

<p>Institution: Canterbury Christ Church University</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: Politics and International Studies (21)</p>
<p>a. Context</p> <p>This is a new Unit of Assessment for CCCU. The areas which comprise the UoA were brought together in 2010. Examples of principal beneficiaries and users include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) including The Forgiveness Project and the Public Interational Law and Policy Group in Bosnia-Herzegovina (PILPG). • International Governmental Organisations (IGOs) and government bodies, including the the Belgian Science Policy Office, the European Commission, the Home Office, and Europol. • National and international police forces, including the Garda, Ireland, and the National Centre For Policing Excellence in the United Kingdom. • Individuals and groups, for example victims and perpetrators of violence and conflict – specifically as a result of the work carried out with the NGO “The Forgiveness Project”. • Citizens across Europe who have benefited from the impact of our research specifically on police training and cyber-crime investigation. <p>The UoA consists of three research themes: Communities and Identities, Conflict and Security, and Policy and Governance. Our case studies have developed from our Conflict and Security theme. In this document, we are highlighting the beacon areas of <i>Political and Psychological Responses to Violence and Conflict</i>, and <i>Professionalising Police Education and Training</i>. The best practice developed in these areas has informed our approach to impact and our long-term impact strategy. Principal types of impact include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on society – this includes the engagement with individuals and groups as part of our research and the wider dissemination of research findings to non-academic beneficiaries, for wider applied usage. For example, our work with the Forgiveness Project has resulted in documented evidence that the public understanding on forgiveness has been enhanced. • Impact on public policy and services – in the context of CCCU’s reputation in public service education, our engagement with providers has led to improved public policy and services For example, our police training work has shaped policy debates, led to important policy enhancements (for example the establishment of the National Centre for Policing Excellence), improved public services, and an improvement in the processes and technologies used in policing. <p>Impact on practitioners and services - by engaging practitioners and services in our research and disseminating research findings effectively, we have been able to contribute to the development and adoption of best practice. This is most visible in our police training work, which has shaped policing and law enforcement in the UK and Europe.</p>
<p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>As a new UoA we have developed a strategic approach to impact which focuses on the existing strength of applied work within this interdisciplinary submission. We have set out to maximise the impact of our research as follows:</p> <p>By the identification of beacon areas of impact-focused research, as well as areas of future potential. These beacon areas were set out by focusing on: (1) a track-record of impact already generated; (2) a narrative of impact potential for the future; and (3) the quality of the underlying research outputs.</p> <p>Through focusing resources on high impact research. Support for this UoA has been led by senior management, and has included an initial resource commitment of £67,000 across three years.</p> <p>By organising capacity building events to enhance impact processes and strategy. Staff associated with each of the three themes have organised one day events focusing on impact oriented research. They have also taken part in events organised centrally by our Research and Enterprise Development Centre (RED), focusing on impact oriented research and impact case study development. As a new UoA, we have also worked with other UoAs at CCCU and beyond, to</p>

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learn from good practice. In addition, staff have participated in national and international conferences and meetings related to impact.

Through academic engagement with practitioners as part of the **process** of research. Impact has been generated through dialogue with practitioners and end users. Some of these relationships have since become formalised, for example through the joint project of **The Forgiveness Toolbox**, which was developed in partnership between **Noor** (at CCCU since 2007) and The Forgiveness Project. Other examples of more formalised relationships include those developed through the research leadership of **Bryant** (at CCCU since 1995) and include close cooperation with British and European police forces. Dr Valery Perry (PILPG) has worked with **Keil** (at CCCU since 2011) on constitutional reform in Bosnia since 2011, and presented her practical work at CCCU in May 2013.

By promoting the wide dissemination of research. Staff actively participate in blogging (<http://canterburypolitics.wordpress.com/>) and have featured on local and national forums. Dr Laura Cashman, for example, was an Expert Adviser to the TV programme *Silent Witness* in 2010. We also ask our staff to make their research findings available to practitioners and engage in critical discussion with other stakeholders. For example, **Keil's** work has been published on the webpage of Transconflict, a think tank that works closely with practitioners in conflict situations (<http://www.transconflict.com/?s=keil>). We have shared our research findings with key policy makers, NGOs, civil society actors and other key stakeholders. For example, **Bennister** gave live oral evidence to the Political and Constitutional Select Committee in March 2013. **Cashman** worked for the European Parliament on Roma Rights in 2010-2011. Members of the UoA have also featured in various local and national newspapers. For example, work with a contribution from **Noor** was discussed on the BBC World News (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-13477600>), and on BBC Radio (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00xhj80>). **Bennister** has contributed to *The Guardian* Newspaper *Comment is Free* (May 2010); *Voice of Russia* (September 2012); and BBC Radio Kent (May 2013).

Through promoting wider public discussion: We have a high-profile public speakers series, **Making Politics Matter**, which has run since 2006, and is a key aspect of the political life of the local community. The initiative has included hosting election hustings as well as wider political awareness initiatives. See <http://makingpoliticsmatter.blogspot.co.uk/> This series has focused directly on the research themes of the UoA. Speakers have included Damian Green MP, Sharon Bowles MEP, Julian Brazier MP, Michael Foster MP, Nigel Farage MEP, Mark Hammond, CEO of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and Iva Vukusic, journalist in The Hague. We also worked closely with the University in 2012 to organise a public debate involving the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams. We have hosted three events in the context of the **ESRC Festival of Social Sciences** in 2010, 2011 and in November 2013. See <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/festival/events-archive/schools-2013/should-we-stay.aspx>. Moreover, CCCU hosted the BBC's "Any Questions?" programme in April 2012. See <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01ghgtb> This is a key example of CCCU bringing together the local population and leading politicians, with the facilitation of UoA members.

c. Strategy and plans

The UoA's impact strategy is aligned with CCCU's Strategic Plan 2011-15, which stresses the promotion of excellent research for impact. This has led to strategic financial investment by CCCU in the UoAs to be submitted to the REF. Of particular note here is the Unit's **Research and Impact Enhancement Fund (RIEF)** and the **Strategic Development Fund (SDF)**.

The aims of the UoA in terms of impact are as follows:

1. To support and enhance a strong culture of impact focused work.
2. To identify indicators of current and potential future impact early in the research cycle.
3. To promote and provide support for beacon areas of research which are impact oriented.
4. To develop new and innovative mechanisms of knowledge exchange (KE) which support impact.

Our aims have been **operationalized** as follows:

Beacon areas: While *Political and Psychological Responses to Violence and Conflict* and *Professionalising Police Education and Training* have been identified as key beacon areas, other

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areas have been identified for future development. As a result of new staff appointments and institutional collaboration these include Energy Security and Policy, Roma Rights in the EU, and social movements.

Funding: *Internally*, the Strategic Development Fund (SDF) and Research and Impact Enhancement Fund (RIEF) have been used to enhance beacon areas of impact focused research. RIEF has been used to support the development of the Forgiveness Toolbox (launched in 2013), to provide funds for meetings with senior police officers in Europol, and to underpin other funding bids. In 2013, funding has been provided to establish the Energy Policy Analysis Group (EPAG), and to enable further cooperation with different Roma rights NGOs. *Externally*, high impact work has received financial support from key sources – for example the British Academy (£5,872 for work in partnership with Santiago de Chile University), The LSE (7,500 Euros for work in Roma Rights for the European Parliament), and the Irish Police (£16,772 for evaluation research). Support has also been gained through wider collaborative work, as outlined in the case studies.

Promotion of future impact: Projects have been developed and supported in such a way as to generate further impact. Mechanisms have been put in place to encourage impact-oriented research (for example through internal funding and as part of the appraisal and promotion process). Key to this has been our focus on establishing longer-term partnerships with external providers and public services and, where appropriate, formalising these. Moreover, **Bryant** and his colleagues in the Criminal Justice Practice (CJP) are expanding their police training outside of Europe, including working with the Abu Dhabi authorities on forensic training and cybercrime investigation.

Encouraging staff to focus on research with impact: We have developed practices to identify potential long term sustainable impact-generating research and partnerships. UoA staff are required to review the impact aspect of their work as part of our new **Individual Research Plans (IPR)**, which each academic member of staff has to complete on an annual basis as part of the appraisal process. Impact oriented research and income generation are also key criteria for academic promotion.

Details of future impact strategy:

- 1) Future and on-going identification of impact generating research through the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms identified above.
- 2) To focus HEIF resources on those forms of knowledge exchange activity which facilitate the impact of our research.
- 3) To continue to use QR resources to support beacon areas and new areas of impact, with the aim of developing a significant number of coherent impact narratives by 2019 (£19,500 has been allocated to the UoA for the 2013-14 period, and funding for the following year has been agreed centrally).
- 4) To consolidate current and future impact work within a research centre responsible for maximising impact generating activities. Additionally, it will be a key forum for developing funding applications to national and international bodies.

d. Relationship to case studies

The two case studies have been identified as beacon areas of good practice in terms of research for impact. They were chosen because we can demonstrate a clear track record of impact underlined by high quality research. Both case studies also demonstrated a high potential for future impact, embedded as they are in long term partnerships. **Case study 1** focuses on Political and Psychological Responses to Violence and Conflict. The researchers involved are **Noor** and **Keil** and their work engaged key NGOs, IGOs and individuals in the research process and as key beneficiaries of the research findings. Key elements of the impact include the development of The Forgiveness Toolbox and Keil's engagement with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Bosnia. Since the launch of the toolbox in July 2013, it has attracted 1,165 unique and repeat visitors from 46 countries. **Case Study 2** focuses on Professionalising Police Education and Training. Key researchers involved are **Bryant** and **Cockcroft**. Key elements of the impact include the training of several police forces in Europe, influencing policy discourses by providing research underpinned evidence to select committees, and advising officials on the establishment of new policing institutions.