

**Institution: Oxford Brookes University** 

## Unit of Assessment: UofA 21 - Politics and International Studies

#### a. Overview

Between 2008-13 there has been a concerted University and departmental policy of developing the research potential of the Politics and International Studies UofA at Oxford Brookes University. The increase in the number of research staff being entered for this assessment indicates the progress that has been made. 5 researchers were returned in the 2001 Research Assessment Exercise, 10.5 in 2008 and now, 14.6 in 2013. The UofA receives funding support from the University and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, which was created in 2010 when Politics and International Relations was located in a new department of Social Sciences. 6 researchers have received University research sabbaticals and 5 of its early career researchers are supported by a Faculty scheme that is targeted at enabling their research development. The Faculty and University provide financial support for conference attendance and research activities. In the new Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Politics and International Relations have maintained close links with Sociology. A focal point for substantive research in Politics/IR is its Research Centre, the Centre for Global Politics Economy and Society, which replaced the Centre for Democracy Studies and which arose out of and provided organisational support for the research interests of Politics and International Relations and Sociology staff. Visiting speakers and staff from other areas of the University contribute to the vibrant weekly seminars and a number of conferences associated with the Centre have been organised. Researchers also participate in research groups affiliated to the Centre: Critical International Studies, European Politics and Political and Social Change. The Centre has hosted 3 Visiting Fellows in the period. Dr. Zaslove. Dr. Nygard and Prof Cafruny and it is collaborating with the University of Brunel Social Sciences Dept. in a series of conferences on global networking. A Doctoral Training Programme has also been established under the title, Global Politics, Economy and Society, which has focused on developing postgraduate research. Axford, Browning and Buhari-Gulmez have written books and articles reviewing conceptual assumptions and explanatory tropes in global studies and Singh, **Hesketh**, **Hurt** and **Isaacs** have explored particular aspects of global political economy. This organisation of research support, notably the establishment of research groups and associated individual research mentoring, has been designed to enhance the quality and quantity of research outputs produced in the UofA. The success of this strategy is discussed below.

### b. Research strategy

The strategy of the UofA has been to develop research by increasing the quantity and quality of research outputs, developing a vibrant postgraduate research community, organising systems to maximise the acquisition of external funds and providing a supportive and sustainable research context for researchers. The UofA has a research committee consisting of **Axford, Browning** and **Miller** (originally including Ryner) that oversees its strategy, reviews progress of researchers, organises mentoring and sets goals This activity is set within the context of a Faculty Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee chaired by **Browning** (Associate Dean for Research and Knowledge Exchange in the Faculty) and including **Miller** (Research Lead in the Department of Social Sciences), and a University Committee chaired by the Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Exchange There has been significant development in the period, which is exemplified by the following indices.

- i) The number of staff entered in this REF is significantly more than entered previously, while the process of selection for entry has been more selective than hitherto. 14.6 are currently being submitted rather than 10.5 in the preceding assessment. This development is underpinned by investment in staff, notably early career researchers, who have benefited from the early career research schemes that operate within Brookes. Meanwhile, Politics and International Relations has retained promising new researchers who were in place in 2008, such as **Lister** and **Managhan**, (now Reader and Senior Lecturer respectively), and **Steenkamp**, who has progressed in the current period from being an Early Career Fellow to Senior Lecturer.
- ii) The strategy has involved enhancing the quality of research. Research-focused away days early on in this REF cycle reinforced the ambition, which was signalled in RAE return of 2008, to produce



more quality monographs and high-quality journal articles. We have realised this aim by producing 9 monographs; Axford, Theories of Globalization (Polity); Lister (with Pia), European Citizenship (EUP); Miller, Making Sense of Fatherhood (Cambridge University Press); Browning, Global Theory from Kant to Hardt and Negri (Palgrave); Managhan, Gender, Agency and War: The Maternalized Body in U.S. Foreign Policy (Routledge); Steenkamp Violence and Post-War reconstruction. Managing Insecurity in the Aftermath of Peace Accords (I.B.Tauris); Singh, Federalism, Nationalism and Development: India and the Punjab Economy (Routledge 2008 hb, 2009 pb), Economy, Culture and Human Rights: Turbulence in Punjab, India and Beyond (Delhi, 2010) and Isaacs, Party System Formation in Kazakhstan: Between Formal and Informal Politics (Routledge). We have targeted publishing in recognised high quality journals and quality articles are fostered by the processes of review undertaken in research groups. The upshot is that we have published a number of articles in, for example, Review of International Studies, Political Studies, History of Political Thought, Europe-Asia, Comparative European Politics, Democratisation, Capital and Class, Sociology, Security Dialogue, Third World Quarterly, International Political Sociology and Hypatia.

- iii) We have also sought to engage with the wider profession via conferences and groups at the national and international level. We have staged conferences on Global Studies and Global Political Economy, including hosting the Global Studies Annual Conference in 2008 on the theme of Cultures and Globalization. Kuisma, as part of his ESRC grant organised an international end of project conference in 2010 on Ideas and/on Welfare in Europe, the papers of which will be published in a symposium in *Public Administration*, a leading journal in politics/public policy/public administration. In 2008 Hurt, with Ryner and Kuisma, organised the second mid-term workshop of the Critical Political Economy Research Network of the European Sociological Association under the title. European Political Economy of/and Society in the World, which took place at Oxford Brookes and is currently collaborating with colleagues on an ESRC seminar series. Browning coorganises with Elizabeth Frazer (University of Oxford) the Political Thought Conference in Oxford. Axford is an executive member of the Global Studies Association and Axford, Browning, Cochran, Managhan, Miller, Lister, Isaacs, Whitmore and Rosenow have presented papers at significant international conferences, including IPSA, ISA, APSA, PSA, ASN, ASSEES. Collaborations with academics in other Universities include those of **Lister** and Jarvis (Swansea), Browning and Dimova Cookson, Boucher and Prokhovnik (Durham, Cardiff and the Open University), Rosenow and Coleman (Sussex), Isaacs, who co-operates with Dr. Abel Polese of Tallinn University and Miller is networked internationally in the social policy arena.
- iv) We have reorganised the structures and processes relating to applying for external income and have been more successful in gaining grants from Research Councils, though our total external funding income is below that of 2008. Individuals, who have been successful in gaining grants, include **Browning**, Cederberg, **Isaacs**, Kuisma, **Lister** and **Miller**. Since the last RAE we have taken the opportunity to redevelop and improve the infrastructure to support grant bidding. At Faculty level a Grants Panel offers peer review and quality assurance for external grant bids and is administratively supported through departmental Grants Officers. The University also has a Research and Business Development Office (RBDO) which supports researchers in submitting bids to all the major UK and international funders and which provides a dedicated range of services supporting applications, post-award management and contracts through to managing the ethics approval processes. The Faculty and RBDO teams work with academic staff on finding suitable bidding opportunities, costing and developing the application and supporting successful awards.
- v) The goal, set in 2008, of increasing the number of our research students, has been realised, while the environmental context for research students has also improved markedly. This improvement has been achieved via the establishment of a Doctoral Training Programme in Global Politics, Economy and Society, which involves International Relations and Politics along with Sociology, Law and Businessl. It is currently directed by a Law/International Relations scholar Prof. Noortman, with the assistance of Dr. Kusima. The number of research students has increased to 18 and the number of doctoral completions in the Politics and International Studies UofA has increased threefold in the REF period from the preceding RAE return, with 9 successful PhD completions being recorded and another two in succeeding months. There have been additional 2



successes in PhD by publication.

Research strategy 2014-2020 – the next five years

Since 2008, we have developed in research, increasing the number of our active research staff, increasing postgraduate research completions and enhancing our research culture by means of the Centre and DTP. Our strategy for the next five years is to sustain this progress and enhance our international research standing in the following ways:

- 1. Retaining and enabling our research staff to develop and flourish via mentoring, and financial support.
- 2. Intensifying the impact of our Research Groupings in and beyond the UoA disciplines, for instance by participation in a recently initiated Faculty-wide Gender networking group.
- 3. Continuing to strengthen research opportunities and the career development of postgraduates, postdocs and early/mid-career academic staff through protected research time and training.
- 4. Further developing national and international research linkages through investment, exploiting funding calls and building institutional affiliations.
- 5. Ensuring the publication and dissemination of research that is of national, international and world leading quality. A number of monographs are scheduled to appear in the early part of the next cycle and staff additionally already entered into contracts for future major outputs e.g. Browning is contracted for monographs with OUP and Bloomsbury and Axford, Miller, Rosenow, Browne, Lister and Isaacs have advanced plans for monographs.

Building on our achievements in this review period, we are committed to sustaining and enhancing our distinctive intellectual profile in research and research training. We will continue to focus on innovative, interdisciplinary research which has significant impact and contributes to societal relevance and academic standing.

## c. People, including:

### i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The policy of the University is to employ research active staff with evident research potential so as to maximise long-tern sustainability of research, and the UofA has benefited from increased staffing while rising undergraduate recruitment, coupled with an increase in doctoral completions, augurs well for the future. Support and development of new researchers is given priority with significant input provided to enhance research potential. Staff at the outset of their research careers undertake a Research Management Training course on completion of which staff are eligible for up to £3000 to support their research development. Isaacs, Rosenow and Hesketh have benefited from this scheme, and are entered as early career research staff. Additionally the Faculty offers research support via an Early Career Mentoring Fund. Browne and Buhari-Gulmez are Early Career Research Fellows, benefiting from the support for early career researchers, and contribute to the research vibrancy of the UofA. Support for research staff continues beyond the early years, and each member of the UofA has a Research Mentor, who advises on research plans and has access to University-wide, Faculty and departmental funding for conference attendance and research requirements. As part of the Research Planning Process all staff within two years of promotion to Reader or Professor are identified and offered mentoring and guidance.

The University is committed to the principles of equality and equal opportunities, and this is reflected in its appointment and promotion procedures. In 2008 it recognised that there was an underrepresentation of women at Reader and Professorial level (only 20% of professors in the previous School of Social Sciences and Law were female in 2008, with 27% across the University as a whole). In 2009 the Faculty introduced its scheme for identifying staff within two years of promotion as part of the annual research planning process. Those identified are given a mentor to give advice and guide applications for promotion. **Lister** and **Miller** were identified and duly promoted to the posts of Reader and Professor during this period. Comparisons with the old data are complicated by the introduction of a new University faculty structure, but by 2012 the percentage of female professors in the university had risen to 32% (putting it in the top 5 universities nationally in terms of the proportion of female professors). Staff returning from maternity leave in this period (**Steenkamp** and **Whitmore**) have been able to work flexibly to



enable phased returns to work, which have ensured continuity of research careers and collaborations. Flexible working options are also available to staff with caring responsibilities. The inclusion of two staff in the UofA's entry, who have had periods of maternity leave, demonstrates the success of our equal opportunities policies.

The University and Faculty have well-established research ethics procedures through which research integrity is maintained, with a dedicated Faculty Ethics Officer to give training and advice. All research projects involving human participants receive consideration by the University Research Ethics Committee and are undertaken only with approval. **Miller** has an expertise in research ethics and has also provided training sessions on the University-wide seminar series for new research supervisors.

The department funds one national conference per member of staff per year and Faculty researchers are entitled to bid for further funding from the Faculty to fund an international conference or other research trip. Additional funds (e.g. to help with book completion, conference and seminar organisation etc.) are available competitively from both the Faculty and the Department: each member of the UoA has benefited from this scheme, including funding for teaching relief, research assistance, conference, events and seminar organisation.

### ii. Research students

At Oxford Brookes University all research students are members of the Graduate College which is led by the PVC for Research and Knowledge Exchange. The College is student-focused and oversees all matters related to programmes and student experience. Research students are represented on the Graduate College Steering Committee, University and Faculty Research and Knowledge Exchange Committees and University and Faculty Research Degrees Committees. In addition to their supervisory teams, research students are supported by Departmental postgraduate research tutors who oversee their progression. The University's Graduate Office provides the central administrative support for all research students from enquiry, admissions and enrolment to conferment of the degree. Postgraduate student training supports the 'researcher development framework' and is delivered centrally, through the Graduate College, and at Faculty and Departmental levels. Graduate College induction afternoons followed by networking events are run twice a year, in October. At induction, students are introduced to the training diary / planner, advised on training needs analysis and the use of the planner and given information about training opportunities, and the need to plan around 70 hours of training activities per year with the help of their supervisor.

A programme of Graduate College training events provides opportunities to develop and practice generic, transferable and career skills and includes, for example, academic writing workshops, training in oral and poster presentation skills, training in dealing with the media, research ethics, successful part-time study, publications, citations and impact and preparing for examination. The University Careers Service runs research student-focussed careers events and holds daily drop-in sessions. All research students who wish to be involved in any teaching activities undertake a compulsory 'first steps in teaching' run by the Oxford Centre for Staff Learning and Development (OCSLD) supported by Faculty-specific preparation for teaching and have the opportunity, if they are undertaking a substantial amount of teaching, to undertake an associate teachers course which upon successful completion leads to Associate Membership of the Higher Education Academy.

The Graduate College runs an annual 'virtual' (on-line) research conference, which culminates in a 'live' poster presentation event supported by a guest lecture with a 'careers' focus and networking reception. There is also an annual 'summer school' based on the Vitae 'GradSchool' model. Research students have access to a wide range of other training courses such as those offered by OCSLD, including, for example, course in leadership and management, personal development and modern languages. IT skills can be developed through courses run by Oxford Brookes Information Services (OBIS) and the University Library offers training in bibliography and electronic notation systems. There is a programme of networking events, including a 'speed networking' evening and summer barbeque, enabling students from across the University to meet and share ideas and information about their research. In addition, the Faculty holds an annual research students' conference, supported from the central Careers and Professional Development Training



Programme for Research Students and six monthly networking events which also supplement the programme of training, workshops, seminars, and symposia run at Departmental level to address discipline-specific methodologies.

Central to the improved recruitment and development of research students in this UofA has been the successful formation of a Doctoral Training Programme of Global Politics Economy and Society, which provides supervision for a number of research students and an extensive training and seminar programme that has developed a vibrant research culture. The DTP is responsible for the development of research students in the areas of Politics and IR, Law, Sociology and Business. The DTP has received 4 studentships since its formation in 2010 and has facilitated a distinctive postgraduate research community and increased the number of PhD students. PhD students in IR and Politics have organised successful research conferences and attend regular DTP seminars and training sessions We have 9 completions in this period with 2 doctorates awarded for published work. Hughes has recently completed his doctorate and was awarded the Robert W. and Jessie Cox ISA Award for 2014 for the best student graduate paper of critical enquiry in I.R. for his paper, 'Unmaking an Exception: A Critical Genealogy of American Exceptionalism.' All PhD students are supervised in teams of 2-3 academics in relevant areas and attend weekly seminars as well as participating in research groups within the department, offering papers at regular intervals and also teaching as part of their training and development.

# d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The overall number of individuals in receipt of grant awards has increased in this assessment period over the preceding period even though the total of external funding is below that of the last assessment period. Researchers, who have gained grants, include **Lister** and Kuisma, who were awarded ESRC small grants to undertake projects and **Miller**, won British Academy funding for a major research project. **Isaacs** was awarded a British Academy Small Grant and a British Academy Overseas Conference Grant, **Browning** was awarded a British Academy overseas partnership award to develop global links with Shanghai University that contributed to his research on the global, Cederberg in June 2010 co-organised a European Science Foundation funded Exploratory Workshop at Oxford Brookes entitled 'In/equality for third country nationals. Implementation and effects of EU directives on migration and asylum'. She also received funding for the research project 'Inequalities and Multiple Discrimination in Access to Health', from the European Agency for Fundamental Rights.

An excellent infrastructure to support grant bidding has been developed in the new Faculty. The Research and Business Development Office (RBDO) and the Faculty Research Grants panel, supported by a Faculty administrative Research Team provide administrative support and critical reviews of applications. RBDO also works closely with the Directorate of Learning Resources on support for research data management and research information – the latter being supported by the recent purchase of a Current Research Information System (CRIS). Learning Resources also maintains the University's repository 'RADAR' which is the multi-purpose online "resource bank" for Oxford Brookes, enabling the University to showcase its research outputs to the wider world and comply with green Open Access requirements. RBDO staff promote the university's research capabilities to prospective partners in industry, commerce and the public sector, assist with the identification of partners' research needs and support collaborative relationships for the funding and undertaking of research. Academic staff are supported by a programme called "Your First Three Years". As a part of this programme, RBDO run sessions relating to research support activities, bidding for external funding and running research projects. The Faculty Grants Officer and administrative team provide focused support for grant-bidding in the humanities and social sciences and the Faculty Grants Panel provides expert commentary on bids. A number of seminars and informal group sessions have been organised to develop grant-bidding expertise. The main Gipsy Lane campus is currently undergoing a £132 million pound redevelopment entitled 'Space to Think' which includes a new library, lecture theatre, teaching spaces, IT resources and catering facilities. The campus also houses the Buckley Building. Built in 2006 and part-funded by a £2m HEFCE grant in recognition of excellence in research, it houses the University Research office (RBDO) and two research institutes, and over the assessment period has provided a venue for extensive research-related activities including seminars, conferences (such as the Faculty's annual research conference and annual research students' conference), and training and research networking events. The University also has a reciprocal agreement with the Bodleian Library and



History Faculty Library of Oxford University.

Brookes' IT needs are supported through Oxford Brookes Information Services (OBIS), a centralised IT resource. Its role is to manage the University's computer facilities to meet the needs of courses, administration, research, staff and students. OBIS also offers training in specific research software (ArcGIS mapping software and Nvivo 10).

# e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

IR and Politics researchers have collaborated with colleagues in other institutions and have also contributed to the discipline in distinct and various ways.

### i)PhD Examining

**Miller** 12 (Melbourne Australia (4), Bristol, Cardiff, Salford, City University (3), Lancaster), **Browning** 6 (Cardiff, Birkbeck, Warwick (2) Nottingham, Sussex, **Axford** (Royal Holloway), Hurt (St. Andrews), **Whitmore** (Strathclyde) and **Steenkamp** (Stellenbosch, South Africa)

## ii)Editorial and Advisory Roles

Axford: Overseas Advisor to the Italian Ministry of Education Research Grants Committee, executive member of the Global Studies Association and member of the International Editorial Boards of Globalizations Telematics and Informatics and The International Journal of Global Ethics. Browning serves as a Member of the Peer Review College of the AHRC and is an Executive member of the Britain and Ireland Association for Political Thought. He was Founding and General Editor of Contemporary Political Theory (208-10), is currently Editor of the series International Political Theory (Palgrave/Macmillan) and Review Editor for the Encyclopedia for Political Thought. Browne is a Network Coordinator for the AHRC-funded 'Motherhood in post-1968 European Literature' network (over 200 members from UK, US, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Japan). She is also a member of the Editorial Collective for the journal Radical Philosophy. Cochran is a reviewer for the Award Committee of the Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order, 2010-2012. Miller is a member of the review panel for the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS). Advisor to the Labour party policy review panel on fatherhood chaired by David Lammy MP (2012 - 2013) and advisor on DofE funded project on children and family life (4Children, 2011 – 2013). Member of the Editorial Board of the journal Fathering (2009 – 2012), Rapporteur for ESRC and member of the NCRM methodological innovations network 'New frontiers in qualitative longitudinal research' (October 2012-13). Lister and Kuisma were invited to join the ESRC Peer Review College in 2010. Singh is on the editorial board of Journal of Punjab Studies, Journal of Indian Politics and World Review of Political Economy and is on the Executive Committee of the Association of Heterodox Economics and The World Association of Political Economy. Isaacs is on the editorial board of Studies of Transition States and Societies. Buhari-Gulmez is the Founding Co-editor of Changing Turkey in a Changing World and Associate Editor of the Journal of Critical Globalisation Studies. She has coedited the special issue 'Europe and World Society' in *Politique Européenne* (with Chris Rumford) which was submitted in mid-September 2013 and is currently under review.

#### iii)Refereeing

Staff in the UofA have refereed for a variety of journals including *Political Studies*, *History of* Political Thought, Bulletin of the Hegel Society of Great Britain, reviewer for Political Studies, History of Political Thought, Millennium, International Political Theory, Bulletin of the Hegel Society of Great Britain, *The European Legacy*, European Integration Online Papers, Contemporary Political Theory, Journal of Modern African Studies, Australian Journal of Political Science, Cambridge Review of International Affairs, European Journal of Development Research, British Journal of Politics and International Relations, Review of International Studies, *Globalizations*, *Global Society*, *Gender and Society*, Security Dialogue, *International Political Sociology*, and *International Studies Review*, *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development*, *LSE Review of Books*; *Journal of Conflict Transformation and Security* (JCTS).

### iv)Collaborations with scholars in the Discipline:

Staff in the UofA have collaborated with researchers and organisations in the UK and in the wider international Research environment, and have been involved in the dialectical interplay of ideas, standpoints and research skills that allows researchers in a particular UofA to contribute to and



learn from the wider profession. Collaborations include: Browning with Boucher on the edited book (The Political Art of Bob Dylan), and with fellow editors Dimova Cookson (Durham) and Prokhovnik (Open University) on the co-edited book, Dialogues with Contemporary Political Theorists, which incorporated conversations with leading political theorists of the contemporary era, including Sen, Skinner, Petit, Cohen, Forst, Bennett, Chakrabarty, Walker, Honig and Connolly). He also collaborates with Frazer (Oxford) in organising the Political Thought Conference of the Britain and Ireland Association for Political Thought. Lister has a long-term collaboration with Jarvis (Swansea) in developing research projects on terrorism and counter- terrorism. They were awarded a grant by the ESRC to undertake research on policy initiatives and have written a number of joint articles in leading journals. Rosenow collaborates with Coleman (Sussex) in presenting joint papers and projected journal articles. She has also combined with Hesketh and Managhan in organising a workshop on Resistance at Oxford Brookes, which will lead to further research initiatives. Miller collaborated with Professor Giovanna Rossi at the Catholic University, Milan, Italy (on a British Academy funded project reference SG100399). She has co-edited a second edition of 'Ethics in Qualitative Research', continuing her collaborations with Birch, Mauthner and Jessop. She has collaborated with scholars at Oxford University (a co-authored journal article with Hinton) and the University of Macerata, Italy, (a co-edited book with Crespi) and other key international policy scholars (Featherstone, Plantin, Dermott, Morgan in a special issue journal) in the UK. Her collaborations have also included scholars at the World Health Organisation and the LSE. Axford continued his long-term collaboration with the Protosociology project at the University of Frankfurt-Am-Main involving international scholars such as Eisenstadt, Preyer, Offe, Lee and Robertson. Whitmore is an Honorary Research Fellow at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Birmingham and lends her expertise to the Centre's work in this field and Isaacs collaborates with Abel Polese of Tallinn University.

### v)Keynotes and Lectures and Consultancy

Researchers in the UofA are committed to academic and public engagement. **Axford** was invited to present lectures at Genova and UC Santa Barbara. Browning was invited to present papers at the Universities of Cardiff, and Sussex. Miller presented invited key note papers in New York, Huddersfield, and Milan and other papers at Lancaster, Cambridge, Manchester, Birmingham, Gothenburg, Sweden, and London. Whitmore was invited to deliver lectures at the University of Helsinki and Kyiv, Ukraine. Kuisma was invited to give a talk at the Institute for Futures Studies in Stockholm and was a visiting researcher there in 2010 and presented an invitation lecture at Glasgow Caledonian University. Cochran presented the lecture, 'John Dewey and the Concept of an International Public' for John Dewey's 150 Birthday Celebration", October 22-24, 2009, Center for Dewey Studies and the Center for Inquiry, NY. Browne presented papers in this REF cycle at Amsterdam University and Ghent University. She has also given a keynote lecture at a conference at Lancaster University (October 2012). Isaacs has undertaken work for the ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Exclusive Analysis. Singh has been a Visiting Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi and at the Moscow State University, Hurt, Ford, Hesketh, Managhan, Cochran, Lister, Browning and Buhari-Gulmez have presented papers at international conferences, including the BSA, ISA, PSA and ECPR conferences.

## vi) Media Consultancy roles

Miller made a series of media interventions on television and radio including contributions to Woman's Hour and BBC Breakfast TV in the UK and Australia. She was also identified as a policy expert on social and political change and family lives and chosen as one of 30 from over 2000 applicants to join a BBC Academy Female Expert training programme (Jan and March, 2013). Whitmore gave consultancy advice to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Green-ETA Group of the European Parliament, briefed the British Ambassador to the Ukraine in 2012 and briefed the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on constitutional reform in the Ukraine in 2010. Hurt undertook consultancy work for the LSE Public Policy Group, writing lead reviews for Special Reports published by the European Court of Auditors in development issues and was coauthor of a Chatham House workshop entitled, 'Africa International Agency and Interdependency in a Changing World which was aimed at the policy-making community. Isaacs has been interviewed for Al Jazeera, the Washington Times, Jylands-Posten Eurasianet.org and ISN Security Wat.