**Research Seminar Political Science**

HOW DO RISING POWER IDENTITIES & INTEREST CHANGE OVER TIME? The Case of India, 1980-2020

You are cordially invited to the following seminar Tuesday, 23 February from 10:00 – 11:00hrs, ONLINE via ZOOM

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**Manali Kumar**  
International Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of St. Gallen (HSG)

Manali Kumar is an International Postdoctoral Fellow with the Institute of Political Science (IPW) at the University of St. Gallen (HSG). She is also a Project Coordinator of the Making Identity Count National Identity Database Project. Her current research seeks to develop a constructivist account of power transition by studying whether and how India’s national identities and interests have changed with its emergence as a rising power. Her research agenda also includes exploring the value of prudence in statecraft, especially as a normative and prescriptive approach for decision-making under uncertainty. She received her PhD in Political Science from the National University of Singapore in 2020.

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**ABSTRACT:** Theories of power transition expect the prevailing order to weaken as new states become more powerful. However, as constructivists argue, state behaviour is not simply a matter of material capabilities but their identities. I claim that we cannot anticipate which rules rising powers may seek to challenge or estimate their risk propensities without studying their identities and interests. In this project, I seek to investigate how the national identities and interests of a state change as it becomes a rising power in the international system by focusing on the case of India from 1980-2020. The project adopts an interpretivist methodology and involves developing an original dataset of national interests using inductive discourse analysis, in addition to using a novel dataset of Indian national identity developed as part of the Making Identity Count Project.

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**ZOOM details**  
**MEETING ID:** 834 5013 5109  
**PASSCODE:** 363374