

<p><b>Institution:</b> University of Warwick</p>
<p><b>Unit of Assessment:</b> School of Law</p>
<p><b>a. Context:</b> Warwick Law School has a long-standing commitment to examining law in its political, social and economic context. The practical focus of its Centre for Human Rights in Practice (CHIP), the empirical research carried out within its Criminal Justice Centre (CJC), and the wide range of expertise within the School have all contributed to foster a tradition of public engagement and external impact. The School's breadth of research is reflected in the diversity of those who use it, with known beneficiaries ranging from supranational institutions, courts, tribunals and governments to financial institutions, law reform agencies, legal practitioners, law teachers, trade unions, cultural organisations, civil society, and even writers of fiction.</p> <p>The most high-profile types of impacts are those where research at Warwick has <b>shaped specific legislation, legal frameworks or professional practice</b>. For example, Beale's <i>Principles of European Contract Law</i> has influenced international legal reform, Harrison's work on human rights impact assessments has been influential both in developing and changing policy, and Rangnekar's research contributed to more equitable intellectual property legislation in India. Hodgson has worked on EU impact studies for the EU Directive on the right to legal assistance and the proposed measure on the presumption of innocence and her empirical criminal research has changed professional practice. Singh's research has helped enhance best practice in deposit insurance systems, and the recommendations in McEldowney's review of mediation have been accepted by practitioners and government.</p> <p>Alongside this, Kostakopoulou's policy review on <i>European Union Citizenship</i>, Ferraz's research on the right to health and Garton's theoretical framework for evaluating charity regulation have all <b>informed public and political debate</b> (at the EU and in Brazil and Australia respectively). Harrison's work on the consequences of public spending cuts has contributed to campaigns for political and legal change, having been used in campaigns by women's charities. Stewart's research on gender justice has improved standards in training judges and managers in Asia.</p> <p><b>Impact on teaching and learning in other institutions</b> has also been an important dimension of research at Warwick. An innovative 5-year capacity-building project, set up in 2008, promotes postgraduate legal education in Ethiopia, and aims to transfer working knowledge and skills to local Ethiopian Universities, enabling them to create and administer their own postgraduate courses with particular emphasis on Law in Development and Legal Education, both areas in which Warwick has a long history. Until 2011, Warwick was also home to the UK Centre for Legal Education, which had an impact on the way that law was taught across the UK through the provision of resources on teaching and learning in law. Projects such as the Toolkit for law teachers and Digital Directions continue despite the restructuring of the Higher Education Academy's subject centres, and Webb led a consortium reviewing legal education and training.</p> <p>Researchers engaged in legal theory and law and humanities also ensure the impact of their work beyond academia through <b>enhanced cultural understandings of the law</b>. Brownlee has communicated her work on civil disobedience via on-line magazines such as Wired, 3:am Magazine and interviews on Philosophy TV, while Probert has provided advice to, and appeared on, TV programmes such as <i>Who Do You Think You Are?</i>, <i>Heirhunters</i>, <i>Great Houses</i>, and <i>Harlots, Heroines and Housewives</i> to discuss marriage, divorce, and bigamy in past centuries. Hodgson has also been interviewed by French TV on investigative supervision in Britain and both she and Probert have been consulted by novelists keen to ensure the legal accuracy of their plots.</p> <p>All this indicates that research carried out within the Law School has a wide range of beneficiaries and many different types of impact</p>
<p><b>b. Approach to impact:</b> Since 2008, we have developed a number of strategies to develop relationships with key users:</p> <p><b>(1) Setting up centres to act as hubs for particular types of research:</b> The <b>CJC</b> reflects Warwick's longstanding and influential empirical and theoretical research in criminal law and criminal justice and provides a critical mass of individuals to engage in policy-oriented projects, such as that carried out on the Criminal Cases Review Commission by Hodgson and O'Brian, and the projects listed in Hodgson's case study. <b>CHIP</b> undertakes a wide variety of research, capacity-building and other project work aimed at promoting human rights, working with key users locally, nationally and globally. Locally, it is working with an umbrella organisation representing over 70 organisations and individuals in Coventry to assess the impact of the public sector spending cuts on the human rights of women there. Nationally, it is developing a new model of Equality and</p>

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Human Rights Impact Assessment with the Scottish Human Rights Commission. At an international and global level it is working with UN actors, civil society organisations and governments to better understand the complex human rights impacts of international economic governance and to develop tools for effectively monitoring future impacts. Work has led to one EU FP7 research bid on human rights and multinational corporations and collaboration with a wide range of civil society organisations.

**(2) Bringing together practitioners, policy-makers and academics:** Relationships with key users have been fostered by organising workshops that enable academics to engage with practitioners and policy makers and so bring their research to a wider audience outside academia. Warwick's Legal Research Institute has funded a number of these. An expert workshop on human rights and public sector spending cuts brought together academics, legal practitioners, civil society activists, trade union officials and members of voluntary groups and led to the setting up of a resource database of applied research, extensive engagement with policy-makers, legal practitioners and civil society, and a research application to the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust. A second workshop on 'Managing Systemic Risk' (2010) provided a unique forum for discussion between academics and representatives of financial institutions across the world (including the Deputy Governors of the Central Banks of Iceland and Malaysia, and advisors to the Governors of the Central Banks of Canada and Spain). A third workshop, in 2011, saw law reform agencies (the Law Commissions of Scotland, Northern Ireland, England and Wales, together with the Irish Law Reform Commission) and invited academic experts discuss current trends and directions in terms of effective and cost efficient forms of regulation and the possible implications for current law reform projects. In addition, specific training events were organised by Hodgson in 2011 and 2012, drawing on her empirical research into criminal justice and its implications for practitioners and EU policy-makers, while CHIP's *Writing Wrongs* project has brought together academics, journalists, writers and students from many disciplines and provides a permanent nucleus where individuals can share, develop and publish their creative writing about wrongs. One product of this was Andrew Williams' 2012 book *A Very British Killing*, published by Jonathan Cape, which won the Orwell Prize in 2013 and received widespread coverage in the media.

**(3) Supporting public engagement activities:** The provision of financial and practical support for public engagement activities has enabled many colleagues to engage with key users. **Faculty funding for impact** was provided to Harrison (to distribute his report on the impact of spending cuts at meetings with the Equality and Human Rights Commission, Coventry Council and a Parliamentary seminar); Beale (to support his work as a member of the Expert Group established by the European Commission on European Contract Law); and Hodgson (for two seminars training lawyers across the UK, and to compile a report for Lord Carlway's review of recent changes in Scotland). **Departmental funding** was also provided to support these activities.

The Law School has also made use of Warwick's **institutional support, expertise and resources** in order to support impact through public engagement. The Institute of Advanced Studies coordinates and supports impact at the University level, bringing together scholars across disciplines to achieve this. It has made **Public Engagement Awards** to Hodgson (to organise an event with JUSTICE and the European Commission on procedural safeguards in criminal law) and Probert (to network with the family history community). The school has also benefited from the input of the dedicated **Faculty Impact Officer**, who offers support for a range of impact activities, including facilitating contact between academics and the research users, providing training aimed at maximising the impact from academic research and advising academics on their impact plans for inclusion into research grant applications. The expertise of the **press and publicity office** has been used when seeking to highlight research that is likely to be of public interest. Campus resources such as **Warwick Arts Centre** have been used to achieve a broader audience for colleagues' research: the 'This is Tomorrow' project involved Hodgson, Probert, Raffield and Williams all sharing their research to inspire creative artists, while Hodgson also delivered a pre-performance public lecture on the law's response to terrorism before the Scottish National Theatre's production of *Black Watch* at the Arts Centre. Use is also made of the University's **web facilities** to raise awareness of specific research topics, highlighting new publications and initiatives. Watt made a significant contribution to Warwick's celebration of Dickens' bicentenary, with his app being widely downloaded, while Tadros' interview for the influential philosophy blog *Philosophy Bites*, available on his website, had over 30,000 downloads in the first 24 hours and Rangnekar's website on the protection of IP rights in Goa has also recorded over 30,000 hits.

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Facilities are provided for colleagues to make their work available by means of **podcasts** (see for example Hodgson's podcast on her EU project Procedural Rights of Suspects in Police Detention) and through the University's Knowledge Centre (for example, Probert's contributions on royal marriages, genealogy, and cohabitation). Research by the school is openly available through the Warwick Research Archive Portal and the Social Science Research Network. Members of the Law School have also participated in the Social Sciences **Festival** and in the **Ideas Café** (short research seminars open to staff, alumni and members of the local community). Research findings have also been communicated through Schools Outreach Events such as Pathways to Law. Teaching relief for staff engaged in impact activities has ensured the success of existing and on-going work. Recognition of the importance of impact activity has resulted in the School granting teaching credit of up to 50 hours per year to key colleagues to maximise the impact of their work.

**c. Strategy and plans:** Impact will continue to be, as it has always been, a central part of the research environment at Warwick. This is reflected in its incorporation within induction, mentoring, annual review and promotion processes, in the credit given for impact activities, and in the allocation of specific funding within the School's research budget. Impact activities will also be recorded in our annual research report, in order to highlight examples of good practice and inspire others to follow suit. All of these initiatives are part of our strategy to ensure that colleagues have appropriate awareness, incentives, opportunities and support to engage in impact.

A second important element of the School's strategy is to ensure that appropriate resources are in place to support colleagues engaging in impact-focused work. One manifestation of this can be seen in the School's plans for the CHIP. Given the Centre's increasing activity and prestige, 120 hours have been allocated to its directors for 2013-14 in order to undertake the work necessary to continue to support high-impact research. In addition to the Centre's existing research projects (for example, a new EU FRA Project, worth approximately €110,000), this will give the Centre the capacity to respond to offers, requests and bids to undertake new projects and bring in funded research projects. It will also enable them to undertake planned projects such as the proposed launch of a new multi-media on-line magazine which will encourage students and staff to write about human rights in innovative and creative ways, as well as showcasing the Law School's research on human rights and bringing it to a wider, non-academic audience.

This reflects the importance of engagement with both other professionals and the public in building impact, and a third strategy is to develop this dimension still further. With the aim of developing a research agenda that is both intellectually innovative and has clear policy and practice implications within policing, Law, WBS and Psychology have built a network at chief officer level, of 12 police forces across England and Wales. The objective is to develop interdisciplinary research projects and there are already several small-scale projects in progress. Probert is embarking on a programme of events with family history societies. Further plans for increased public engagement involve increased use of blogs and podcasts, and even stand-up, as pioneered by one new colleague.

A final aspect of our strategy is to appoint and develop individuals who will continue Warwick's rich tradition of empirical work. This is reflected in the body of doctoral students carrying out empirical work (Horne, Mou, Soubise), and in the recent appointments of Aliverti, Harding and postdoctoral fellow Zbyszewska. The School plans to make further appointments of this nature.

**d. Relationship to case studies:** Each of the case-studies has benefited from the School's support for impact in different ways. The training events and policy briefings that form part of Hodgson's case-study on criminal defence were supported by School funding, a public engagement award, and teaching credit. This case-study also illustrates how the CJC facilitates contact with and impact on policy-makers. Similarly, a number of the reports and workshops featured in the case-study on human rights assessments were supported by School and Faculty funding, while 50 hours' teaching credit allowed Harrison to pursue his work with UN agencies and governments in the area of international economic governance. Beale's case-study on European Contract Law, while drawing on research carried out before 2008, was supported by School funding in 2012 and 2013 to provide research assistance in drafting and gathering relevant material. Finally, Faundez's case-study on Governance, Legal Reform and Access to Justice, while also drawing on research carried out before 2008, also benefited from the provision of teaching credit to assist him in developing his work with the World Bank.