



Institute for Conflict, Cooperation and Security (ICCS)

Annual Report 2017–2018

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Welcome from the ICCS Director

Welcome to the 2017–18 Annual Report of the Institute for Conflict, Cooperation and Security (ICCS).

Research and publications

This academic year has seen many highlights for the ICCS, not least of which is the publication of my new book, *Trusting Enemies*, by Oxford University Press. The book is the culmination of several years of research on the concept of trust in International Relations, originally supported through a three-year ESRC/AHRC Professorial Fellowship under RCUK's Global Uncertainties Programme. The project – originally funded at Aberystwyth University – moved and was institutionalised here at Birmingham with the creation of the ICCS in 2012. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all colleagues who have supported me along the way. In the past six years, Birmingham through the ICCS has established itself as a world leading centre for the study of trust in International Relations.

Congratulations to Dr Argyro Kartsonaki, whose first monograph, *Breaking Away: Kosovo's Unilateral Secession*, was published this year. Based on her doctoral thesis, the book presents the background that led to Kosovo's success in separating from Serbia

and explains the reasons for its failure to achieve uncontested statehood – both internally and externally.

Congratulations also to Dr Christalla Yakinthou, whose co-edited book: *Transitional Justice, International Assistance, and Civil Society* was published this year by Cambridge University Press.

Teaching

This year, we welcomed the first cohort of postgraduate students on our new MSc programme on the Political Psychology of International Relations. The programme was designed and led by Dr Tereza Capelos and exceeded recruitment targets for the first year. We have very much enjoyed working with the students in this exciting new field.

Staff news

Congratulations to Professor Paul Jackson, who was appointed to the UN's Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) from January 2018. He joins a group of 24 members responsible for supporting the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs



in promoting and developing public administration and governance in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

I was very pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Tereza Capelos as ICCS Deputy Director at the beginning of the academic year. Tereza has been a pillar of intellectual strength and support for the ICCS and her contributions in this new role have greatly invigorated the research culture of the Institute this year.

We also welcomed two new members to our Management Team in 2017: Dr Giuditta Fontana and Dr Katherine Brown. Giuditta is a Birmingham Fellow and Leverhulme Fellow specialising in cultural institutions in post-conflict and fragile societies. Katherine is Head of the Department for Theology and Religion; her research focuses on Muslim women's involvement in violent religious politics. I look forward to working with them over the next few years.

We are delighted to welcome Cecilia Davis as the ICCS's new Administrator. Cecilia brings considerable administrative experience to the role and joins us from the University Hospital of Birmingham where she worked in the Ophthalmology Department as a Medical Secretary. Prior to that she worked in the Clinical Genetics Unit at the Birmingham Women's Hospital as a Senior Medical Secretary and Team Leader for 10 years.

Nicholas Wheeler
Director, ICCS



Trust in world politics

Trust lies at the heart of the ICCS's research agenda, supported by an emerging network of early career researchers, interdisciplinary collaborations, and doctoral research projects.

Trusting Enemies

Prof Nicholas Wheeler's ground-breaking new book: *Trusting Enemies: Interpersonal Relationships in International Conflict* presents a new theory of interpersonal trust between state leaders. Using case studies of US/ Soviet relations in the lead-up to the end of the Cold War, Indian/ Pakistani interactions in the wake of the 1998 nuclear tests, and US/ Iranian efforts at diplomatic outreach in 2009–10, the book argues how trust can be developed through face-to-face interactions that lead to a process of interpersonal bonding.

Nick presented his research at his Inaugural Lecture in April 2018. The event was live-streamed onto the University's Facebook channel and saw over 4,000 views, with people joining from Tanzania and South Sudan.

Face-to-Face Diplomacy

In other publication news, we are pleased to report the launch of a new book by Honorary Research Fellow Dr Marcus Holmes, on *Face-to-Face Diplomacy: Social Neuroscience and International Relations*. The study applies evidence from social neuroscience and psychology to some of the most important moments of diplomacy in the twentieth century. Marcus joined us for the first day of the ICCS annual training programme in the spring.



Dr Marcus Holmes (left) and Prof Nicholas Wheeler (right) celebrate the publication of their new books.

Moscow-Washington Hotline

Dr Eszter Simon presented her research on the institutionalisation of trust and the birth of the Moscow-Washington hotline at Witten/ Herdecke University in December 2017. Understanding how trust is institutionalised has broader implications not only for the potential creation and use of additional leader-to-leader hotlines, but also for the management of conflict and crisis in both politics and business.

The paper represented an emerging collaboration with Professor Guido Moellering and the Reinhard Mohn Institute. Prof Moellering contributed to the ICCS workshop **Finding Trust in Social Sciences** in September 2017.



Dr Eszter Simon presents her research.

Mediation and peace-building

We were delighted that our friend and colleague Joan McGregor was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Birmingham in 2017. Joan plays a key role in the annual training on **Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation** and she is involved in a number of projects supporting international conflict transformation efforts throughout the year. This includes co-facilitating a consultation in Mindanao, Philippines to explore the possible synergies and resources for conflict transformation and peace building across the belief systems of the Tri-People of Mindanao (the Muslim, the Christian and the Indigenous Peoples). She also co-facilitated the two modules as part of the annual international training programme of the Mindanao Peace Institute in Davao, Philippines.



Dr Joan McGregor at the ICCS training programme in 2018.

Finding trust in Social Sciences: Workshop report

Postgraduate researchers in the ICCS organised and hosted an interdisciplinary trust conference in September 2017. Organiser Ana Alecsandru reports on the event.

Introduction

Public and academic interest in trust has never attracted such debate and attention as in recent years. The need for clarity and precision has never been so compelling. The purpose of the **Finding Trust** conference was to bring together doctoral students and experienced researchers from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds to discuss trust and challenge us to consider trust across a variety of contexts. The conference sought to provide a forum where the community of trust researchers could consider theoretical and methodological challenges and how best to meet them. The main objectives were:

- To bring together PhD students and experienced scholars to advance knowledge about trust, present the most recent research findings, and promote and enhance international collaborations
- To reach out and consider influences from other disciplines and their research literatures to assist us in moving forward with the development of trust research in International Relations
- To strengthen the link between PhD students and experienced researchers of trust

Sessions

The one-day workshop consisted of three panels and one roundtable. There were approximately 30 participants in attendance. The first and second panel explored theoretical and methodological challenges for trust researchers. The panels consisted of a mix of doctoral students/early career researchers and experienced scholars. The format involved 15 minute presentations, followed by an audience Q&A.

The third panel, the **First Cut Paper Session**, focused on the current work of four doctoral researchers. The students were asked to read and prepare comments on one another's papers. Each student had 10 minutes to present their individual paper, after which each presenter discussed the paper assigned to them for five minutes, ending the session with questions from the audience.

The day ended with a roundtable on the topic **The Social Construction of Trust**, with guest speakers Reinhard Bachmann, Jan Ruzicka, Rosalind Searle, and Nicholas Wheeler.

A unique feature of the workshop was a short 30 minute **Meet a Trust Scholar** session during which PhD students who had sent work in advance received feedback from an established trust researcher. The Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Trust Research gave a short presentation about the journal and provided valuable insights into the publishing process.

Conclusion

The workshop provided a rare opportunity to bring together both junior and established researchers from different academic fields. The networking at the conference has led to new collaborative projects, including an application for a panel at BISA 2018.

The workshop received support from the Institute for Conflict, Cooperation, and Security (ICCS), the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), The BISA Postgraduate Network (PGN), the School of Government and Society and the Journal of Trust Research (JTR).



ICCS doctoral researchers Ana Alecsandru and Sumedh Rao.



Political settlements

The Political Settlements Research Group (PSRG) developed out of the interests of a number of ICCS staff in the management and resolution of intra-state conflicts.



PAIC dataset

Dr Giuditta Fontana, Dr Argyro Kartsonaki, Dr Natascha Neudorfer, Dr Dawn Walsh, Prof Stefan Wolff and Dr Christalla Yakinthou have been developing a fine-grained dataset of peace agreements in intra-state conflicts (entitled Political Agreements in International Conflicts, or PAIC). The dataset – comprising over 300 peace agreements concluded between 1989 and 2017 – is designed to provide insights into settlement strategies that promote resilience and longevity.

Confidence-building in the OSCE region

The ICCS is a member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions, an autonomous Track II initiative. The network's members are engaged in academic research and policy analysis on issues relevant to the OSCE's security agenda.

Since 2016, Stefan Wolff has directed a project on **Confidence Building Measures in the OSCE Economic and Environmental Dimension**, with contributions from Dr Nino Kemoklidze. In 2017, this involved two workshops: a brainstorming event at the University of Birmingham and a further drafting workshop at the OSCE in October 2017 at which initial findings were presented to officials from the OSCE Secretariat and the Austrian

Chairmanship. Both workshops contributed to the final project report presented at the December 2017 meeting of the Economic and Environmental Committee of the OSCE in Vienna.

The work with the OSCE has been partly funded by a grant from the ESRC Impact Acceleration Account.

Partnership with Goethe University Frankfurt

Dr Giuditta Fontana, Dr Argyro Kartsonaki, Dr Natascha Neudorfer, Prof Stefan Wolff, and Dr Christalla Yakinthou travelled to Frankfurt for a two-day workshop with colleagues at Goethe University in June 2018. The visit – funded by the Birmingham International Engagement Fund (BIEM) – has led to a significant consolidation and expansion of the relationship between the PSRG and the Chair of Qualitative Social Science Methods and the Chair for International Institutions and Peace Processes at Frankfurt.

Collaborative activities include the development of interdisciplinary publications, a section on **Methodological Innovation in Peace and Conflict Studies** at the 2018 ECPR conference in Hamburg, and an IAS Vanguard Fellowship for Dr Markus Siewert. As part of his visit to Birmingham in spring 2018, Dr Siewert

led a workshop on **Qualitative Comparative Analysis** and on mixed- and multi-methods research for early career lecturers.

Crisis management and conflict prevention

In September 2017, Prof Stefan Wolff and Dr Nino Kemoklidze participated in the international conference **The EU and International Conflicts: Current and Future Developments to Improve European Crisis Management and Conflict Prevention in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Countries** in Odessa, Ukraine. Nino also conducted fieldwork in Odessa where she interviewed local academics and representatives of the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM).

Dealing with Conflict: Lessons from and for Cyprus

Members of the ICCS, together with the PRIO Cyprus Centre, organised a closed workshop and public panel discussion in Nicosia, Cyprus in June 2018. The events drew on the combined research strengths of Dr George Kyris, Dr Nino Kemoklidze and Dr Argyro Kartsonaki and took place at the Home for Cooperation, in the UN buffer zone, which facilitated the attendance of people from both sides of the Cyprus conflict. It is the first of several events to be organised in a range of conflict-affected areas.

International political psychology (IPoPsy)

IPoPsy* is a multidisciplinary group of scholars and students who come together with a common research agenda: the study of complex global phenomena such as cooperation, tolerance, violence, extremism and radicalisation.

Data collection

The group facilitates several data collection projects and cultivates new opportunities for collaborative research projects. In partnership with Dr Harriet Tenenbaum (University of Surrey) and Thomas Stocks (University of Birmingham), Dr Tereza Capelos is collecting experimental data on a project exploring the human rights perceptions of migrants. There is also in development a dataset on media content on Brexit, and for an experimental study on the psychology of fake news.

In-house research support

The working group generates collaborative learning and research engagement through its monthly meetings. The team's collective expertise in quantitative and qualitative research methodologies and deep knowledge of psychological mechanisms offers in-depth feedback for research papers, conference presentations, draft manuscripts, dissertation chapters and book proposals for its members.

CSSR annual conference in Riga

Dr Tereza Capelos was invited to present at the Center for Security and Strategic Research (CSSR) in Latvia in December. The talk focused on political values and reactionary trends in the west and was part of the CSSR's annual conference focused on **Challenges for the West: Mitigating Domestic Responsibilities**. The CSSR, established in 1992 as the Center for Defence Research, is part of the National Defence Academy of Latvia and aims to ensure the development of security and defence policy research as well as to raise the public awareness about these issues in Latvia.

Populism: Left, Right and Centre

Donatella Bonansinga was invited to discuss her doctoral project **Affective Perceptions and Populist Securitization Narratives** at a conference hosted by the London School of Economics and Political Science in November 2017. The project explores the cognitive and emotional processes behind exposure to



right-wing populist media messages on security. The conference, **Populism: Left, Right and Centre**, was organised to provide PhD students with a space to discuss their research on the theme of 'populism' with other graduate students working in the field.

Special Issues

Dr Tereza Capelos co-edited a special issue on xenophobia and racism for the journal **Science and Society** in 2018. She also gave a presentation on the **Political Psychology of EU integration** in October 2017 as part of a workshop for a special issue of **Political Psychology** that she is editing.

*Did you know?

IPoPsy – in Greek ipo'psi (υποψη) means Notion, Idea, Reason to believe. When you have something ipo'psi, it means you have a notion, or an idea in mind.



Responsible nuclear sovereignty

Our research under this theme builds on ESRC-funded projects on **Trust-building in Nuclear Worlds** and **Nuclear Ethics and Global Security**.

Nuclear almanac

Researchers are working closely with partners the British American Security Information Council (BASIC) to develop a **Nuclear Almanac** database that will be the first of its kind in mapping the declaratory and operational nuclear responsibilities of the nuclear-armed states. This work, led by Prof Nicholas Wheeler within the ICCS, is supported by a grant awarded to BASIC by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office's (FCO) Strategic and Bilateral Programmes Fund.

DTP award for nuclear studentship

In partnership with BASIC, the ICCS secured a collaborative studentship for a doctoral project on **Conceptions of Responsibility Among the Nuclear Weapon Possessors** from the Midlands Graduate School, an accredited ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership. The project will investigate what counts as responsible state conduct in relation to the possession of nuclear weapons, focusing on the United States, the United Kingdom, and North Korea. The studentship will commence in October 2018.

Shadow NATO Summit

In June 2018, the ICCS co-hosted the Shadow NATO Summit IV in partnership with BASIC, King's College London and NATO Watch. Held in advance of the NATO Summit in Brussels, the workshop examined trends in transatlantic security, nuclear weapons proliferation and the attitudes and assumptions underlying current NATO policy. The ICCS delegation was led by Professor Mark Webber, who also attended the NATO Nuclear Deterrence Policy Conference at the NATO Defence College, Rome, in November 2017.

ICCS at the International Studies Association

Representatives from the ICCS presented their research at the annual convention of the International Studies Association (ISA), held from 4–7 April 2018 in San Francisco, California. Prof Nicholas Wheeler was involved in a roundtable discussing the legacy and impact of Jonathan Schell's work on nuclear weapons, including its influence on the global nuclear disarmament movement.



He also contributed to a roundtable on the challenges of future arms control.

PhD student Ana Alecsandru presented a paper at the Junior Scholar Symposium based on her doctoral research on the role of trust for nuclear arms control agreements. She also gave a paper on **Rethinking nuclear learning through empathy** as part of a panel on **Emotions and Diplomacy** sponsored by the Diplomatic Studies section.

Trilateral Nuclear Dialogue

Honorary Professor Paul Schulte has been actively involved as an ambassador for our nuclear work, including participation in the highly respected **Trilateral Nuclear Dialogue** that brings together US, UK, and French nuclear practitioners. Paul is a former Head of the MoD's Arms Control and Disarmament Unit, and brings his considerable expertise to the discussions.



International drone policy

The ICCS continues to apply its expertise on the uses of drones – both military and commercial – in a broad range of contexts.



Nefarious criminal and terrorist uses of UAVs

Researchers in the ICCS are engaging with government, law enforcement, and private sector organisations to analyse the threats posed by the revolution in small drone technology. This project, led by Prof David H Dunn with key involvement from Dr Chris Wyatt, is funded by Gerda Henkel Stiftung. It investigates the potential criminal or terrorist uses of small drones in various civil and commercial contexts and provides policy recommendations to relevant bodies in the public and private sectors.

Towards a new (restraining) global consensus on the use of armed drones

This ongoing project on the legality and legitimacy of armed drones is supported by a grant from the Human Rights Initiative of the Open Society Foundations. Professors Nicholas Wheeler and David H Dunn have undertaken a series of interviews with military representatives, legal experts, NGO activists and government officials across Europe to see

if there is scope for consensus on the future regulation of armed drones. They presented their preliminary research findings at a one-day workshop at the Stimson Centre in Washington D.C. in May 2018. The workshop brought together key US stakeholders and included virtual participation by European partners.

The UK Reaper: 10 years on

In October 2017, the ICCS hosted an event to mark the milestone of 10 years of Reaper deployment by the British military. The Reaper is a remotely piloted aircraft first used by the UK Ministry of Defence in Afghanistan in 2007. The workshop brought together academics, security experts, military practitioners and NGO activists to reflect on how the Reaper has been deployed in military operations by the UK. The drone caused controversy in 2015 when it was deployed by the British military in a targeted strike against two UK nationals in Syria. This was the first time that the UK had used its drones in a targeted killing operation outside of a recognised battlefield. The discussion

addressed the public and political impact of drones, explored the legal justifications, and considered the impact of the developing technology on UK policy over the next 10 years.

Birmingham Policy Commission report

The Birmingham Policy Commission on the Security Impact of Drones, which involved several members of the ICCS in central roles, continues to influence debate in this crucial area of UK security policy. The report was cited extensively in the **MoD Joint Doctrine Publication on Unmanned Aircraft Systems** published in August 2017, which provided an up-to-date guide to the terminology, tasking and deployment of military drones, and aims to consolidate best practice.



Training

The ICCS's flagship training programmes focus on the role of mediation in managing and transforming political conflicts.

Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation

In April, the ICCS hosted its fifth annual training programme on **Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation** at the University of Birmingham. The programme brought together students, researchers and practitioners from around the world to learn about the different approaches to conflict resolution in International Relations. Delegates included representatives from the NGO Conciliation Resources, Peaceful Change Initiative, Forward Thinking, the MoD, the Military Academy of Lithuania, the Sudanese Consulate in Jeddah, and the Embassy of Venezuela.

Delegates benefited from a range of theoretical insights, practical workshops, and in-depth discussions with scholars and experts in mediation and peace-building. Conflict transformation practitioner Joan McGregor led two days of dedicated communication skills training, which was identified by many as the highlight of the week:

'An all-round fantastic few days from an inspiring and hugely interesting individual'

The keynote address this year was delivered by Paul Schulte, Honorary Professor with the ICCS, who served as Director of Defence Organisation in the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad and was Founding Head of the UK's interdepartmental Post Conflict Reconstruction Unit. His talk offered insights from the fields of disarmament and non-proliferation.



The week culminated in a Harvard Role Play on **The Future of Hebron**, which used an historical case study to explore whether cooperation can be developed and achieved in scenarios of extreme conflict and hostility. The delegates were split into groups to assume the identities of warring factions, each trying to achieve their own objectives. The exercise provided an opportunity for the participants to put the week's theoretical training into practice.



Delegates taking part in mediation role plays.

Mediation challenges in contemporary war-to-peace transitions

As part of the ESRC-funded project, **Understanding and Managing Intra-State Territorial Contestation**, Prof Stefan Wolff and Dr Argyro Kartsonaki organised a workshop in 2017 on **Mediation challenges in contemporary war-to-peace transitions**. The workshop brought together a group of experienced mediation practitioners, academics and policy-makers. Focusing on comparative experiences of participants, the objective of the workshop was to examine what lessons we can learn from successful and failed mediations processes that can be applied in the context of Iraq's disputed territories.



Postgraduate teaching

Our two masters programmes offer research-led teaching at the cutting edge of International Relations, Security Studies and Political Psychology.



New MSc programme

October 2017 saw the launch of our new **Political Psychology of International Relations MSc**. This exciting new degree draws on the research expertise of the International Political Psychology working group (see p.7). It invites students to explore the psychological underpinnings of political decision-making in International Relations. Topics studied include the role of emotions in crisis and conflicts, the psychology of radicalisation, terrorism, and political violence, and issues of identity in religion, gender, and nationalism.

Global Cooperation and Security MSc

Now in its fifth year, our flagship masters programme applies academic and practical insights in how to mitigate and eliminate conflict and violence in world politics. The exclusive module on **Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation** connects students with mediation practitioners for a week of intensive skills training.

Work placements

We offer a number of voluntary work placements across the year for postgraduate students wishing to gain further experience of academic research. Students work closely with senior academics in the ICCS on projects related to their research interests. This year, the programme was co-ordinated by Dr Eszter Simon. In 2017–18, students were involved in studies exploring the concept of nuclear responsibility; assessing the success and failure of UN peace operations in ethnic conflicts; investigating emotions, political tolerance, and young people's reasoning about human rights; and analysing drone strikes and peace processes in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Yemen.

Alumni news

In October 2017, **Ellen Moser** started a five-month traineeship with the European Commission, working in the Cooperation Planning & Support Directorate of the **European Defence Agency**, the primary

role of which is to foster defence cooperation between EU states. This is a highly competitive and prestigious traineeship and we congratulate Ellen on her fantastic achievement.

Alice Spilman was awarded a PhD studentship at the University of Birmingham through the Midlands Graduate School, an accredited Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP). One of 14 such partnerships in the UK, the Midlands Graduate School is a collaboration between the University of Warwick, Aston University, University of Birmingham, University of Leicester, Loughborough University and the University of Nottingham. Her project, commencing in October 2018, will be supervised by Prof Nicholas Wheeler.

Juweria Ali commenced her PhD in Politics and International Relations at the University of Westminster in 2017.

Postgraduate research

The ICCS has a dynamic and vibrant doctoral research community, with our PhD students playing an active role in the life and work of the centre.



Chiara Cervasio with her award-winning poster.

Welcome

In October 2017, we were very pleased to welcome Chiara Cervasio, who joined the ICCS doctoral community with her research project: **The security dilemma in Sino-Indian Relations**. During her Master's degree at the University of Bologna, Chiara focused on International Security and Conflicts and in the final year she specialised in the Politics of Contemporary Asia. At Birmingham, she is working with Prof Nicholas Wheeler and Dr Tsering Topgyal as her primary and secondary supervisors.

Congratulations

We are delighted that Donatella Bonansinga was awarded a 1+3 PhD studentship from the ESRC Midlands Graduate School DTP in 2017. Her project, **Threat Construction and Fear Perception: The Role and Impact of Populism and Emotionality in Securitization Narratives** is supervised by Dr Tereza Capelos and Dr Daniele Abertazzi.

Congratulations are also extended to the postgraduate researchers who received their doctorates in 2017:

Josh Baker: Imagining empathy: counterfactual methods and the US-Iran security dilemma

Lindsay Clark: Ghostly Warriors: Gender, Haunting, and Military Technologies

Daniel Pinheiro Rio Tinto de Matos: Tracing the Security Dilemma in Civil Wars: how fear and insecurity can lead to intra-state violence?

Josh is now a Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Leicester, and Lindsay is a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of New South Wales, Canberra, contributing to a project on **New Technologies and the Ethics of War**. In 2018, Daniel was appointed as a Nuclear Security Fellow at FGV-SP in Brazil, a position funded by the Stanton Foundation.

Finally, congratulations to Chiara Cervasio, whose research on **China and India: Friends or Foes?** won Best Poster Award at the University of Birmingham's research poster conference in June 2018.

Visiting scholarship

Ana Alecsandru, a second year PhD student researching trust and nuclear arms control, was awarded a full scholarship for the **Public Policy and Nuclear Threats: Training the Next Generation** summer programme 2017. Ana was one of just 17 participants in this nine-day workshop, which took place at the University of California San Diego campus in La Jolla. The intensive course provided the knowledge and analytical tools for participants to contribute to the debate on future US nuclear policy.



Students at graduation.

Appointments

In 2018, Sumedh Rao became Chair of the Political Studies Association (PSA) Early Careers Network, and Donatella Bonansinga was appointed as Communications Officer for the PSA specialist group on Political Psychology. Ana Alecsandru was selected as the 2017/18 Westmere Scholar for the College of Social Sciences, working with the University Graduate School to plan and organise academic and social events addressing the diverse needs of postgraduate researchers.

Selected activities

Scott Edwards took part in a partially-funded trip to Singapore for U21 to develop collaborations with partner institutions in various fields, including trust, practice theory, and ASEAN. Scott also gave a talk in June 2018 at the Asia Centre in Bangkok as part of a roundtable on the Malaysian elections.

Chiara Cervasio and Donatella Bonansinga co-organised the first POLSIS conference for first year PhD students in March 2018. The event was designed to offer students the opportunity to present and discuss their projects with peers and senior academics in a supportive environment.

Ana Alecsandru and Scott Edwards co-organised an interdisciplinary workshop on the current state of trust research in the field of International Relations (see p.5).

Donatella Bonansinga presented a paper at a workshop on **Europe's Tidal Waves: Migration and Populism** at King's College London in June 2018. She also took part in **Girls Do Science**, an event held in Birmingham as part of the 'Pint of Science' Festival aimed at encouraging 12–18 year old girls to find out more about science and research.

Thomas Stocks has been involved as a Research Assistant on a project investigating how educational work with young people in Bosnia-Herzegovina can aid the fight against rape and sexual violence stigma. With Project Lead Dr Janine Natalya Clark, he has designed and developed a training manual for use in schools on sex and relationship education. This guide is available in English and Bosnian.



Image credit: Alessandro Mazza

Events

A selection of the topics presented as part of our workshop and seminar series this year.

17 September 2017	Workshop: Finding Trust in Social Sciences
18 October 2017	Workshop: The UK Reaper Use: 10 Years On
23 October 2017	Seminar: More than Fighting for Peace? Conflict Resolution, UN Peacekeeping, and the Role of Training Military Personnel Dr David Curran (Coventry University)
6 November 2017	Seminar: Understanding Online Political Networks: The Case of the Far-Right and Far-Left in Greece Dr Lamprini Rori (University of Exeter)
20 November 2017	Seminar: 'I will not leave, my freedom is more precious than my blood': From affect to precarity: crowd-sourced citizen archives as memories of the Syrian war Dr Dima Saber (Birmingham City University)
22 January 2018	Seminar: Acceptance of austerity policies: evidence from a survey experiment Dr Theofanis Exadaktylos (University of Surrey)
12 March 2018	Seminar: What Next for NATO? Dr Jamie Shea (NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges)
19 March 2018	Seminar: Political settlements and the search for feasible anti-corruption strategies Professor Mushtaq Khan (SOAS)
16–20 April 2018	Training: Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation
26 April 2018	Inaugural Lecture: Trusting Enemies Professor Nicholas J Wheeler (University of Birmingham)
30 April 2018	Seminar: Freedom of movement and the European Union Dr Kesi Mahendran (Open University)
10 May 2018	Workshop: The 'Women, Peace and Security' Agenda in Service of Countering Violent Extremism: Prevention at the Limits of Security
11 June 2018	Seminar: Making peace, place and politics: Radio and the re-animation of urban life in post-conflict Abidjan Dr Fabien Cante (LSE)
9 July 2018	Workshop: The Shadow NATO Summit IV



Publications

A selection of peer-reviewed publications by ICCS members in 2017–18.

Books

Arthur, P. & Yakinthou, C. (Eds.). (2018). *Transitional Justice, International Assistance, and Civil Society: Missed Connections*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Kartsonaki, A. (2018). *Breaking Away: Kosovo's Unilateral Secession*. Lanham: Lexington Books.

Wheeler, N. J. (2018). *Trusting Enemies: Interpersonal Relationships in International Conflict*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Book chapters

Edwards, S. (2018). The role of rational trust in ASEAN's creation. In Haukkala, H., van de Wetering C., and Vuorelma, J. (Eds). *Trust in International Relations*. Abingdon: Routledge, pp. 83–109.

Gray, P.W. (2018). Air power history. In Olsen, J. A. (Ed). *Routledge Handbook of Air Power*. London: Routledge, pp. 70–80.

Webber, M. (2018). NATO enlargement and the Baltic states. In *Historical Guide on the Baltic States*. Potsdam: Centre of Military History and Social Sciences.

Webber, M. (2018). NATO enlargement and the post-communist states. In Fagan, A. & Kopecky, P. (Eds). *The Routledge Handbook of East European Politics*. Abingdon, Oxon and New York: Routledge.

Webber, M., Sperling, J. (2018). NATO operations. In Meier, H. & Wyss, M. (Eds). *Handbook of European Defence Policies and Armed Forces*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Yakinthou, C. (2018). Fighting windmills, ignoring dragons: International assistance to civil society in post-conflict Bosnia and Herzegovina. In Arthur, P., Yakinthou, C. (Eds). *Transitional Justice, International Assistance, and Civil Society: Missed Connections*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Yakinthou, C. (2018). Reframing friction: A four-lens framework for explaining shifts, fractures, and gaps in transitional justice. In Arthur, P., Yakinthou, C. (Eds). *Transitional Justice, International Assistance, and Civil Society: Missed Connections*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Journal articles

Capelos, T., Exadaktylos, T., Chrona, S. & Pouloupoulou, M. (2017) The emotional economy of the European financial crisis in the UK press. *International Journal of Communication*. 12(2018), 2088–2113.

Csergő, Z., Roseberry, P. & Wolff, S. (2017). Institutional outcomes of territorial contestation: Lessons from post-Communist Europe, 1989–2012. *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, 47(4), 491–521.

Fontana, G. (2018). Mapping the relationship between education reform and power-sharing in and after intra-state peace agreements: A multi-methods study. *International Journal of Education in Emergencies*.

Fregonese, S. (2017). Affective atmospheres, urban geopolitics and conflict (de)escalation in Beirut. *Political Geography*, 61(November 2017), 1–10.

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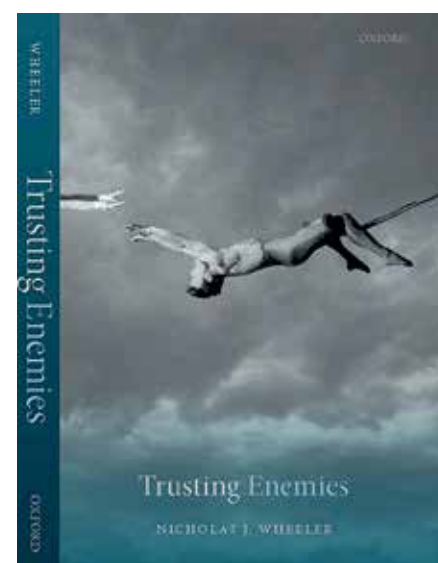
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