

Ashwini Vasanthakumar

Academic Employment

- 2018 - **Queen's National Scholar in Legal and Political Philosophy**,
Queen's Law School
- 2016 - 2018 **Lecturer in Politics, Philosophy & Law**, Dickson Poon School of
Law, King's College London
- 2015-2016 **Lecturer in Political Theory**, University of York
- 2012-2013 **Assistant Professor**, Jindal Global Law School

Academic Fellowships

- 2013-2015 **Term Fellow in Political Theory**, University College, Oxford
- 2011-2012 **Ruebhausen South Asia Fellow**, Yale Law School and Jindal Global
Law School

Education

- 2013 **D.Phil in Political Theory**, University of Oxford (Balliol College)
The Ethics of Exile: the Normative Grounds of Exile Politics
Supervisor: David Miller
Examiners: Marc Stears (Oxford) and Chandran Kukathas (LSE)
- 2011 **J.D.**, Yale Law School
Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project
Yale Journal of International Law
Executive Board, *Women of Colour Collective*
- 2006 **M.Sc in Political Theory by Research**, University of Oxford
- 2005 **M.A in Political Theory**, University of Toronto
- 2004 **A.B (Social Studies)**, Harvard University
magna cum laude with highest honors
Co-President, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Student
Council; Fellow, Center for International Development

Publications

- Book* *The Ethics of Exile: a political theory of diaspora* (forthcoming, Oxford
University Press)
- Articles* 'Privatising Border Control' – *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies* (available
online)

‘Epistemic Privilege and Victims’ Duties to resist their Oppression,’
Journal of Applied Philosophy (available online)

‘Exile Political Representation,’ *The Journal of Political Philosophy*, 24 (3),
2016: 277-296.

‘Treason, Expatriation and ‘So-Called’ Americans: Recovering the Role of
Allegiance in Citizenship,’ *Georgetown Journal of Law & Public Policy* 12 (1),
2014: 187-233.

In progress ‘Including Outsiders: diaspora institutions and political inclusion’

‘Pluralism in Political Obligation: the problem of multiple political
allegiance’

‘The Reasonably Unjust State’

‘Transitional Justice as Transnational Justice’

Other ‘Accountability in and at the outskirts of the law: Comments on Martha
C. Nussbaum’s lecture, *Accountability in an Era of Celebrity*’, September 1,
2017. Available at: [https://www.kcl.ac.uk/law/c-ppl/Inaugural-Lecture-
Series/Ashwini-Vasanthakumar-comments-NUSSBAUM-lecture-Sept-1-
2017.pdf](https://www.kcl.ac.uk/law/c-ppl/Inaugural-Lecture-Series/Ashwini-Vasanthakumar-comments-NUSSBAUM-lecture-Sept-1-2017.pdf)

‘Do victims have obligations?’ *Philosophy* 247, August 14, 2017.
Podcast with David Edmonds. Available at:
<http://www.philosophy247.org/podcasts/victim/>

‘Three Constitutional Reforms for Sri Lanka,’ *Int’l J. Const. L. Blog*, Feb.
7, 2015 (with Rehan Abeyratne)

‘Sri Lanka’s Alternatives Abroad’ *Himal Southasian* (December 2010) (with
K. Ananda and V.V. Ganeshanathan)

Grants, Honours and Fellowships

Principal applicant

Visiting Forum Fellowship, Uppsala Forum on Democracy, Peace, and Justice, Uppsala
University (2018)
British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award (2016)
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Award (2009-2011; declined)
Canadian Rhodes Scholar (Ontario & Balliol, 2005)
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Masters Award (2005)
Harvard Center for International Development Undergraduate Fellow (2004)
Harvard Asia Foundation research grant (2003)
Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Undergraduate Grant (2003)

Co-applicant

Boundary Problem in Democratic Theory (2016-2020) (Swedish Research Council and
Wallenberg Foundation)

Prizes

Detur Prize (top 10% of first-year students at Harvard)
Alexis de Tocqueville Prize (top dissertation in Social Studies, Harvard)

Invited talks

2018

'Privatizing Border Control'

The Singapore Symposium in Legal Theory, **National University of Singapore**

Symposium for John Gardner

Commentator, **Wadham College, Oxford**

Colloquium: Rights and Responsibilities in the Context of Structural Injustice

Commentator, American Philosophical Association Central Meeting, **Chicago**

'Including Outsiders'

Uppsala Forum on Democracy, Peace, and Justice, **Uppsala University**

UK-Latin America Political Philosophy Research Network, **Mexico City**

2017

'Including Outsiders: Emigrant Diasporas and the Boundary Problem in Democratic Theory'

'Diasporas and Homeland Governance' workshop, **Freie Universitat Berlin**

'The Boundary Problem' workshop **Institute for Futures Studies (Stockholm)**

'The radical potential of human rights: when we need more than the 'ordinary virtues''

Comments at the book launch of Michael Ignatieff's *The Ordinary Virtues*, **King's College London**

Migration and refugees

Global Justice in Philosophy and International Law workshop, **University of Michigan Law School**

'Victims and Violence'

How do Victims' Lives Matter? Which/How Lives Matter conference, **Cardozo Law School (New York)**

'The goods of citizenship'

Weaponising Citizenship panel discussion, **Cambridge University**

'Privatising Border Control'

Visiting Speaker Series, **University of Bristol**

'Accountability in and at the outskirts of the law'

Sexual Violence: Accountability in a Culture of Celebrity panel discussion with Martha C. Nussbaum, **King's College London**

'The Problem with Multiple Political Allegiance'

Philosophy of Borders conference, **Central European University**

Relationships & Responsibilities conference, **University College Dublin**

New Voices in Legal Theory workshop, **King's College London**

'Transnational Actors and Global Governance'

- International Studies Association annual convention, **Baltimore**
(presented remotely)
- 2016 *'Who is entitled to a say? Inclusion, Democracy and Self-Determination'*
Night of Philosophy, **UNESCO Paris**
- 'The Moral Permissibility of Using Private Actors in Immigration Enforcement'*
Political Theory Faculty Series, **University of Edinburgh**
- 'Victims' Duties to Resist Their Oppression'*
Legal & Political Theory Seminar, **University College London**
Political Theory Faculty Series, **University of Manchester**
- 2015 *'Resisting Injustice and Transnational Civil Disobedience'*
Civil Disobedience Beyond the State conference, **Nuffield College, Oxford**
- 'The Puzzle of Dual Political Allegiance'*
Political Obligation, Liberty and the Law: a Conference in Memory of
Dudley Knowles, **University of Glasgow**
Global Justice and Political Obligations workshop, **University College London**
- 'Surviving Oppression: Epistemic Privilege and Victims' Duties to Resist'*
Nuffield Political Theory Workshop, **University of Oxford**
- 2014 *'Surviving Injustice: Survivors' Special Responsibilities to Defeat Injustice'*
Association for Legal and Social Philosophy Annual Conference, **Leeds**
New Voices in Legal Theory Workshop, **St. Andrews**
- 2013 *'The Privy Council, the Caribbean Court of Justice, and Commonwealth Constitutionalism as Transnational Law'*
International Network on Transnational Legal and Political Theory,
Queen Mary, London
- 'Rule of Law in Sri Lanka'*
Roundtables on Advancing Human Rights in Post-War Sri Lanka, **Delhi**

Teaching

- Queen's Contract Law
Oppression and the Ethics of Resistance
- King's Contract Law
Criminal Law
Law & Injustice
* nominated for a Teaching Excellence Award (2017; 2018)
- York Contemporary Political Philosophy
Toleration and its Critics (graduate)
- Oxford Introduction to Democratic Theory
Introduction to Democratic Institutions
Theory of Politics
US Government and Politics

	Methods and Approaches in Political Theory (graduate) *nominated for an Outstanding Tutor award (2014)
Jindal	Indian Constitutional Law II Law & Social Transformation (graduate) The Law and Politics of Global Justice in the 'global South'
Other	Guest lecturer, <i>Foundations</i> Blavatnik School of Government (2015-2017) Visiting Professor, <i>Comparative Constitutionalism in the Global South</i> Direito GV, Fundação Getulio Vargas, São Paulo, Brazil (2013) Teaching Fellow, <i>Moral Foundations of Politics</i> Yale University (2011) Teaching Fellow, <i>US Government and Politics</i> University of Toronto (2005)

Faculty Service

King's	Programme Director - Georgetown LLB/JD and LLB/LLM External Relations Committee Scholarships Committee Athena SWAN Sub-committee (implements processes to facilitate the advancement of women in the faculty)
York	Programme Convenor - MA in Political & Legal Theory University-wide Academic Misconduct Committee
Oxford	Admissions (PPE and History & Politics) <i>Ad hoc</i> disciplinary committee Member, Governing Body
Jindal	Assistant Dean (Research and Global Initiatives) Convenor - Faculty Seminar Series Committee on Liberal Arts Curriculum

Professional Affiliations and Service

Researcher	<i>The Boundary Problem in Democratic Theory</i> project, Institute for Futures Studies (Stockholm)
Philosophy and Law Review Panel	Swedish Research Council
Associate	Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University (Toronto) Institute of Commonwealth Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford
Reviewer	<i>International Theory</i>

Journal of Political Philosophy
Res Publica
American Political Science Review
European Journal of Political Theory

Organiser Privatising Border Control (one-day workshop funded by the
 British Academy Rising Star Award)
 Rogue States (Law & Justice forum, with Dr. Massimo Renzo)

Other Legal Experience and Human Rights Advocacy

2010, 2011	Herbert Smith, LLP (Summer Associate, US Securities practice, London)
2010	Debevoise & Plimpton, LLP (Summer Associate, transactional practice, New York)
2009	Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen, & Katz, LLP (Summer Associate, transactional and litigation practices, New York)
2008-09	Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project
2005-2007	Asylum Welcome, Oxford
Summer 2005	Human Rights Watch (Asia Division, New York)

July 20, 2018