

MARIA AMJAD

University of Genoa

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CURRENT POSITION(S)

- **Ph.D. candidate, University of Genoa, Italy** Nov 2020 - Present
Ph.D. Program: Security, Risk, and Vulnerability
Ph.D. Dissertation topic: Rebel Groups' Participation in Formal Negotiations with the State in Peace Negotiation Process
Supervisors: [Fabrizio Coticchia](#) and Giampiero Cama
- **Visiting Fellow, Radboud University, the Netherlands** Jan 2023- Present
Centre for International Conflict – Analysis and Management (CICAM),
Faculty of Management Sciences, Radboud University,
Nijmegen, The Netherlands -with [Romain Malejacq](#)

PAST EXPERIENCES

- **Fellow at [Civil War Paths](#) Project- Remote** Nov 2021- Sep 2022
The Centre for the Comparative Study of Civil War,
University of Sheffield, The United Kingdom
- **Counterterrorism Analyst Intern at The Counterterrorism Group (CTG), United States** May 2020- Jul 2020
Reports written for CTG:
 - Maria Amjad and Louisa Saakian, '[Drug Trafficking and Hezbollah Operations](#)', Aug, 2020
 - Maria Amjad and Louisa Saakian, '[Hypersonic Missiles in International Security](#)'
- **Intelligence and Security Analyst at Intelligence Fusion (IF), United Kingdom** Feb 2018- Mar 2019
Worked as Intelligence and Security analyst for monitoring the security situation of Pakistan.
 - Used open-source intelligence collection techniques, to provide timely and accurate intelligence updates on Pakistan using IF's unique online platform and mapping tools.
 - Learnt to use OSINT techniques for the database creation on the Ambix Platform
- **Research Intern at Hudson Institute, United States** May 2017- Jul 2017
Worked virtually for Professor [Richard Weitz](#) of Hudson Institute's Center for Political- Military Analysis for analyzing the political risks of US sanctions on Iran, especially on its Nuclear Program
- **Data Analyst at Gallup Pakistan, Lahore, Pakistan** May 2017- Jun 2017
Worked with Gallup Pakistan for a project on 'business innovation and mobile technology use in personal and professional setting', to analyze the security and reliability of the mobile wallet, mobile payments, and branchless banking services.

- **Teaching Assistant at Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Lahore, Pakistan** Aug 2015- May 2016
For the senior-level courses: Comparative Religions, Philosophy and Politics of Global Ecology, and Dialogue and Critique in the Age of Terror.

EDUCATION

- **Master's degree in International Relations** Oct 2017- Oct 2019
University of Bologna, Bologna Italy
Thesis: Before and After Peace Negotiation with Terrorist Organizations: Comparative Case Study of Pakistan and Nigeria
Supervisor: Giampiero Giacomello
- **B.Sc. Hons in Political Science, Minor in Mathematics** Sep 2011- Jun 2015
Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Lahore Pakistan

PUBLICATIONS

Book reviews:

- [Proscribing Peace: How Listing Armed Groups as Terrorists Hurts Negotiations.](#) *CivilWars*, Taylor and Francis Online. Aug 2022
- [Negotiating Survival: Civilian-Insurgent Relations in Afghanistan by Ashley Jackson.](#) *Global Policy*, Durham University and John Wiley & Sons Ltd May 2022

PhD TRAININGS

- Ph.D. level course on International Mediation: Theory, Cases and Skills
Instructors: Laurie Nathan, Jørgen Jensehaugen and Kristian Harpviken
PRIO (Peace Research Institute Oslo) and Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies | Oslo, Norway | May 2022
- Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) Instructor: Ioana-Elena Oana and Carsten Schneider
ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques | Online | July 2021

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

- [Afghanistan 2001-2021](#) by [Observatory of Conflicts](#) Seminar, DISPO, University of Genoa, Genoa. Italy | September 2021

CONFERENCES PARTICIPATED (selective)

Upcoming:

- “There will be direct talks”: Rebel Groups’ Pathways to Participate in Formal Negotiation Rounds: A Case study of Taliban Participation in Doha Negotiations 2019-2020, Conflict Research Society (CRS) 2023, Kings college London | London | September 2023

Previously:

- Rebel Groups Participation in Formal Negotiations, ISA Conference 2023 | Montreal, Canada | Mar 2023

- Rebel Groups Participation in Formal Negotiations, SISP 2022, Sapienza University |Rome, Italy | Sep 2022
 - Towards Understanding Rebel Groups Participation in Formal Negotiations: A NewTheoretical Framework, Civil War Paths, 1st Annual Conference 2022 | Online | Sep 2022
 - ‘Time will Tell: Rebel Groups’ Participation in the Formal Negotiations of the PeaceNegotiation Process’ at ISA Conference 2022 | Nashville USA – Online | Mar 2022
 - ‘A Critical Review of the Rebel Groups’ Participation in the Formal Negotiations of thePeace Process’ at the SISP Conference 2021 | Online | Sep 2021
 - ‘Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaaf (PTI) in Power and Limits of Populism in Pakistan’ atIreland-India Institute of Dublin City University | Dublin, Ireland | Apr 2019
 - Student Delegate to ‘Jindal-LUMS Conclave at O.P. Jindal University’ |Sonipat India | Apr 2014
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AWARDS and GRANTS

- ISA Annual Convention Travel Grant 2023 | March 2023
- Full PhD Grant by Italian Higher Education (MIUR) and DISPO, University of Genoa, Italy | Nov 2020 to present
- Unibo Action-2 Merit based scholarship based on GRE scores for international students for full Master’s degree at University of Bologna | Oct 2017 to Oct 2019

LANGUAGES SKILLS

- Urdu: Native Speaker
- English: full professional proficiency
- Punjabi: Advanced professional proficiency
- Italian: Elementary professional proficiency