

Thomas Kirk PhD Curriculum Vitae

Male	Flat 35 308 West Green Rd London N15 3AN	Tel: +44 7841 871202 E-mail: tomkirk94@gmail.com Linkedin Page
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Researcher and consultant with experience of working for the public and private sectors, currently based at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Tom has worked across multiple fragile and conflict affected states, providing technical advice and designing systems for complex programmes. This has included persuading senior stakeholders of the merits of new approaches to development and humanitarian challenges, and training practitioners in a variety of approaches and tools. Tom co-teaches an MA entitled Advocacy, Campaigning and Grassroots Activism at the LSE that supports the next generation of development leaders to design influencing strategies to drive transformational change at all levels of governance. He is also a frequent commentator on development issues, writing online and in journals. Interests include the provision of security and justice in conflict affected places, rights, advocacy, accountability, civil society, activism, governance, protection and public authority. Lived and worked in Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Timor-Leste, South Sudan, the DRC and Kenya.

CAREER PROFILE

Academic

Nov 17 – Ongoing	Research Officer – London, South Sudan, and DRC
Centre for Public Authority and International Development London School of Economics & Political Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research on DFID civil society programming and the politics of water governance in Goma, the DRC• Research on how INGOs understand power and politics in conflict affected places with Professor Duncan Green• Training and management of Congolese research team• Award of research grant from Mercy Corps
Jan 18 – Ongoing	Course Convener (spring terms)
International Development London School of Economics & Political Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MA course – ‘Advocacy, Campaigning and Grassroots Activism’ with Professor Duncan Green• Course design and teaching• Imparting and debating skills of advocacy campaigns and tactics
Sep 11 – Dec 16	Research Officer / Asia Foundation Fellow - Pakistan and Timor-Leste
Justice and Security Research Programme London School of Economics & Political Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led a team undertaking a systematic review of state and non-state security provision in conflict affected places• Co-authored ‘DFID Evidence Paper’ and two journal articles• DFID funded research collaboration with The Asia Foundation• Evaluated the Foundation’s security and justice programming• Solo fieldwork throughout Timor-Leste with a focus on paralegals, gender-based violence and customary justice• Solo fieldwork throughout Pakistan with a focus on governance, rights and civil society empowerment
Sep 10 – Dec 11	Research Officer - Afghanistan

<p>Human Security and Civil Society Research Unit London School of Economics and Political Science</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Built a countrywide civil society network for empowerment and advocacy to hold armed actors accountable for atrocities ● Three months fieldwork and network building in Afghanistan ● Desk research on rights, counterinsurgency and activism ● Administration of ‘Persistent Conflict’ conference in London
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Alongside these roles I am a frequent contributor to debates in the development sector, with a focus on writing blogs and attending events focussed on the politics of aid, programming, conflict, and security and justice provision.

Consulting

September 21 – Ongoing **Consultant, Project Manager – Global**

<p>UN GELI / LSE Geneva / London</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● United Nations’ Global Executive Leadership Initiative ● Design and delivery of ‘Humanitarian Influencing’ course ● For senior leaders, covering strategic communications, humanitarian diplomacy and media engagement.
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June 21 – Ongoing **Consultant – Global**

<p>UN OSGEY New York USA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● United Nations Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth ● Researching youth participation in accountability processes ● Multi-country research with UN teams, youth and governments
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May 20 – Ongoing **Consultant – UK, Afghanistan and Pakistan**

<p>Itad Brighton United Kingdom</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning Advisor to South Asia Conflict, Security and Stability Fund ● Working across HMG departments ● Technical and strategic support, including long-term capacity building
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Feb 20 – Sep 21 **Consultant – UK and South Sudan**

<p>UNICEF Juba South Sudan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Development of complaints, feedback and abuse system ● Research, design and presentation to stakeholders ● Fieldwork in Upper Nile and Jonglei states ● Training of humanitarian staff, health workers and community members to understand system (accountability theory and practice)
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Jan 19 – April 20 **Consultant – UK, Kenya and Ghana**

<p>Caribou Digital London United Kingdom</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Development of a political economy analysis tool to investigate ‘identity ecosystems’, rights abuses and risks ● Management of stakeholder, research team and fieldwork in Kenya ● Teaching of research method to Ghanaian civil society organisation ● Presentation of findings to client and project funders DFAT
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Apr 19 – Aug 19 **Consultant - Kenya**

<p>DAI London United Kingdom</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducted research on a civil society accountability programme ● Designed methodology, built team and undertook fieldwork ● Wrote final report and presented findings to client and DFID
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Jan 18 – May 18	Consultant - UK
Konung International London United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Led a systematic evidence review of 'diversity dividends' arising from ethnic heterogeneity for DFID ● Managed stakeholder relations and feedback ● Wrote report and presented findings to client and DFID
Jun 16 – May 18	Consultant - Pakistan
Palladium Islamabad Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducted research on a countrywide accountability programme ● Advised staff on adaptive programming techniques ● Designed grievance redress mechanisms for basic health facilities ● Presented findings to client and DFID ● Contributed to separate DFID gender inequality study
Jan 15 – Nov 16	Consultant - UK and Pakistan
Coffey London United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Led consultancy focused on social accountability, ICT4D and operationalizing adaptive programming in justice sector ● Developed a grievance redress mechanism for Police Complaints Commission, Pakistan, trained police staff ● Developed an online evaluation, social network analysis and programme management platform ● Built and led multi-disciplined research and development team ● Presented projects to ministers and DFID's technical teams
Jun – Jul 14	Consultant - Pakistan
Alif Ailaan Islamabad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Designed and carried out an evaluation of programme's social accountability component. ● Presented report and recommendations to staff.

I have also conducted numerous short-term consultancies in Pakistan and the UK for companies and non-governmental organisations. They have often focussed on security and justice provision and have led to public and private policy reports.

Other Positions

Nov 09 – May 10	Assistant
Nick Clegg MP Westminster London United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Office of party leader in Westminster Palace ● Briefing Nick Clegg MP and senior staff, research, correspondence writing and administration ● Helped in Liberal Democrats HQ in run up to election victory
Aug 09 – Nov 09	Security and Terrorism Intern
Royal United Services Institute London United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research, report and press brief writing, administration ● Researched and wrote a report on government's Prevent counter-terrorism strategy ● Helped organise in-house events
Jan 09 – July 09	Advocacy and Research Intern
International Crisis Group London United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research, report and press brief writing, administration ● Arranged and accompanied senior researchers to advocacy meetings with politicians, officials and civil society ● Helped organise fundraising events

I have also worked part-time for Alcohol Concern and managed a bar for three years in Nottingham and one year in London.

Education

PhD International Development London School of Economics	Completed Nov 2017 (part-time) - Pass Title: <i>Power, Politics and Programming for Social Accountability in Pakistan</i>
MA Security Studies University of Nottingham	Completed 2008 (part-time) - 1:1 Distinction
BA Philosophy and Classics University of Nottingham	Completed 2006 (full-time) - 2:1 Upper 2 nd Class

Awards

- 2014 PHD Fieldwork Grant**
Institute of Development and Economic Alternatives, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2013 Newby Trust Award**
London School of Economics and Political Science, Grant for PHD fieldwork in Pakistan.
- 2008 Prize for Best Dissertation Writing**
University of Nottingham
- 2008 Fieldwork Scholarship**
University of Nottingham, funding for fieldwork in Kashmir to support MA dissertation.

Selected publications – more available upon request

[A Strategic Approach to Social Accountability in Pakistan](#) (*IDS Working Paper*)

[The Relationship between Ethnic Diversity & Development: A Diversity Dividend?](#) (*DFID*)

[Understanding Security in the Vernacular in Hybrid Political Contexts: A Critical Survey](#) (*Conflict, Security & Development*)

[Taking Local Agency Seriously: Practical Hybrids and Domestic Violence in Timor-Leste](#) (*International Journal on Minority and Group Rights*)

[Who you Gonna Call? Engaging ‘Public Authorities’ for Rapid Crisis Responses](#) (*From Poverty to Power* blog)

[Notes from the Field: Beginning a new research project](#) (*LSE blog*)

[Review: Why We Lie About Aid by Pablo Yanguas](#) (*From Poverty to Power* blog)

References – more available upon request

1. Annette Fisher (Palladium / Consultant) - annette.je.fisher@gmail.com / +44 7958 186586 (Previous colleague on consultancies)
2. Dr Emrys Schoemaker (Caribou Digital) - emrys@cariboudigital.net // +44 7957 692244 (Current employer and previous colleague on consultancies)

3. Professor Duncan Green (LSE / Oxfam) - dgreen@oxfam.org.uk / +44 7786 110049 (Current senior college at LSE, collaborator on two research projects and MA course Co-Convener)