

Aishwarya Harichandan

Assistant Professor
Economics and Business Environment
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Education

1. Ph.D. Economics, Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University (2017-2023) – “Governments and Terrorists: A Game Theoretic Framework”
2. M.Phil. Economics, Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University (2015- 2017) – “Terrorism in a Game Theoretical Framework” -76.20%
3. M.A. Economics (with Specialisation in World Economy), Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University (2013- 2015) – Secured First Position in the batch- 88.70%
4. B.A. (Hons) Economics, University of Delhi (2010-2013) -79.50%
5. AISSCE (XIIth), The Air Force School, Subroto Park, New Delhi
6. AISSE (Xth), The Air Force School, Subroto Park, New Delhi

Research

Research Fields

Game Theory, Behavioural Economics, International Economics, Law and Economics, Political Economy, Conflicts

Published in Peer Reviewed Journal

Harichandan, A. (2024). Rationality of the Terrorist Group and Government's Policy: A Game Theoretic Approach. *Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy*, (0)

Abstract: The two ideas of the rationality of terrorist organisations and the costly leader game are used in this paper to construct a game theoretic model. It is an addition to the literature on terrorism and leader-follower games, in which the government and a terrorist organisation are the two players. The terrorist group can be rational or irrational. In case it is rational, it does the cost-benefit analysis and is open to negotiation. Only in this case, the government chooses to not spend on counter-terrorist measure. The irrational group has lexicographic preferences, which means that it prefers a successful attack to attract attention and recruits at the beginning or finish of its operation. Consequently, it is assumed that the irrational group will always attack. the irrational terrorist organisation has the option of either choosing not to mimic the rational group or choosing to do so at a psychological cost. Although the irrational group dislikes imitation. It seeks to duplicate the rational group so that the government withdraws and cuts back on spending on counterterrorism. A costly leader model is set up in the paper, where the government can incur a cost to gather information about the type of terrorist group. In this framework, the paper provides policy prescriptions with respect to counter-terrorist measures that the government should take in case the type of terrorist group being rational or irrational is unknown and it highlights the importance of intelligence.

Under Review

Lone Wolf Terrorism: An Outcome of Emotive and Cognitive Economics

Abstract: This paper uses game theory to model lone-wolf terrorists. Lone wolf terrorism is neither funded by a terrorist organization nor represents one. He/she undertakes a terrorist attack in his/her own capacity. It considers the behaviour of the lone wolf terrorist as the outcome of emotion and cognition. Emotions are represented through the social tie, whereas cognition is represented by loss aversion. In the case of social ties, it is taken to be affecting the expected utility of the lone wolf terrorist. It can be positive or negative. Taking prospect theory into account, in the case of loss aversion, losses weigh twice the corresponding gains in terms of marginal gains and losses. The policy prescriptions, in this case, are to increase the level and intensity of punishment and social ties.

Counter-Terrorism Efforts by Government in Case of Hostage Taking by Negotiation and Bargaining: A Game Theoretic Analysis

Abstract: This paper talks about the short-term and long-term terrorists and the scenario of hostage-taking. By using the tool of game theory, it takes into consideration whether the government should negotiate with them or not. It goes on to look into the expenditure by the government on anti-terrorist activities depending upon the incidence of attacks and the political stability.

Working Papers

Harichandan, A. (2022). Transnational Terrorism and Affiliates: A Game Theoretic Analysis. Available at SSRN 4309285.

Abstract: This paper looks at a case where there are two branches of a terrorist group, which operate in two different locations targeting two different countries and regions. This does away with the free rider's problem arising out of pre-emption that has been highlighted in the literature. The free rider's problem leads to no action by both countries, thereby making them highly vulnerable to terrorist attacks. However, the over-deterrence can still be concluded from the paper.

Harichandan, A. (2022). Counter-terrorism Efforts by Government Versus Private Players: A Game Theoretic Analysis. Centre for International Trade and Development, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Abstract: This paper uses game theory to study whether the counter-terrorism efforts of the government and anti-terrorism precautions taken by private players are substitutes or complements. It investigates the case of multiple equilibria. The analysis suggests that the government spend on creating awareness amongst the citizens about being vigilant.

Conference Presentations

International Conference on Recent Developments in Economics Research: Theory and Evidence, Centre for International Trade and Development, SIS, JNU	2024
2024 Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society, IIT Delhi	2024
PAN IIM Conference, IIM Sambalpur	2024

CIIE Conference, IIFT Kolkata	2023
Society for Operation Management Conference IIM Shillong (Accepted)	2023
Suscon, 10 th International Conference on Sustainability, IIM Shillong	2023
International Conference on Economics and Planning, IIM Shillong	2023
Rsep International Conferences on Social Issues and Economic Studies, Madrid (Accepted)	2023
44 th Eurasia Business and Economics Society (EBES), Istanbul (accepted)	2023
16th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, ISI Delhi	2021
Winter School, Delhi School of Economics	2017
International Conference on Business, Economics, Sustainable Development, Department of Business & Sustainability, TERI School of Advanced Studies	2018
Fourth International Conference on South Asian Economic Development, Faculty of Economics, South Asian University, New Delhi	2018

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor, Christ (Deemed to be University) (June 2023–March 2024)

International Economics, MSc Third Semester

Macroeconomics II, MSc Second Semester

Environmental Economics, BSc Sixth Semester

Advanced Econometrics, BSc Fifth Semester

International Economics, BA Economics Political Science Fourth Semester

Business Economics, BCom First Semester

Basic Data Analysis and Excel, BA Economics Political Science First Semester

Assistant Professor, Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, University of Delhi (July- December 2018)

Economic History of India, BA (Hons) Economics Fifth Semester

Statistics and Econometrics, Bcom (Programme) Fifth Semester

Book Project

Book on Indian Economy under Prof. Biswajit Nag, Professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi

Book on COVID-19's effect on South Asian Economies under Dr Sahana Roy Chowdhury, Associate Professor, IMI Calcutta

Research Position

Research Assistant under Prof. Sangeet Bansal, Professor, Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Newspaper Publications

<https://www.telegraphindia.com/> - “Guns Over Roses” – The Telegraph – October 2021

<https://www.telegraphindia.com/opinion/stubborn-affliction-india-needs-to-take-steps-to-address-anaemia-among-pregnant-women/cid/1962694-> The Telegraph – August 2023

<https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/calcutta/2023-11-27/71/Page-10.html> – The Telegraph- November 2023

Positions of Distinctions

Secured first position in MA Economics (with Specialization in World Economy) - Jawaharlal Nehru University

Secured first position in BA (Honours) Economics- Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, University of Delhi

Fellowship

Senior Research Fellow (2017-20)

Junior Research Fellow (2015-17)

Ford Foundation Fellowship (2013-2015)

PM Indira Gandhi Post Graduate Scholarship (2013-2015)

Internship

Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance (May-July 2014)

Administrative Responsibilities

Member of Curriculum Development Committee for MSc Economics and Analytics at Christ (Deemed to be University), Delhi NCR Campus

Seminar Series Faculty in charge at Christ (Deemed to be University), Delhi NCR Campus

Digital Wing Faculty in charge at Christ (Deemed to be University), Delhi NCR Campus

Licenses

National Eligibility Test – December 2014

Computer Skills

Programming: STATA, R

References

Dr. Brishti Guha

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Prof. Meeta Keswani Mehra

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Prof. Krishnendu Ghosh Dastidar

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Prof. Aparna Sawhney

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