

Upcoming Conversation

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Monday, 23 March
18:30–19:30

Nepal in the Aftermath of the Maoist War

Aditya Adhikari and Prashant Jha

Journalists and Authors

Since emerging in 2006 from a ten-year Maoist insurgency, Nepal has struggled with the difficult transitions from war to peace, from autocracy to democracy and from an exclusionary and centralized state to a more inclusive and federal one. The establishment of a secular republic, the dissolution of the Maoist Army, and the opening of significant democratic space signal achievements of the peace process. However, stability and economic growth remain elusive in light of a deeply divided polity, recurring political crises and the political parties' failure to agree on what was meant to be the crowning achievement of the peace process: an inclusive and federal constitution. Why has the promise of the peace process been unfulfilled?

Mr. Aditya Adhikari and Mr. Prashant Jha will join UNU Rector David M. Malone for a conversation focusing on Nepal's quest for democracy, justice and stability following the end of a decade-long conflict between the state and Maoist rebels. The conversation will explore the challenges involved in the transformation of the Maoists from a rebel group into a political party, the rise of identity politics, the struggle over a new constitution meant to address popular aspirations and the role of regional actors and international institutions. The discussion will also take stock of the achievements Nepal has made in the post-conflict period, as well as the goals that are yet to be accomplished.

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