

DR ALICE E. FINDEN

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I am an Assistant Professor of International Politics at Durham University. I completed my ESRC funded Doctorate at SOAS, University of London in December 2022, where I investigated colonial logics of counterterrorism in Egypt and Britain using postcolonial and feminist approaches. I have a background in Gender Studies, Terrorism Studies, Middle Eastern Studies and Social Research Methods. I have taught multiple BA and MA level courses on International Relations, Empire and Colonialism, Gender and Politics, and Middle Eastern Politics. My monograph, *Counterterrorism and Colonialism: Everyday Violence in Britain and Egypt*, is published with Routledge's Interventions series (2025). I have published several peer reviewed articles and have co-edited a collection entitled *Methodologies in Critical Terrorism Studies: Gaps and Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (Routledge). I am the recipient of two BISA prizes: the 2025 BISA Early Career Excellence in Teaching International Studies prize and the 2025 Best BISA Working Group Prize.

EDUCATION

PhD, SOAS, University of London, ESRC funded	2018-2022
Thesis Title: Counter Terrorism and the Normalisation of Violence: A Feminist Genealogy of Anglo/Egyptian Pre-criminal Practices	
Visiting Doctoral Researcher, Government Department, University of Essex	2020-2021
MRes in Social Research, Birkbeck, University of London, ESRC funded	2017-2018
Distinction awarded	
MA in Gender Studies and Law, SOAS University of London	2014-2016
Distinction awarded	
BA (Hons) in Middle Eastern and Modern Foreign Languages, The University of Manchester	2009-2013
First class honors awarded	

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Finden, A, Abraham, K. J., 2026. 'Unsettling Feelings: Colonial Archives, Decolonial Possibilities' *Global Studies Quarterly* 6(2).
- Aitlhadj, L., Finden, A., Haspesslagh, S., Kaleem, A., Khan, R. M., Salhab, A., Sen, S., Schotten, C.H., Stampnitzky, L. 2024. 'Where is Palestine in Critical Terrorism Studies? A roundtable conversation' *Critical Studies on Terrorism*, pp. 1–26.
- Finden, A. E. and Dutta, S., 2024. 'Counterterrorism, political anxiety and legitimacy in postcolonial India and Egypt' *Critical Studies on Terrorism*, pp. 1-25.
- Finden, A. E., 2023. 'Counter-mapping the Archive: A Decolonial Feminist Research Method' *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, pp. 1-22.
- Finden, A. E., 2021. 'Hygiene, Morality and the Pre-criminal: Genealogies of Suspicion from Twentieth Century British-occupied Egypt' *Australian Feminist Law Journal*, 47(1), pp. 27-45.
- Finden, A. E., 2018. 'Active Women and Ideal Refugees: Dissecting Gender, Identity and Discourse in the Sahrawi Refugee Camps' *Feminist Review*, 120, pp. 37-53.

Monograph

- Finden, A. E., 2025, *Counterterrorism and Colonialism: Everyday Violence in Britain and Egypt* (Routledge).

Book Chapters

- Finden, A. E. 2025. Colonial Law and Normal Violence: The Racialised, Gendered and Classed Development of Counter Terrorism. In Sagnik Dutta, Tahir Abbas and Sylvia I. Bergh (eds), *Global Counterterrorism: A Decolonial Approach*. Manchester University Press.

Edited Collections

- Finden, A. E., Yebra López, C., Ike, T., Gaudino, U., & Oando, S. (eds) 2024. *Methodologies in Critical Terrorism Studies: Gaps and Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (Routledge).

Book Reviews

- Finden, A. E. 2020. Review of ‘Cultures, Citizenship and Human Rights by Rosemarie Buikema, Antoine Buyse and Antonius C.G.M Robben (eds.) *Cross-Cultural Human Rights Review* 2(1), pp. 81-85.

Blog Posts, Media and Online Journals

- Alexander, A., Murray, C., Finden, A., 2025. ‘To fight ban on Palestine Action, we must learn from university protesters’, *OpenDemocracy*. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/palestine-action-ban-proscription-labour-governmnet-learn-university-protests-campus/>
- Finden, A. E. 2025. ‘Excess, Ambiguity and Intimacy: The Coloniality of The Emergency in Egypt’, *POMEPS*. <https://pomeps.org/excess-ambiguity-and-intimacy-the-coloniality-of-the-emergency-in-egypt>
- Finden, A. E. 2021. ‘Uncovering the similarities between the police, crime, sentencing and courts bill and British colonial laws in Egypt’, *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/uncovering-the-similarities-between-the-police-crime-sentencing-and-courts-bill-and-british-colonial-laws-in-egypt-158588>
- Finden, A. E. 2020. ‘From martial law to counter-terrorism: lessons from British colonialism in Egypt’, *Imperial & Global Forum*. <https://imperialglobalexeter.com/2020/02/12/from-martial-law-to-counter-terrorism-law-lessons-from-british-colonialism-in-egypt/>

PRIZES

- 2025 BISA Early Career Excellence in Teaching International Studies Prize with Dr Kavi Abraham.
- 2025 Best BISA Working Group Prize for the Critical Studies on Terrorism working group, with Dr Amna Kaleem and Dr Rabea Khan.

EDITORIAL AND PEER REVIEW POSITIONS

- Co-editor of special issue of *Critical Studies on Terrorism* entitled ‘Palestine and Critical Terrorism Studies’, forthcoming 2026.
- Co-editor of *Methodologies in Critical Terrorism Studies: Gaps and Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, forthcoming in Routledge 2023.
- Co-editor of special issue of *Australian Feminist Law Journal* entitled ‘Hygiene, Coloniality, Law’, published in 2021.
- Peer reviewer for *International Journal of the Commons*; *I.B. Tauris* (book review); *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*; *Critical Studies on Terrorism*; *Third World Quarterly*; *Democracy and Security*.
- Assistant copyeditor for *Feminist Review Journal* 2017-2018.
- Co-editor of *Middle East Solidarity* magazine 2014-present.

MEMBERSHIPS

- Co-convenor of the BISA Critical Studies on Terrorism working group (09/2021 – present).
- Membership of British International Studies Association (BISA), International Studies Association (ISA), British Society of Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES).

FUNDING

British Academy International Writing Workshops Alumni Funding (Co-I), £30,000

2023

Institute for Advanced Studies Durham Research Development Funding (PI), £1,500	2023
Fully funded Studentship from Economic Social Research Council, £17,000 p/a	2017-2021
Research and travel grant from International Studies Association, £500	2020

APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of International Politics, School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University – 01/01/2022 – present

Leadership and Administration

- Deputy Director of Education: overseeing all student-facing educational matters including chairing the Student Voice Committee; running peer mentor and student rep schemes; facilitating induction and open day activities; organising career events and high-profile speaker events; running LGBTQ+ focus groups.
- Department lead on Distance Learning Programme Development (2023/4): planning and design of a new Distance Learning MA course in International Relations for the School of Government and International Affairs; working at both the department level and the university level to consolidate information on administrative, financial and pedagogical structures required for these new programmes including liaising with external Online Programme Managers; curriculum design and development for the proposed MA course; managing a team of four academic staff.
- Department lead on Admissions and Open Days (2022/3): Designing content for UG and PG open days; coordinating with academic and professional services staff in the lead up to and during the open days.
- Member of search committee for Assistant Professor positions within the School of Government and International Affairs: longlisting and shortlisting tasks.
- Member of the Widening Participation Working Group, the SGIA Decolonising Working Group, the Pedagogy working group and the Group for Research on International Politics (GRIP) at Durham University.

Research

- Co-convening Critical Studies on Terrorism BISA working group, organising panels for BISA, EISA, ISA and running the CST annual conference; Co-hosted the workshop ‘Feminist perspectives on violence: visibility, survival and resistance’ in December 2024 at Durham University; Co-developed and ran an IAS-funded interdisciplinary workshop at Durham entitled ‘Archives and Decolonial Pedagogy’ on 29 February and 1 March 2024; Set up writing days for colleagues in the School of Government and International Affairs in March 2024; Facilitated ‘Amplifying African Voices in Peacekeeping and Statebuilding’ BA Writing workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, January 2024;

Teaching

- Curriculum and pedagogical design: Developed a new UG L2 module entitled ‘Gender and Politics’; Investigating the uses of archival spaces in the Politics classroom including running archival trips and focus groups with UG students; Re-designed the Introduction to International Relations syllabus from decolonial perspectives.
- Module convenor for Introduction to International Relations (UG, 350 students), 2022-25.
- Module convenor for State, Sovereignty and Empire (UG, 50 students), 2022-25.
- Module convenor for Gender and Politics (UG, 60 students) 2024/5.
- Lecturer on Research Project: Feminist Approaches to State Violence (UG, 30 students), 2022-23.
- Lecturer on International Relations Theory (PG, 50 students), 2022.
- Lecturer on Middle East in the International System (UG, 80 students), 2022.
- Supervision of UG and PG Dissertations.

Supervision

- Co-Supervisor for Ms. Sahra Isikdemir Degirmencioglu and Ms. Fatima Al-Motawaa
- Member of PhD supervision team for Ms. Seun Twins.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Centre for Gender Studies and Politics Department, SOAS, University of London, 2019-2021

Teaching

- Government and Politics of the Middle East, (UG, 30 students)
- Law, Terror and State Power, (UG, 60 students)
- Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East, (PG, 30 students)
- Gendering Migration and Diaspora, (PG, 50 students)
- Gender and Conflict Summer School, SOAS University of London, (30 students) 2019-2020
- Guest Lecturer on MA courses, Gender, Armed Conflict and International Law, 2019; Gender, Sexuality, Law 2022.

SELECT LIST OF PRESENTATIONS

- Book presentations: Counterterrorism and Colonialism: Everyday Violence in Britain and Egypt at Durham University (June 2025); University of Manchester (January 2026); Newcastle University (February 2026); Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter (March 2026).
- Project on Middle East Political Science (POMEPS) workshop on State and Regime Violence, November 2024, LSE.
- Feminist perspectives on Counterterrorism and Security: a decolonial politics of hope and abolition. 17 October 2024, Beijing Peace Lab.
- ‘Hygiene, security and welfare: rescuing immoral subjects’ presented at Gender, Race and Coloniality in the Governance of Terrorism and Violent Extremism workshop, Centre for International Security Studies, University of Sydney, 8 December 2023.
- ‘States of Terror: Colonial Legacies of Counterterror Laws in India and Egypt’ presented at Critical Studies on Terrorism annual Conference, University of Warwick, September 2022.
- ‘Semi-colonialism and preventive tools of governance in Egypt’ presented at Preventing Violent Extremism, Development and Gender workshop, University of Warwick, May 2022.
- ‘The coloniality of feminist care: creating and disciplining ‘vulnerable’ subjects in British occupied Egypt’ presented at Care Ethics in Feminist Approaches to International Law workshop, Durham University, April 2022.
- ‘Dialogues between Global South and North approaches to Countering Terrorism’, and ‘Everyday (in)security’ (co-convenor and presenter) at International Studies Association 2022.
- Invited speaker on ‘Legal Sources’ for the Historicity of Democracy in the Arab and Muslim Worlds (HISDEMAB), April 2022.
- Invited speaker on ‘Lessons Learnt and Future Challenges in Terrorism and Counterterrorism Studies’ for the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Standing Group on Political Violence, March 2022.
- ‘Normalisation of the emergency: lessons from British martial law’ at Political Studies Association 2021.
- ‘Genealogies of the Pre-criminal Space: Coloniality and Emergency Law in Britain and Egypt’ at British International Studies Association, 2021.
- ‘Normalising state violence in Britain and Egypt’ at the UCL Conflict & Change workshop 2020.

- ‘Mapping and re-mapping experiences of emergency law: an exploration of ‘non-traditional’ methods to understand state violence’ at the Socio-Legal Studies Association, University of Leeds, 2020.
- ‘Queer and Creative Methodologies’ at Queer Methodologies workshop, University College Dublin, 2019.

TRAINING AND SKILLS

- Skills in both qualitative and quantitative methods: interviews, archival, statistical analysis using ‘R’.
- Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Association (HEA).
- Language skills: English (Native speaker); Arabic and French (intermediate competence).