

<p>Institution: King's College London</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 20 Law</p>
<p>(a) Context: The Dickson Poon School of Law is distinguished by its problem-based approach, exploring the role of law in solving today's global problems. Currently we work closely and have greatest impact in: (1) shaping legislative change and legal principle; (2) developing best practice in public and private institutions and shaping governmental and quasi-governmental policy; (3) building partnerships with civil society and business and (4) informing public debate. Our users and collaborators include groups such as the UK Parliament; UK Government (DEFRA, DBIS, Home Office, DFID, Department of Transport, Ministry of Justice); European Commission; Chinese Government; OFT; OFCOM; Dutch Competition Authority; UK courts; European Court of Human Rights; TUC; International Labour Organisation; UK Biobank Ethics and Governance Council; Commission for Assisted Dying; Human Genetics Commission; UN Commission on International Trade Law; World Bank; Metropolitan Police; NSPCC; All-India Network of Sex Workers.</p>
<p>(b) Approach to impact</p> <p>The Law School has had a long tradition of public engagement and collaboration. Over the past five years, we have sought to formalise our approach to impact, ensuring that we build impact activities into our research, that we measure and evaluate the success of our impact, and that we allocate significant resources to support its achievement. The following principles characterise our approach:</p> <p>1. Shaping Legislative Change and Legal Principle</p> <p>School staff shape legislation and case law in the United Kingdom, European Union, Italy, India, China, United States, Australia, Netherlands, Canada and Iraq. They have taken part in litigation before the UK Supreme Court, European Court of Justice and European Court of Human Rights, and in dispute settlements in the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes. Murphy and Eeckhout undertook successful work on leading counter-terrorism litigation, <i>Commission v Kadi</i>, before the European Court of Justice. Matthews advised the European Commission on drafting the Succession Directive and the UK Ministry of Justice and the UK House of Lords EU Committee on its implementation. Malik's expert evidence to the House of Commons Public Affairs Scrutiny Committee in 2009 led to the reform of section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and to the introduction of a general public sector equality duty. Scofford worked with the UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA) to appraise existing environmental legislation and consider reform. This has seen ongoing collaboration with UKELA and DEFRA and the submission of written evidence to the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee.</p> <p>2. Developing Best Practice in Public and Private Institutions</p> <p>Our School engages with organisations in fields including medical law and ethics, criminal justice, trade and investment, and human rights to develop best practice. Ortino, for example, advises the UN Conference on Trade and Development on their new Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development which was included in the 2012 World Investment Report. Townley's research on competition law and public policy saw him devise training programmes for government officials and legal professionals in Egypt, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Thailand and the UK. Ewing worked with the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians and the Institute of Employment Rights to develop a report on best practice to end blacklisting of workers in the building industry. The report, <i>Ruined Lives</i>, drew on extensive research at King's on labour rights. Scott's research has impacted the Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority's 8th Code of Practice regarding pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, benefitting couples seeking to avoid the birth of a child with a serious medical condition.</p> <p>3. Building Partnerships with Civil Society and Business</p> <p>In keeping with the School's transnational focus international partnerships have been particularly encouraged. Green leads the International State Crime Initiative (ISCI) which works with a wide range of NGOs in countries as diverse as Burma, Tunisia and Papua New Guinea. This initiative, begun in 2010, has connected international grass-root organisations and enabled them to record and monitor state violence and corruption. Wenar convenes round-table discussions with Shell, the World Bank, the UK Government (DFID, DBIS), and NGOs to reform global trading practices in natural resources such as oil and gas.</p> <p>4. Informing Public Debate</p> <p>The School employs a Senior Communications Officer, who works alongside the Research Support Manager and Events Manager to ensure the wide dissemination, uptake and impact of our</p>

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research findings. Our staff regularly contribute articles and interviews to print media (*The Guardian, The Times, The Independent, The Daily Telegraph, The Times of India*), blogs and websites (*Human Rights in Ireland, ilawyerblog, EJIL: Talk!, UK Human Rights Blog, Al Jazeera*), radio (BBC Radio 4, Radio Scotland, Radio Wales, BBC World Service, Radio National Australia, BBC London Radio), and television (ITV News, Channel 4 Dispatches). Green and MacManus developed an online multi-media interactive database of primary resources and research materials, statecrime.org, to inform human rights campaigners and affected communities about the nature and extent of state criminality and state violence. As Gresham Professor of Divinity, Plant gives a series of free public lectures at Gresham College in the City of London based on his monograph *The Neoliberal State*. We can show, for example, that public interest in our research has led to legislative and policy changes in assisted dying and in stop and search policies.

(c) Strategy and plans

The School has set out to place impact at the core of our research mission. The two key elements in our strategy are to:

1. Build impact projects into our research:

The School actively recruits researchers whose work is impact linked, e.g. Schultz (member of the steering committee of the Global E-Commerce Initiative involving the US State Department, the Organisation of American States, eBay, PayPal and UNCITRAL); Skach (Constitutional Expert to the Iraqi Parliament); and Tridimas (who has appeared before the ECJ, ECtHR and Supreme Court of the UK in leading human rights and EU cases). The School is committed to appointing leading professionals, such as Lord Phillips MR (first President of the Supreme Court), Lord Judge (Lord Chief Justice 2008-2013) and Prof. Richard Falk (UN Special Rapporteur), to distinguished visiting fellowships who take an active role in facilitating the relationship between research and legal change.

The School has begun and will continue to integrate its traditional subject areas into a smaller number of problem-based research groups focussing on problems of global significance. These research groups are: Public Law & Governance, Medical Law & the Ethics of Health Care, Criminal Law & Global Justice, Markets, Trade & Development, Intellectual Property & Media of Communication and Private Law & Personal Responsibility. We will use these research groups to focus on the needs of users who are faced with these problems and who require solutions, thereby organising our impact more strategically and directing support to our impact fields more effectively.

Our strategic plan is to consolidate and build upon our existing work in Criminal Law & Global Justice (e.g. ISCI's ESRC-funded project on civil society resistance to state violence), Medical Law & the Ethics of Health Care (e.g. Scott's research on the donation of spare embryos), Public Law & Governance (e.g. Ewing's work on trade union blacklisting) and Markets, Trade & Development (e.g. Wenar's 'Clean Trade' project) and to develop an impact agenda across all of our other problem-based research groups. We aim to embed an understanding of impact across the wider research community, in particular among doctoral and early career researchers. We will be alerted to potential, high impact projects by greater scrutiny of impact in appraisals, sabbatical and grant applications. The School Research Committee, in conjunction with the School's full-time Director of Academic Strategy for Professions & Impact, will undertake yearly assessments of impact activities. We will hold impact workshops and away days for all staff, with particular focus on early career researchers. To support this we will offer seed and follow-up funding for impact activities through King's Policy Institute as well as the School Research Fund. The Director of Academic Strategy for Professions & Impact together with the School's fulltime Business Development Manager assist academics to develop business plans, scope impact projects, and facilitate collaboration with external partners. They are assisted by three Innovation Fellows (academics who champion impact activities amongst their peers). We will continue to offer funding, sabbatical leave and training for impact activities, linking these to the School's research centres and groups. In addition, we have recently created doctoral internships and will create policy and impact oriented methods training through the King's ESRC doctoral training centre and Graduate School.

2. Identify and develop the areas where we can make the biggest difference:

At the start of a research project it is not always possible to identify what will have the greatest

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impact. The Law School will maximise its ability to reach a wider public and to make the greatest domestic and international difference by tracking and identifying where our work can be most influential. To do this, the School Research Committee will, at the start of each academic year, identify two emerging research projects with high potential impact and public profile and with extensive potential reach and significance. Thus for example, over the next year we will invest in Kotiswaran's work on sex workers in India and human trafficking in South Asia and Palmer's collaborative work with Swiss NGO Swisspeace to assess and improve transitional justice processes in Rwanda and Kosovo.

(d) Relationship to case studies

Each of the four case studies is an example of more extensive work underway in the School in the following areas of impact:

(i) **Shaping Legislative Change and Legal Principle:** *Blackburn: Constitutional modernisation: Parliament, Elections & the Crown.* Blackburn's research and evidence before UK parliamentary committees have directly informed two historic constitutional changes: the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011 and the Succession to the Crown Act 2013. This case study shows the School's approach to shaping changes in the law and legal principle. It also shows how Blackburn set out to bring clarity to complex constitutional issues, through e.g. interviews with the BBC and a prominent letter to *The Times*, demonstrating the School's approach to informing public debate. Blackburn's impact-linked research was supported by additional sabbatical leave and funding for the School's Institute of Contemporary British History (of which Blackburn is a director).

(ii) **Developing Best Practice in Public and Private Institutions:** *Bowling: Developing fair and effective police stop and search powers.* The impact of Bowling's research on the ECHR and the police exemplifies the development of best practice in public institutions. His key role in establishing the advocacy & public engagement group *StopWatch* illustrates how the School builds partnerships with civil society and informs public debate through research dissemination and media. The School's Business Development Manager assisted Bowling to secure a King's Futures Fund grant from King's Business, and he also received additional sabbatical and research assistance.

(iii) **Building Partnerships with Civil Society:** *Wintemute: Equal Human Rights for Same-Sex Couples and Parents.* Wintemute's collaboration with over 10 international LGBT NGOs has resulted in the presentation of comparative law research on sexual orientation discrimination to the ECtHR and IACtHR in their capacity as intervening third parties. This illustrates the School's approach to shaping changes in law and legal principle at an international level as well as building partnerships with civil society. Wintemute was supported by sabbatical leave, teaching relief and travel allowances.

(iv) **Informing Public Debate:** *Lewis: Assisted Dying: legal change, the slippery slope and regulatory safeguards.* Lewis' strong engagement with the media (40+ press interviews, articles & commentaries since 2008) has established her as one of the leading public commentators on assisted dying and exemplifies the School's approach to informing public debate. Her research's contributions to legal change in Canada, the shaping of proposed change in Tasmania, and informing debate in the Scottish Parliament and before the Commission on Assisted Dying, illustrate School's approach to effecting changes in law and legal principle. Her impact-linked research was supported through additional sabbatical leave and by funds made available by the School's Innovation Fellows.