

## Security studies

The Security Studies Research Group is a well established and active community of Scholars interested in a wide variety of issues and themes related to security studies, broadly defined.

As well as strengths in the traditional areas of strategic studies, including the role and military force and contemporary warfare, the Group has interests in critical security studies, including the role of gender; terrorism and the contemporary history of the Middle East, the Caucasus and Central Asia; the EU's external relations, including European Security and Defence Policy and Common Foreign and Security Policy; US foreign and security policy; ethnic and civil wars and their resolution; post-conflict reconstruction.

The Group organises reading circles, workshops and seminars, outside speakers, collaborative research with other bodies and individuals within the University community, and also acts as a discussion group within POLSIS.

**The Security Studies Research Group has also forged links with other scholars interested in security elsewhere in the University, especially through the Conflict and Security Group**

**The outputs of the Security Studies Research Group are too numerous to list exhaustively, however members have recently given recent conference papers to, amongst others:**

- The American Political Science Association
- The UK Political Studies Association
- The ECPR Standing Group on International Relations
- The International Studies Association
- The British International Studies Association

**Members of the Security Studies Research Group have published articles in leading journals in the field of Security, including:**

- International Affairs
- Political Studies
- Contemporary Security Policy
- Security Dialogue
- The British Journal of Politics and International Relations
- Millennium
- Policy Advice

Members of the Group have given oral and written evidence to various governmental bodies in the UK and elsewhere. For example:

**[David Dunn \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/dunn-david.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/dunn-david.aspx)** gave evidence to the House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs in November 2009 on the subject of Global Security: UK-US relations.

**[Stefan Wolff \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/wolff-stefan.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/wolff-stefan.aspx)** has co-authored two reports commissioned by the European Parliament (on "Minority Rights in the Western Balkans" and on "Conflict Resolution in the Southern Dimension of the ENP"), and testified before the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

## Members

**[David Dunn \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/dunn-david.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/dunn-david.aspx)** - My research interests in security studies are wide ranging and I have written on British, American and European security policy as well as arms control, defence economics and energy security. My main work, however, concerns American foreign and security policy. I am particularly interested in the history of ideas and the influence of political culture and the political process on threat perception and thus foreign and security policy. I have also written a number of articles and book chapters on various aspects of "the war on terror." I am currently completing a single authored book in Palgrave's "Rethinking" series, edited by the LSE's Prof. Mick Cox. This book, Rethinking Transatlanticism, is a major reassessment of the nature of the transatlantic relationship in the wake of the end of the Cold War, September 11th and the 2003 Iraq war. It analyses whether "the West" was entirely a Cold War construct and whether the idea of a transatlantic community can survive the construction of a greater European identity and the growing unilateralism of the United States.

**[Richard Lock-Pullan \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/lock-pullan-richard.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/lock-pullan-richard.aspx)** - My main focus of research has been on traditional security issues, particularly strategic issues. I have done a lot of work on military innovation and strategic culture as an outgrowth of my research on the US Army after the Vietnam War and how their changes influenced national intervention policy. From this I have an interest in how militaries learn and innovate. I have written various pieces looking at this and the specific issue of how Iraq relates to the Vietnam experience. I am under contract to write a book examining modern warfare and the nation state. My current research is looking at the issue of religion and security, but rather than examining Islam I am analysing Christianity's understanding of security and how this influences US foreign policy in particular.

**[Cerwyn Moore \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/moore-cerwyn.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/moore-cerwyn.aspx)** - I work within the field of critical International Relations theory and security studies. My main areas of expertise focus upon political violence and terrorism. I have published widely on forms of political violence in the North Caucasus, such as suicide attacks, mass hostage-taking with suicidal intent and security issues drawing on Chechnya. I have received a number of research awards to further my work in these areas.

**Edward Newman** - My interests include civil war and political violence; multilateral approaches to peace and security; human security and critical security studies; peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction. Before joining POLSIS in September I worked for almost 10 years at the United Nations University. Currently I am finishing off a few UNU research projects.

**[Asaf Siniver \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/siniver-asaf.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/siniver-asaf.aspx)** - My research centres around three key clusters: contemporary US foreign and defence policy, conflict resolution and mediation, and the security and diplomatic history of the Arab-Israeli conflict. I am also very interested in crisis studies and the linkage between structures, processes and outcomes in foreign policy-making during times of international crises.

## PhD doctoral researchers:

Linda Ahall  
Monsters, Heroines and Victims: Exposing the Myth of Motherhood in Representations of Female Agency in Political Violence.

Andrew Futter

The evolution of US ballistic missile defence policy (1989-2010).

Barbara Morazzani

Constructing Authority: Does International Law Regulate the Foreign Policy Behaviour of States in Decisions to Use Force in Humanitarian Intervention.

Mark McClelland

The Unbridling of Virtue: Neoconservative Foreign Policy Thought between the Cold War and Iraq War

Benjamin Zala

The Correlates of Cooperation: Polarity and Security Cooperation in International Society

**For further information about the Security studies research group contact:**

**[Stefan Wolff \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/wolff-stefan.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/wolff-stefan.aspx)** : Tel: +44 (0)121 414 8230,

Email: **[s.wolff@bham.ac.uk](mailto:s.wolff@bham.ac.uk)** (**<mailto:s.wolff@bham.ac.uk>**)

---

[Privacy](#) | [Legal](#) | [Cookies and cookie policy](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Site map](#) | [Website feedback](#) | [Charitable information](#)

© University of Birmingham 2015

