

Manoj Kewalramani

Public Policy/International Relations/Journalism

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Current Work Experience

Chairperson-Indo-Pacific Studies Programme & Fellow-China Studies October 2017 - Ongoing

The Takshashila Institution

- Exercising overall leadership over research under the Indo-Pacific Studies Programme
- Conducting research on the Sino-Indian relationship, Chinese foreign and domestic policies and development of new technologies
- Engaging with policymakers
- Engaging with think tanks and research institutes to build a network of strategic partners across the Indo-Pacific region
- Writing a daily newsletter tracking discourse in the People's Daily
- Writing a weekly newsletter, Eye on China, tracking developments in China from an Indian perspective
- Writing research-based opinion pieces in mainstream press
- Host of Takshashila's daily public policy podcast
- Teaching specific units on communications and strategic studies across Takshashila's different programmes
- Leading Takshashila's external communications initiatives

Senior Associate (Non-resident), Freeman Chair in China Studies October 2021 - Ongoing

Center for Strategic & International Studies

- Contributor to the Open Source Project

Publications: Books & Book Chapters

- Smokeless War: China's Quest for Geopolitical Dominance, Bloomsbury, June 2021.
- 'Influence & Hedging: China's Engagement in South Asia' in Routledge Handbook on South Asian Foreign Policy, August 2021.
- 'Navigating the China challenge' in India's Marathon: Reshaping the Post-Pandemic World Order, November 2020.
- 'Ecosystem of Innovation needed to boost AI in India' in The Innovation Route to Development-Indo-US Perspective, 2019.

Publications: Select Research Reports

- Takshashila Discussion Document – 'Examining Biden's Evolving Indo-Pacific Policy', April 2021.
- Takshashila Discussion Document – 'BRI in the Post-COVID World: Risks and Responses', August 2020.
- Takshashila Discussion Document – 'An Indian Approach to Navigate China's Rise', December 2019.
- Takshashila Discussion Document: 'Huawei, 5G & Geopolitics: An Indian Roadmap,' June 2019
- Takshashila Working Paper: 'China's Quest For AI Leadership: Prospects and Challenges,' October 2018.
- Takshashila Discussion Document: India's China Reset: An Assessment. April 2018.

Key Skills:

- Research and Academic Writing
- Writing Briefs and Memos
- News and Features Writing
- Multimedia Reporting
- Digital and TV Production
- Immersive Storytelling
- Mandarin Skills at HSK 3-1 Level

- Takshashila Discussion Document: 'Assessing China's Engagement in the Indian Subcontinent,' March 2018.

Select Speaking Engagements

- Discussant at the 4th India Forum on China, December 2021.
- Speaker at the 2019 China Seminar conducted for serving Indian armed forces personnel at the Defense Staff Services College in Wellington, India.
- Speaker at a conference on the Evolving Dynamics of the India-China Relationship jointly organised by the Indian Council of World Affairs and The Takshashila Institution in June 2019.
- Speaker at the Symbiosis School of International Studies' International Relations Conference, 2018: on Shaping a New Strategic Culture for India.
- Member of the Indian delegation at the Intellisia Institute's 2019 conference on The Future of China-India Relations: Perspectives from Young Scholars in Guangzhou, China.
- NASSCOM Product Conclave, 2018: Vertical RoundTable – China's Pursuit of AI Leadership
- Delivered a lecture at the Shanghai International Studies University on Journalism in the Age of Digital Media in May 2015.

Past Work Experience

Executive Producer-Assignment & Features May 2016 - May 2017

World is One News

- Reported analytical stories on global news events for the network
- Produced a weekly features show titled Changing India
- Responsible for international assignments and management of field assets
- Managed a team of documentary producers, creating unique feature content
- Spearheaded immersive, interactive and VR storytelling projects

Senior Editor - Digital News June 2013 - March 2016

China Global Television Network (Beijing)

- Editorial in-charge of the network's digital media platforms
- Coordinated with reporters and shows to build convergence
- Spearheaded the setting up of CGTN's Ask China property - an annual interaction with Chinese government officials
- Developed, scripted, and occasionally anchored short business and trending news round-ups
- Mentored and trained the digital media team in covering live and breaking news events
- Was awarded the CGTN Outstanding Employee of the Year award for 2015-2016

Director March 2011 - June 2013

Crown Import and Export Ltd (Hong Kong)

- Sourcing in China and overseeing operations

Senior News Producer (New Media) Jan. 2008 - March 2009

NewsX

- Editorial in-charge of all digital content
- Responsible for planning and covering key events, along with devising and implementing interactive social media strategies
- Repurposed and packaged content from TV reports, wires and independent reporters across different verticals

Special Correspondent (New Media)

May 2006 - Dec. 2007

NDTV Convergence

- Responsible for coverage of key political and sporting events for digital platforms
- Conceptualized and implemented in-depth sections focused on elections or major breaking news coverage for NDTV.com
- Worked to build convergence between TV-Web-Mobile coverage of events

English Editor

Sept. 2005 - May 2006

Cactus Communications

- Edited research papers from various fields within the humanities stream
- Provided guidance to editors on content, facts, language and terminology in the fields of political science, economics, history, and theology

Researcher

June 2005 - August 2005

Tata Institute of Social Sciences

- Worked on a project on “Sexual Violence in Marriages” sponsored by Lawyers Collective, New Delhi
- Conducted field research, collecting data and views of men on sexual violence in marriages
- Wrote a brief on my research findings, which was part of the final report

Intern

Nov. 2003 - May 2004

Nav Maharashtra Community Foundation

- Assessed proposals for development projects from human rights, education and healthcare NGOs in Maharashtra
- Managed press relations for the foundation