British Academy

The Humanities and Social Sciences Tackling the UK's International Challenges Programme 2017

The British Academy has supported 17 research projects through *The Humanities and Social Sciences Tackling the UK's International Challenges Programme* (2017). These awards begin in January 2018.

Reference: IC2\100030

PI: Dr Nicole Baumgarten, Lecturer in Applied Languages, University of Sheffield
Co-Applicant: Dr Inke Du Bois, University Lecturer, University of Bremen

Title: *Linguistic Profiling on the Urban Residential Property Market*

Abstract: This project investigates language-based discrimination on the urban residential property market. Urban planning research has shown that housing markets work in a way that result in 'residential segregation', with estate agents playing a key gatekeeping role in this process. Linguistic research has shown that non-standard language use significantly reduces people's access to services whenever a form of gatekeeping is involved. This project combines these two perspectives in a language ecology framework to uncover if and how linguistic bias plays a role in the outcome of gatekeeping encounters which regulate access to the residential property market. Using a novel multiple methods approach to investigate buyer-estate agent interactions, the project will provide a) empirical evidence of potential linguistics bias on the residential housing market, b) insight into the symbolic power of dialects and accents in multicultural environments, and c) demonstrate the relevance of humanities research to social science concerns.

Reference: IC2\100026

PI: Dr Yafa Shanneik, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, University of Birmingham
Co-Applicants: Dr Mathias Rohe, Professor of Civil Law, Private International Law and Comparative Law, Unviersity of Erlangen-Nuremberg; Professor Annelies Moors, Professor of Anthropology, University of Amsterdam

Title: *Reconsidering Muslim Marriage Practices in Europe: The Case of Iraqi and Syrian War-Widows*

Abstract: This pilot study offers a perspectival shift on Muslim marriages by placing the experiences and voices of Muslim women at the centre of research. It focuses on Iraqi and Syrian war-widows who have settled in the UK and Germany since the toppling of Saddam Hussein in 2003 and the outbreak of the Syrian war in 2011. The project employs an innovative combination of ethnographic, legal and artistic research approaches. Life narratives will be collected and two art workshops will be conducted to examine the women's agency in developing new forms of Muslim marriages. By analysing two recent legal case studies in each country, the project further investigates to what extent these new forms of marriages are recognised within English and German law. Finally, it examines what other alternative support mechanisms – outside of secular legal systems - exist in the two countries for women to avail of their marital rights.

Reference: IC2\100030

PI: Professor Clare Anderson, Professor of History, University of Leicester
Co-Applicant: Dr Melissa Ifill, Lecturer, University of Guyana

Title: *History and Security Sector Reform: Crime and Punishment in British Colonial Guyana, 1814-1966*

Abstract: Following recent prison breaks, fires, riots and unrest, the crisis in Guyana's penal system is unparalleled in the Caribbean region. Guyana has grave resource constraints; in terms of GDP it is the second poorest country (after Haiti) in the southern hemisphere. As a member of the Commonwealth, Guyana signed an agreement with the UK government earlier this year, to undertake an urgent review of security (Security Sector Reform Programme, SSRP). Stakeholders include Guyana's Ministry of Legal Affairs and Prison Service. This research is of direct value to the SSRP, because it will co-create policy-relevant historical resources on crime and punishment in British colonial Guyana. Its objectives are to increase academic, practitioner and public understanding of the historical roots of key issues pertaining to security, the administration of criminal justice, and prisoner and ex-prisoner rights and equality.

Reference: IC2\100081

PI: Professor Jason Ralph, Professor of International Relations, University of Leeds
Co-Applicant: Dr Jess Gifkins, Lecturer in International Relations, University of Manchester

Title: *The UK Role and Reputation as a Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council after the Decision to Leave the European Union*

Abstract: In her September 2017 United Nations speech, Prime Minister Theresa May acknowledged the UK's 'special responsibility' as a permanent member of the Security Council. This project examines the extent to which the UK is, after the decision to leave the European Union, perceived to be properly discharging this responsibility. The project builds on an interdisciplinary approach that examines state actions through Bourdieuian-inspired sociology, especially 'practice theory', and assesses those actions in a normative context informed by what moral philosophy tells us about special responsibilities. Working with impact partners in London and New York, the project asks how, if at all, the UK government's perception of its role has changed, how its status and diplomacy as a permanent member is perceived by other members of the Security Council, and whether its practices in New York have adapted or need to adapt.

Reference: IC2\100178

PI: Professor Peter Sammonds, Director, UCL Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction
Co- Applicants: Dr Bayes Ahmed, Research Associate, University College London; Md. Touhidul Islam, Chairman of the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Dhaka; Fahima Durrat, Assistant Professor, University of Dhaka; Mohammad Bulbul Ashraf Siddiqi, Assistant Professor, North South University, Dhaka; Anurug Chakma, Lecturer, University of Dhaka; Obayedul Hoque Patwary, Assistant Professor, University of Dhaka

Title: *The Rohingya Exodus: Issues and Implications for Stability, Security and Peace in South Asia*

Abstract: Given the recent Rohingya exodus to Bangladesh, this research aims to study the overall implications of this exodus for regional stability, security and peace. In so doing, this research also intends to understand causes and drivers of identity-based politics associated to Rohingya population in Myanmar. This study, which employs a mixed method approach including a survey, a number of key

informant interviews and several short case studies of persecution, also wants to understand complex issues of management of large exodus of refugees in Bangladesh and how best to address them in the longer-term. This project intends to contribute to policy making related to management of the Rohingya refugee crisis at local, regional and international levels with a view to help in their repatriation process.

Reference: IC2\100044

PI: Professor James Sweeney, Professor of International Law, Lancaster University
Co-Applicant: Professor Kenneth Andresen, Professor of Media Studies, Universtiy of Agder.

Title: *Transitional Justice and 'Transitional Journalism': Understanding the Role of Journalists as Non-State Actors in the Delivery of Historical Justice - Case Study on Kosovo*

Abstract: The (re)establishment of an historical record after the collapse of an authoritarian regime or the cessation of an armed conflict takes on a special significance, and is an essential component of delivering 'transitional justice' – for example through state-sponsored initiatives such as 'truth commissions'. Transitional justice scholarship has started to recognise that non-state actors play a complementary role. The focus of this interdisciplinary project between law and media / journalism studies examines the role of journalists, as non-state actors, in historical accounting and challenging the historical record; and the extent to which international efforts to support transitional justice have shaped that role. The aim is to improve understanding of international support for historical accounting in transitional contexts. Kosovo is chosen as a case study due to the UK's involvement in the events leading to its declaration of independence in 2008, and because it has both post-authoritarian and post-conflict dimensions.

Reference: IC2\100139

PI: Dr Keith Hyams, Associate Professor of Political Theory and Interdisciplinary Ethics, University of Warwick
Co-Applicants: Dr Shuain Lwasa, Associate Professor in Geography and Climate Sciences, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Makerere University; James Ford, Professor and Chair in Climate Adaptation, University of Leeds

Title: *Remedying Injustice in Indigenous Climate Adaptation Planning*

Abstract: Indigenous communities are highly vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change, yet their voices are underrepresented within current national and international climate adaptation policies. Recent research has emphasised that members of indigenous communities hold important knowledge about how best to adapt to climate change within their local context. This project investigates ethical aspects of the relationship between indigenous communities, climate change, and adaptation policies, bringing together both a philosophical and a social scientific perspective. It asks how adaptation policies that integrate indigenous knowledge on climate adaptation can work to reduce the unequal and inequitable distribution of climate impacts on indigenous populations. Leveraging existing collaborations with indigenous communities in Uganda, the project draws on philosophical approaches and empirical observations on the impact of climate change on indigenous communities and the contribution that indigenous adaptation practices can make to UK and international climate adaptation policies.

Reference: IC2\100077

PI: Dr Karen Pashby, Senior Lecturer, Manchester Metropolitan University

Co-Applicant: Dr Louise Sund, Senior Lecturer in Education, Malardalen University

Title: *Teaching for Sustainable Development Through Ethical Global Issues Pedagogy: Participatory Research with Teachers*

Abstract: There is an urgent policy imperative to support effective teaching of global issues. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals include Target 4.7: mainstreaming education for sustainable development (ESD) and global citizenship education (GCE). Critical scholarship in both fields has called for an ethical global issues pedagogy that takes-up, rather than avoiding, difficult questions about global inequalities. Despite consensus on the importance of including global issues in education, there is a lack of knowledge about how to enact critical scholarship in this field and to what extent teachers are currently resourced and open to engaging in a such a pedagogy. This project will generate empirical evidence about enabling and discouraging factors for an ethical global issues pedagogy and will propose, test, and mobilize a framework informed by empirical research with teachers of social studies subjects at secondary level in the UK, Sweden and Finland.

Reference: IC2\100120

PI: Dr Juan Miguel Kanai, Lecturer in Human Geography, University of Sheffield
Co-Applicants: Jacqueline Harrison, Joint Head of Department of Journalism Studies, University of Sheffield; Professor Dimitris Ballas, Professor of Economic Geography, University of Groningen; Dr Diana Maynard, Research Fellow, University of Sheffield

Title: *Social Understandings of Scale: The Role of Print and Social Media in the EU Referendum Debate*

Abstract: Based on a study of newspaper stories, readers' attitudes and Twitter activity during the EU Referendum of 2016, this project addresses the roles that print and social media play in shaping social understandings of multi-level governance and the politics of scale, with a particular emphasis on what voters know and understand of how membership in supra-national units shapes the prosperity of local areas. This project brings together expertise in regional political economy and the politics of scale; journalism and media studies; and computational linguistics and web semantics. Project results should be of relevance for the UK's international challenge of managing its evolving relation with the EU and more generally any country where the domestic population may face important collective decisions regarding shifts in regulatory scales in the context of deepening and increasingly contested globalization. The project will be carried out with European collaborators as Euroscepticism was not limited to Brexit.

Reference: IC2\100100

PI: Dr Prakash Shah, Reader in Culture and Law, Queen Mary University of London
Co-Applicants: Dr Dunkin Jalki, Director, Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Humanities and Social Sciences, Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara Educational Society, Ujure; Dr Sufiya Pathan, Associate Professor, Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara Educational Society, Ujure

Title: *Designed to Fail? Foundations of the Laws on Caste in India, the United Kingdom, the European Union, and the United Nations*

Abstract: The UK, the EU and the the UN have recently adopted processes to consider whether and how to address caste in legislation that recognises it as a form of discrimination. Contrary to popular belief, these developments do not take place in the context of a lack of legislation on caste in countries like

India. In fact, caste legislation in India goes back 150 years and has been widened and strengthened consistently over the past 70 years of Indian independence. Ironically, the strengthening of caste legislation has seemingly gone hand in hand with the deepening of caste conflicts in India. If international legislation addressing caste is to succeed, it must answer why Indian legislation has failed. In examining the presuppositions that have led to the formulation of laws on caste at cross-jurisdictional and international levels, this project reorients research on caste and law.

Reference: IC2\100007

PI: Dr Anne Roemer-Mahler, Lecturer in International Relations, University of Sussex
Co-Applicant: Dr Lewis Husain, Honnorary Associate, Insititue of Decelopment Studies

Title: *Collaborating for Global Health Security: The New Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention*

Abstract: The Ebola outbreak in 2014 highlighted the threat posed by infectious diseases in an interconnected world, and revealed the weakness of existing governance arrangements for maintaining global health security. International collaboration must be widened to include 'new entrants' in the global health arena such as China, and it must be deepened to implement global initiatives at the local level, including strengthening health systems in low-income countries (LIC). Yet, such collaborations are uncharted territory and pose considerable challenges at the political, institutional and cultural levels. The project investigates how these challenges are being addressed in the new Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (ACDC), a collaboration between an incumbent global health leader (US), a new entrant (China), and LIC governments (African Union, WHO Regional Office for Africa). To this end, the research combines international relations research with local and regional expertise on Africa and China.

Reference: IC2\100155

PI: Dr Fiona Murphy, Research Fellow, Queen's University Belfast
Co-Applicants: Dr Pinar Uyan Semerci, Director for the Centre for Migration Research, Istanbul Bilgi University; Dr Evropi Chatzipanagiotidou, Lecturer in Anthropology, Queen's University Belfast; Dr Ilay Ors Romain, Faculty Member, Istanbul Bilgi University

Title: *Counting Our Losses: Social Entrepreneurship, Refugees and Urban Transformation in Turkey*

Abstract: Turkey is the largest host of refugees in the world with over 3.4 million refugees now living in the country, and with 90% of Syrian refugees living in urban centres. This has had enormous political, social and economic impact both for the refugees and local communities. Although a substantial amount of humanitarian initiatives is channelled to address these issues, a systematic bottom-up analysis of 'loss', displacement and the transformation of cities is yet to take place. This project will consolidate an ongoing collaboration between Bilgi University Istanbul and Queen's University Belfast in order to study more systematically the 'loss-displacement-integration' nexus in Istanbul. It will offer new ways of assessing the impact of economic loss (as loss of skills, education and employment but also tightly linked to social, cultural and emotional loss), on the everyday lives of refugees, and its recovery, by examining the role of social entrepreneurship in refugee integration.

Reference: IC2\100163

PI: Dr China Mills, Lecturer in Critical Educational Psychology, University of Sheffield

Co-Applicant: Dr Elsie Klein, Lecturer in Development Studies, University of Melbourne

Title: *Psy-technologies as Global Assemblage: Histories and Social Lives of Quantification and Digitisation in Three Former Countries of the British Empire*

Abstract: Psy-technologies (from algorithmic diagnostic tools, to smartphone apps) have become a central element of development programmes, increasing the reach of behavior change agendas globally. For some, psy-technologies signify a 'new field of investigation', raising the need for novel methodological tools. Yet, while many technologies are new, they are embedded in historical conditions, often linked to colonial governance. Current research points to the role of technology in making visible behavioural and psychological 'problems' and in constructing them as amenable to technological intervention (Mills and Hilberg, forthcoming). This project will dig deeper into the historical conditions of the British Empire that enabled the development of psy-technologies in each case site. It will investigate the neglected global coloniality of psy-technologies, and argue that this historical dimension has effects not only on the reception of these technologies but fundamentally structures how behavior and psychologies are understood and governed.

Reference: IC2\100047

PI: Dr Lucian Leustean, Reader in Politics and International Relations, Aston University

Title: *Forced Migration, Religious Diplomacy and Human Security in the Eastern Orthodox World*

Abstract: This project examines the relationship between forced migration, religious diplomacy and human security in Eastern Europe and Russia, as reflected in the post-1992 breakup of Yugoslavia, the post-2011 Syrian crisis and the 2014 Russian takeover of Crimea. It focuses on four areas: 1) the circulation of ideas on human security between religious and secular courts, monastic settlements, pilgrimage sites and educational establishments; 2) religious strategies in relation to violence, tolerance, transitory environments and resettlement; 3) religious support, protection and mechanisms towards displaced populations, and 4) religious channels of diplomatic engagement advancing human security. The project collects the first dataset on 'Eastern Orthodoxy and Human Security' and provides education materials to diplomats and policy makers on how to engage with religious actors in Bulgaria, Greece, Russia, Serbia and Ukraine.

Reference: IC2\100083

PI: Dr Philippa Webb, Reader of Public International Law, King's College London
Co-Applicant: Dr James Cockayne, Head of Office, United Nations University

Title: *State Responsibility for Modern Slavery: Uncovering and Bridging the Gap*

Abstract: Modern slavery is one of the prevailing international challenges. Although slavery has been illegal under international law for over a century, 40.3 million people were in modern slavery on any given day in 2016. The UK has been at the forefront of tackling modern slavery on national and international levels. This research project aims to address a gap in the current response by examining the responsibility that arises from states for modern slavery. Existing research and strategies have focused on the role of the non-state actors and the positive obligations of states to 'Prevent, Protect and Punish' these non-state actors. The responsibility of states has been overlooked or avoided. This project, in partnership with the United Nations University, will have unique access to a fact base on governmental practices around labour migration and potentially significant impact through a launch at UN Headquarters and dissemination through the Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform.

Reference: IC2\100065

PI: Dr Sam Jacoby, Senior Tutor, Royal College of Art
Co-Applicants: Professor Gangyi Tan, Professor and Vice Dean of the School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Huazhong University of Science and Technology; Professor Xuefeng He, Cheung Kong Scholar Chair Professor, National Research Centre Director, Huazhong University of Science and Technology; Zheng Tan Assistant Professor, Tongji University

Title: *Collective Forms: Neighbourhood Transformations, Spatialised Governmentality and New Communities in China*

Abstract: This research examines how social projects, spaces, and realities shape three contexts critical to understanding urban design and planning in China: modes of governmentality; the history of collective spatial development models in relation to current community development; and socio-spatial changes in urban and rural developments. A comparative analysis of community developments in China and a programme of knowledge exchange will study how a national collectivisation in the 1950s created rural people's commune and urban workunit systems that laid the foundations to today's urban problems. Their socio-spatial design, despite extensive policy reforms since 1978, continue to control access to public infrastructures and services, but also created resilient governance and community-building models. The effects of spatial transformations of governmentality are little researched by urban designers and require a new interdisciplinary approach that offers alternatives to Western-centric theory and practice. This is of global relevance, including the UK and its new community-led developments.

Reference: IC2\100132

PI: Professor Christine Pascal, Research Director, Centre for Research in Early Childhood
Co-Applicant: Professor Tony Bertram, Research Director, Centre for Research in Early Childhood

Title: *Austerity and its Impact on Early Years Informal and Family Learning in Disadvantaged Urban Communities*

Abstract: This investigative project focuses on informal family learning in urban disadvantaged communities experiencing austerity in England and Portugal. Poor families with young children are harder hit than any other group by austerity policies. Informal family learning in community spaces contributes to development of young citizens, for character building, positive learning dispositions and executive learning functions, influencing successful school outcomes. This connection between school outcomes and informal learning in urban environments is vital, under-researched and relevant to many urban communities experiencing austerity. The project will map the impact of austerity in English and Portuguese disadvantaged urban communities, documenting changing levels of availability/access to what were, historically, public, free, cultural/leisure services on which poor families depend for stimulation and extension of family learning, including libraries, parks, playgrounds, youth clubs and museums. The project aims to enhance family and informal learning for disadvantaged children before entry to school, generating learning with international relevance.