

CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND  
TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

SOUTH ASIA  
INSTITUTE



UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG  
ZUKUNFT  
SEIT 1386

## Lecture Series on Governance and Politics in South Asia

Department of Political Science

*Special Lecture*

*on*

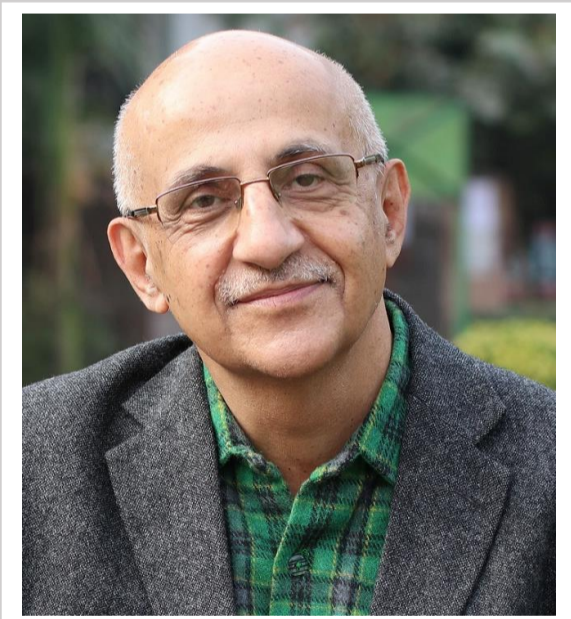
### India in Times of Rising Hate: *Learning from the German Journey of Atonement*

*by*

**Dr Harsh Mander**

*Richard von Weizsäcker Fellow, Robert Bosch Academy, Berlin*

In this lecture, Dr Harsh Mander, one of India's foremost civil rights activists, will speak about the crisis that has engulfed minorities in India today. He will describe various aspects of the project of constructing second-class citizenship for India's Muslims. These include the political project of rendering them politically irrelevant; the social project of hate speech and attacks; and the constitutional and legal project of enfeeblement of constitutional guarantees of equal citizenship to people of every faith. Dr Mander will draw upon Germany's experiences, and the nation's remarkable journey of atonement for the crimes of National Socialism. He will also highlight the myriad challenges Germany faces in its collective efforts to build a humane democracy founded on equality and fraternity.



**Dr Harsh Mander** is a globally renowned human rights and peace worker, writer, columnist, researcher and teacher, working with survivors of mass violence, homeless persons, and street children. He is currently a Richard von Weizsäcker Fellow of the Robert Bosch Academy, Berlin. He was a member of the Indian Prime Minister's National Advisory Council (June 2010-12); Special Commissioner to the Supreme Court of India in the Right to Food case (2005-17); and initiator and leader of numerous social and legal interventions that have had lasting impact on Indian democracy. He is the founder and leader of Centre for Equity Studies, Delhi (<https://centreforequitystudies.org/>); the Karwan-e-Mohabbat (The Caravan of Love: [www.karwanemohabbat.in](http://www.karwanemohabbat.in)); and Aman Biradari ([www.amanbiradari.org](http://www.amanbiradari.org)). Dr Mander left his career as a bureaucrat after the Gujarat communal carnage of 2002, and since then has worked tirelessly for a secular, peaceful, just and humane world. Author of 25 books, he writes regularly for serious research journals and prominent media outlets in India and elsewhere, and visits universities all over the world to offer courses on poverty, peace building, and human rights. The Peace Research Institute Oslo has included him in its 2022 shortlist of people recommended for the Nobel Peace Prize.

**Date:** Monday, July 11, 2022

**Time:** 14:00 – 16:00, CET

**Venue:** CATS, Great Lecture Hall (room 010.01.05, building 4130)

**Online:** via Zoom. For the Zoom registration, please send an email at: [polsai@sai.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:polsai@sai.uni-heidelberg.de)