Student/Young Pugwash (ISYP)	August, 2022
Nuclear Dynamics in South Asia Council for Strategic and Defence Research, New Delhi	March, 2022
Existential Risk and the India-Pakistan Nuclear Dynamic Stanford Existential Risks Conference	February, 2022
Nuclear Peace in South Asia Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington D.C.	November, 2021
Rethinking Nuclear Security Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University	October, 2021
Have and Have Nots: How Power Shapes Nuclear Regimes Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI), Stanford University	April, 2021
Building Nuclear Forces: Strategy, Postures, Deterrence <i>Guest Lecture, United States Military Academy, and Modern War Institute, Westpoint</i>	March, 2021
Nuclear Stability in Southern Asia <i>Guest Lecture, George Washington University</i>	March 2021
Nuclear Vulnerability and the Cyber Threat <i>Guest Lecture, Lewis and Clark College</i>	October 2020
Book Launch - Delaying Doomsday: The Politics of Nuclear Reversal by Rupal N. Mehta <i>Virtual Book Launch Panel, Bridging the Gap, Washington D.C.</i>	August 2020
Enhancing Diversity and Strengthening Inclusion in Efforts to Bridge the Academia-Policy Gap <i>Virtual Panel, Bridging the Gap, Washington D.C.</i>	May 2021
Secrecy, Deniability, and Indo-French Space Cooperation Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University	February, 2020
The Courtroom of World Opinion: Bringing the International Audience into Nuclear Crises Nuclear Policy Working Group, University of California, Berkeley	November 2019
The Courtroom of World Opinion: Bringing the International Audience into Nuclear Crises Centre for Science and Security Studies, King's College, London, United Kingdom	February 2019
The Courtroom of World Opinion: Bringing the International Audience into Nuclear Crises Centre de Recherche Internationales, Sciences Po, Paris, France	February 2019

Too Close to Call? L’Affaire Gulteri and the Kargil War	November 2019
Close Calls in History and Theory Workshop, Nuclear Knowledges, Sciences Po, Paris, France	
Perspectives from India, Brazil and China on the State of the Nuclear Order	June 2016
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington, D.C.	
Nuclear Learning in South Asia	April 2016
Workshop Stability at Low Numbers: The South Asian Challenge, Washington, D.C.	

WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS

<i>International Policy Summer Institute</i>	2022
Bridging the Gap, American University, Washington, DC	
<i>NEW Era Workshop</i>	2019
Bridging the Gap, Berkeley, CA	
<i>Bootcamp on Assessing Strategic Stability</i>	2018
The Rand Corporation, Washington, DC	
<i>SWAMOS -Summer Workshop on the Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy</i>	2017
Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, Columbia University	
<i>Nuclear History Boot Camp</i>	2017
Nuclear Proliferation International History Project, Wilson Center and University of Roma Tre	
<i>Asia-Pacific Nuclear History Institute</i>	2016
Nuclear Proliferation International History Project, Wilson Center and Kyungnam University, Seoul	
<i>Perspectives on the Evolving Nuclear Order</i>	2016
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Norwegian Institute for International Affairs	
<i>Deterrence Stability in South Asia Workshop</i>	2014
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Stimson Center and EDAM, Istanbul (Turkey)	
<i>ISODARCO – International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts</i>	2014
Italian Pugwash Group, Andalo (Italy)	
<i>Engaging Conflict Summer School</i>	2012
Torino World Affairs Institute and University of Turin, Turin (Italy)	

SERVICE

Member, <i>Korbel Research Committee</i>	2024-present
Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver	
Co-facilitator, <i>Foundations of International Relations Success and Training (FIRST) program</i>	2023-present
Bridging the Gap, University of Denver	
Co-creator and Organizer, <i>Sié Simulations</i>	2022-present
Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy, University of Denver	
Mentor, <i>CISAC Mentorship Program</i>	2022
Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC)	
Member, <i>Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) Taskforce</i>	2020-2022
Freeman Spogli Institute (FSI), Stanford University	
Co-facilitator, <i>Dept. First-Year Graduate Student Colloquium</i>	2015-2016
Department of Government, Cornell University	
Graduate Student Representative	2015-2016
Department of Government, Cornell University	
Reviewer: Cambridge University Press, <i>Critical Studies on Security, Defense & Security Analysis, Foreign Policy Analysis, Journal of Peace Research, International Interactions, International Relations, Political Science</i>	

Quarterly, Security Studies, The Round Table: The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs, Third World Quarterly.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Affiliate, Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University	2022-present
Research Affiliate, Le Centre de Recherches Internationales (CERI), Sciences Po, Paris, France	2022-present
Non-resident Fellow, Council for Strategic and Defense Research, New Delhi	2021-present
Member, Bridging the Gap Network	2019-present
Member, American Political Science Association	2019-present
Member, International Studies Association	2015-present

LANGUAGES

English (native), Hindi (native), Bengali(native), Urdu (spoken), and French (advanced intermediate)