

Dr. Varun Mohan.

Project Coordinator, the Solar Geoengineering Non-Use Agreement Initiative (SGNUA)

Researcher, Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University

Independent Research Consultant

Personal website: www.varun-mohan.com

Email: v.mohan@uu.nl | varun@solargeoeng.org |

varunm91@outlook.com **Phone:** +91 97447 89981

Environmental studies scholar specializing in climate policy, global governance, with a focus on Global South perspectives. My work focuses on global environmental politics; climate governance and climate security; Global South perspectives; multi-level governance; climate adaptation; international organizations.



Head Shot 1

Current Positions

- **Project Coordinator**, the Solar Geoengineering Non-Use Agreement Initiative (SGNUA) (2026-present)
- **Researcher**, Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University (2026-present)
- **Research Fellow**, *Earth System Governance Project*, hosted at Uppsala University in Sweden (2024-present)
 - Affiliated researcher contributing to international research networks on global environmental governance, climate politics, and sustainability transitions.
 - Coordinator the South-South Initiative

Previous Research & Teaching Positions

- **Assistant Professor**, *School of Geopolitics and Public Policy*, REVA University (Oct 2025-Jun 2026)- Design and deliver undergraduate/postgraduate teaching in international relations, global governance, and climate politics
- **Visiting Research Scholar**, *School of Political Science & International Studies*, **University of Queensland, Australia** (with Professor Matt McDonald), (Jan-Apr 2024)
- **Founding Director**, *Pod Learning*, (Aug 2020-Aug 2021) - Founded and led a skill development initiative for school students, with responsibility for curriculum design, instructional delivery, and academic coordination.
- **Teaching Faculty**, *Political Science & International Relations*, *iLearn IAS Academy* (Jul 2015–July 2020) - Delivered foundational and advanced courses in political science and international relations for competitive examination candidates, including political theory, international relations, social justice, Indian polity and contemporary global affairs.

Education

- **PhD**, **National Institute of Advanced Studies**, Bengaluru (Aug 2021-Mar 2026).
- **MA, Political Science**, University of Hyderabad (2013-2015).
- **BA, History**, Loyola College, Chennai (2010-2013)

Publications

1. Publication with peer review process

- a. **Mohan, V.***(2025). *In search of consensus: Examining Global South Perspectives on Climate Security in UNSC Debates*. Earth System Governance. 23, 100231. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.esg.2024.100231>.
- b. Magunna, A., & **Mohan, V.** (2025). *Anchor or overreach? Explaining divergent responses to Indian maritime diplomacy in Mauritius and the Maldives*. Journal of the Indian Ocean Region, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19480881.2025.2585234>.
- c. (Accepted) Sharma, A* & **Mohan, V.** *Assessing G20's climate action: Looking beyond the Indian Presidency*. Indian Journal of Politics and International Relations.

2. Submitted publications with peer review process

- a. **Mohan, V*** & Kunhikrishnan, E. *Governing at the Edge of Habitability: Legitimacy, Loss, and the Politics of Extreme Adaptation in Kerala and Beyond*.
- b. **Mohan, V***. *Governing Climate Security in the United Nations: Institutional Fragmentation and the Legitimacy-Capacity Gap*.
- c. **Mohan, V*** & Panneerselvam, Prakash. *Climate Security and The Politics of Knowledge Production*.

3. Book Chapter

- a. (Book Chapter) Jayaram, Dhanasree* & **Mohan, Varun**. *India-Sri Lanka Climate Partnership: Navigating Shared Vulnerabilities and Building a Sustainable Future*. Vivekananda International Foundation.

4. Working Papers

- a. (Book Chapter) **Mohan, Varun*** & Jayaram, Dhanasree. Critical Minerals and the Energy Transition in the Global South: Supply Chains, Partnerships, and Decarbonisation Pathways. **Chintan Research Foundation**.
- b. (Book Chapter) Jayaram, Dhanasree* & **Mohan, Varun**. Climate Cooperation in South Asia. **Oxford University Press**.
- c. (Case Study) Mohan, V. *The Karur Fabrics: Scaling a GOTS-Certified Home Textile Business under Cost and Market Constraints*.

5. Policy Publications and Commentaries

- a. *Wewerinke-Singh et al.*, (July 2026). Precaution Means Non-Use: A Response to UNEP's Working Paper on Solar Radiation Modification. <https://www.solargeoeng.org/precaution-means-non-use-a-response-to-uneps-working-paper-on-solar-radiation-modification/>
- b. **Mohan, Varun et.al.**, (December 2025). *US national strategy shift opens new doors and new demands for India*. Telangana Today. <https://telanganatoday.com/opinion-us-national-strategy-shift-opens-new-doors-and-new-demands-for-india>
- c. **Mohan, Varun** (December 2025). *COP30 and Climate Geopolitics*. Centre of Excellence for Geopolitics and International Studies. <https://geopolitics.reva.edu.in/circular-detail/cop30-and-climate-geopolitics>
- d. **Mohan, V.*** (February 2025). *A Test of Governance: India's Struggle Against Environmental Upheaval*. South Asian Voices. Stimson Center. <https://southasianvoices.org/ec-m-in-r-indian-environmental-governance-02-14-2025/>
- e. **Mohan, V.*** (December 2024). *Market mechanism debate: Article 6 key to emissions reduction*. The New Indian Express. <https://www.newindianexpress.com/xplore/2024/Dec/28/market-mechanism-debate-article-6-key-to-emissions-reduction>
- f. **Mohan, V.*** & Panneerselvam, Prakash (April 2024). *Forging a Green Alliance: India-Australia Collaboration on Climate Change*. Australia-India Institute. University of Melbourne. <https://aii.unimelb.edu.au/forging-a-green-alliance-india-australia-collaboration-on-climate-change/>
- g. **Mohan, V.*** (April 2024). *India's Electoral Bond Conundrum*. South Asian Voices. Stimson Center. <https://southasianvoices.org/pol-m-in-n-india-electoral-bond-conundrum-04-16-2024/>
- h. **Mohan, V*** (2023). *Melting of ice in the Arctic: A view from South Asia*. Planetary

Security Initiative. Clingendael Institute. Netherlands.

<https://www.planetarysecurityinitiative.org/news/melting-ice-arctic-view-south-asia>

- i. **Mohan, V.*** (2022, July). *Sri Lanka Crisis: A 21st Century French Revolution*. Geopolitical Monitor. <https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/sri-lanka-crisis-a-21st-century-french-revolution/>
- j. **Mohan, V.*** (2022, March). *Interpretation of QUAD and AUKUS in Indo-Pacific Region*. The Geopolitics. <https://thegeopolitics.com/interpretation-of-quad-and-aukus-in-the-indo-pacific-region/>
- k. Master Dissertation titled '*The Concept of Security Redefined: A Human Security Approach*' submitted to University of Hyderabad, India.

Projects/Grants/Fellowship

- a. The British Academy Travel Support 2026 (Second Equitable Conference, South Africa)
- b. International Studies Association 2026 Annual Convention Travel Grant, USA
- c. ICSSR (Indian Council of Social Science Research) International Travel Grant (2025)
- d. Research Grant: Global South perspectives on People Positive Climate Action- National Institute of Advanced Studies.
- e. Senior Research Fellowship, Government of India (2021-2025)

Conference Presentations

- a. Presented paper titled '*Contested Climates, Fractured Orders: Climate Security, the UN, and the Crisis of Global Legitimacy*' at the **ISA 2026 Convention** (21-25, March), **Greater Columbus, Ohio, USA**
- b. Participated in the Second Equitable Partnership Conference 2026. National Research Foundation (NRF) & the Royal Society, and **the British Academy**, 3-5 February 2026 in **Pretoria, South Africa**.
- c. Presented paper titled '*Geopolitics in Crisis: Climate Governance and Power Dynamics in the Indo-Pacific*' at the **4th NERPS Conference** at the De La Salle University (DLSU) in **Manila, Philippines**.
- d. Presented paper titled "In Search of Consensus: Examining Global South Perspectives on Climate Security in UNSC Debates" at the **ISSS-IS Pittsburgh 2024 Conference, USA**
- e. Presented Paper titled 'Climate Security in the Arctic- a Global South Perspective' in the International Conference- "Polar (In)Securities: The Future of Global Affairs in the Circumpolar North," organized by **the Arctic Institute** on June 9, 2022
- f. Co presented Paper titled 'Emerging Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Markets: Growth, Opportunities and Challenges to India' at the Annual International Studies Convention, December 10-12, 2013, JNU, New Delhi, India.

Academic Engagement and Professional Activities

- a. Workshop: Governance at the End of the World: State Power, Risk, and Imagination in an Age of Global Catastrophic Threats at the **ISA 2026 Convention** (21-25, March), **Greater Columbus, Ohio, USA**
- b. Workshop: 'Write impactful, publication-ready teaching cases' at **Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kozhikode**. (30-31 Jan 2026)
- c. Observer at **the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP29)**, **Baku, Azerbaijan**.
- d. NIAS Wednesday Discussion Series. "In Search of Consensus: Examining Global South Perspectives on Climate Security in UNSC Debates". 11 December 2024
- e. Special Rapporteur (August 2024). Co-Drafted the report on "*India, EU, and Just Energy Transitions: Strengthening Climate Diplomacy for Sustainable Futures*." at the conference of India, EU, and Just Energy Transitions: Strengthening Climate Diplomacy for Sustainable Futures, **Manipal University**.
- f. Volunteer at the 2024 Forum on 'Re-Imagining Earth System Governance in an Era of Polycrisis' 14-18 October 2024

Teaching Competencies and Academic Skills

- Undergraduate teaching in political science, international relations, history and public policy, with experience engaging students from interdisciplinary backgrounds.
- Course delivery and assessment in political theory, global governance, climate politics, and international security.
- Curriculum design and syllabus development for introductory and advanced-level courses.
- Qualitative research methods, including document analysis, discourse analysis, and policy analysis.
- Academic writing and peer-reviewed publication; policy-oriented writing and knowledge translation

Academic Service and Leadership

- Environmental Studies Section-International Studies Association
- Coordinator-South-South Initiative, Earth System Governance Project
- Research & Outreach Coordinator, REVA University

Research Methods

- Qualitative methods: discourse analysis, document analysis, policy analysis
- Process tracing and institutional analysis
- Semi-structured interviews