

**Institution:** University of Winchester

**Unit of Assessment:** C19 Politics and International Studies

## 1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy

### 1.1 Overall unit structure

REF 2021 represents the first Politics and International Studies submission for the University of Winchester (UoW). The period 2015-2020 has seen significant investment in capacity-building to establish the Unit of Assessment and to position Politics and International Studies for future growth. A key moment was the creation of an inter-disciplinary **Politics and International Studies Working Group** (2015), which provided the foundation for UoA19's submission. As of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020, the Politics and International Studies Working Group comprises five full-time members of staff and an additional Early Career Researcher (ECR) ineligible for REF 2021 but who none the less is part of the longer-term strategic plan for the next REF cycle (Stadheim) continuing the Political Economy focus from Bonizzi, who left the Institution to take up a new post in 2019. Three staff are members of the Politics Programme (**Terhalle, Roberts, Stadheim**), one a member of the Sociology Programme (**Zierner**), one from the Department of Psychology (**Pachi**), and one from the Law Programme (**Scolnicov**). **Zierner** was appointed in 2012, **Scolnicov** 2013, **Terhalle** 2015, **Roberts** 2018 and **Pachi** and **Stadheim** in 2019.

In terms of affiliation, the five UoA members at the census date come from four different programmes, situated in three Departments, homed in two different Faculties. The Politics and Sociology programmes are part of the Department of Applied Social Sciences, Forensics and Politics (ASSFP), homed in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS), which also includes the Department of Psychology. The Law Programme – a constituent of the Department of Law, Economics, Accounting and Finance – is part of the Faculty of Business, Law and Digital Technologies. Thus, the core strategy for this cycle has been to create and develop a truly inter-disciplinary Working Group with a strong identity and long-term plans for growing and sustaining future research excellence. The following sections illustrate the Unit's success in ensuring its vitality and sustainability.

### 1.2 Research areas & support for interdisciplinary research

The emergence of the Politics and International Studies Working Group has helped develop several distinctive but intersecting research areas reflecting the strategic priorities outlined in the UoW *Research and Knowledge Exchange Strategy 2015-2020*, as well as the research interests of individual members. These priorities are underpinned by a broad commitment to address 'fundamental and strategically important questions' in line with the UoW RKE Strategy, which for UoA19 has meant a focus on the following research areas: **Global Order & Transition** (e.g. China-US relations; global financial flows and emerging markets); **Regional Order & Security** (e.g. European Security, Russian & Eurasian regime security); **Gender, Youth & Participation** (e.g. women and militarization; generational attitudes towards war and peace) and **Intercultural Competences & Norms** (e.g. religious freedoms, human rights and authoritarian norm diffusion). These research areas represent the framework for engagement, outputs and outreach detailed in this environment statement, but also the basis for both the continuing support and the sharing of research expertise among members of the UoA and the wider research community at the UoW and beyond.

The UoA also benefitted from the parallel creation of the Centre for English Identity & Politics (CEIP - 2016-2019) headed by former Labour MP and Secretary of State Professor John Denham. The Centre explored the relationship between a growing English identity and the development of local and national politics in England, helping to raise the national profile of Politics at UoW and to build interdisciplinarity by linking researchers together across the University and by giving advice, support and numerous lectures to staff as well as undergraduate and postgraduate students. In particular, Denham's high profile and frequent conference and media appearances (e.g. opinion pieces in *The Times* and *The Guardian* newspapers) stimulated UoA members to engage more broadly with research dissemination (see section 4).

Likewise, the appointment of former NATO Senior Defence Economist (2001-2014) Adrian Kendry, as Visiting Professor in Economics and Security (2018-2019), supported existing security-focused research conducted by individual UoA members (**Terhalle**). Kendry gave multiple talks to undergraduate and postgraduate students on NATO's evolution and its changing geostrategic and political environment before and after the Trump presidency. Both Kendry and Denham left lasting legacies for UoA19 at the University by fostering the nascent research culture and sharing experience, knowledge and contacts.

### 1.3 Supporting research & research strategy

As a newly established, vibrant and strongly interdisciplinary Unit, our approach has been to develop the nexus between Politics and International Studies within our respective fields and individual expertise, while developing and implementing a UoA **research strategy** based on the following two pillars:

- a) Setting our research targets
- b) Delivering our research targets

#### a) Setting our research targets

Researchers in the Unit are encouraged to:

- Formulate innovative research agendas, collaborate with colleagues at the University and with external partners. This is achieved through regular formal and informal meetings and information-sharing within the Politics and International Studies Working Group. Formal UoA19 Working Group meetings are scheduled on a regular basis during the academic year (two per semester) to coordinate and discuss research directions;
- Publish research monographs with high quality presses, through sharing best practice, experience and knowledge of suitable publishers. This has resulted in some notable successes, including **Ziemer's** (ed.) *Women's Everyday Lives in War and Peace in the South Caucasus* (2019, Palgrave), **Pachi's** (eds.) *Youth Civic and Political Participation* (2019, Routledge); **Scolnicov's** (eds.) *Boundaries of State, Boundaries of Rights* (2016, Cambridge University Press) and **Terhalle's** *The Transition of Global Order: Contestation and Legitimacy* (2017, Palgrave) and (eds.) *The New Power Politics of Global Climate Governance* (2016, Routledge);
- Produce high-quality published research in refereed journals of international reputation in the researcher's own areas of expertise (e.g. *International Politics*, *International Studies* - **Terhalle**; *International Feminist Journal of Politics* – **Ziemer**; *East European Politics* - **Roberts**), through collective discussion of journal impact, re-submission strategies and

## Unit-level environment template (REF5b)

approaches to dealing with reviewer comments;

- Develop applications for external funding with clear pathways to impact and relevant stakeholders in mind and, where appropriate, incorporating PGR studentships in bids. Discussion of internal UoW support available (e.g. liaising with the RKE Centre and Faculty Head of RKE) and sharing of experience of the application process in general has helped compensate for the relative newness of the UoA at its first submission;
- Engage in Knowledge Exchange related to research and develop the internationalisation of research. This is emphasised in terms of its importance but also as a natural strength of the UoA to be accentuated as much as possible, as all members have well-developed national and international networks;
- Maximise research impact via engagement with an appropriate variety of policy stakeholders. The Politics and International Studies Working Group has been instrumental in providing oversight of research and impact activities and using internal research funds to develop the two Impact Case Studies (ICS) for this REF submission (**Scolnicov** and **Ziemer**);
- Engage with Open Access. Ultimately, the UoA Lead ensures researcher compliance with REF Open Access requirements. A key priority now and in the future will be to continue to develop engagement with Open Science. We feel this is important for research integrity within the discipline and we will provide staff with training and support in areas such as pre-registration of research and preparation of high-quality datasets (where possible) for open access deposit.

#### b) Delivering our research targets

Delivering research targets is achieved through:

- Clear leadership within the UoA. The UoA19 Lead (**Roberts**) disseminates important institutional communication on research-related matters, including key changes affecting research from within the UoW, such as the university-wide RKE Strategy, but also information from external bodies, such as Research England. The UoA Lead coordinates the interdisciplinary activities of the UoA and liaises closely with other research stakeholders in the REF Working Group. The UoA Lead performs an important research facilitating role. It is a renewable and transparent role, allocated through a formal application and interview, to ensure the Unit's vitality and grant members the opportunity to develop leadership skills within a research context and thus develop their professional and research profile;
- Research planning exercises. Staff with responsibility for research complete a Research & Knowledge Exchange (RKE) Planning Form at the beginning of the academic year to highlight proposed research activities and directions. Planning Forms are scrutinised by the UoA Lead, with the aim of facilitating individual research-related goal-setting and retrospective reflection on the achievability of goals. In thus doing, the UoA Lead also retains oversight over the coordination of research activities within the UoA group for the purposes of the end-point REF submission;
- Mentoring. Regular and ongoing developmental discussions are provided by the UoA Lead and supplemented by mentoring allocations on the UoW workload model for Readers (**Terhalle**) and Professors (**Scolnicov**), 50 and 75 hours respectively. There is a system of reciprocal engagement within the UoA for reading pre-published, draft materials to offer advice on improving content, revising drafts in light of reviewer comments and to suggest potential refereed journals and publishers for research outputs. Our objective from the outset has been that staff should be REF-returnable with the highest possible quality output through this monitoring policy;

- Funding application peer-review. Proposed funding bids are discussed and read by relevant members of the group with a view to both improve and advise on the most appropriate funding body before they are submitted for institutional review and signoff. While we focus on the success of applications rather than their number, we expect that all UoA members regularly apply for external funding. This support has encouraged applications;
- Supporting research integrity. The UoA has made a sustained effort to ensure that research is ethical and conducted in accordance with appropriate regulatory frameworks. This has proved important as much of our research deals with sensitive issues that require careful consideration of institutional and international ethical frameworks, in particular research dealing with vulnerable groups (**Pachi**) and conflict zones (**Ziemer**). Discussion between researchers in the Working Group has facilitated this outcome, as too the UoA Lead's participation in Faculty Research and Knowledge Exchange (FRKE) meetings (held twice per semester) where issues such as the University's ethical framework are discussed. (This has proved important for ensuring compliance);
- Internal dissemination of research. All staff have participated in the regular Faculty (HSS) seminar series from its inception. The Politics and International Studies Working Group that forms the basis of UoA19 was instrumental in establishing this seminar series, giving the first talk in 2017 (**Ziemer** 'A gender perspective on the protracted conflict over Nagorno Karabakh'). This has helped publicise research and offer opportunities for collective feedback and collaboration with other research staff from other UoAs in the Faculty. This also proved particularly useful for developing politics research and interest in this research at the UoW;
- Financial support. The UoA Working Group, coordinated by the UoA Lead, devise the strategic priorities for allocation of internal QR funding (See REF5a, 4.1). In recent years, this money has supported conference attendance, fieldwork trips and teaching buyouts to develop publication and research funding applications. In the 2019-2020 academic year, these funds totalled £11,202 and have helped cement the UoA's significance in terms of delivering research targets;
- Impact development. The combination of planning, mentoring, bid support, sharing of progress and best practice, and the provision of financial support – each detailed above – has facilitated research impact. In addition, UoA19 has helped build individual impact by facilitating contact between researchers at the University. For example, the introduction of Visiting Professor in Economics and Security (Adrian Kendry) to the Politics and International Studies Research Group was instrumental in providing **Terhalle** with direct contact to NATO's Strategic Foresight Analysis Programme (Kendry was the Lead External Adviser on Economics and Resources for this programme). Kendry also passed on reports to the UoA from his involvement in NATO events held in Finland (Russia's Resurgence) and in Norway (the Arctic and the High North) in June and September 2019 respectively.

These inter-linked strands closely align with the University's aim to increase the quality of research, as outlined in the *Research and Knowledge Exchange Strategy 2015-2020*, which includes the goals of 'maximising the potential impact of research by facilitating the production of research of the highest quality' and of 'promoting the value of research and knowledge exchange'. These inter-linked strands also align with the University's 'core values' (individuals matter, spirituality and compassion), in particular the value of helping individuals flourish – an embedded component of the new RKE *Strategy 2020-2030* (see REF5a, 1.1 and 2.1).

#### 1.4 Research and impact strategy going forwards

The Politics and International Studies Working Group is now well-positioned to develop its **future**

**strategy**, as well as develop the wider institutional strategic themes for 2020-2030. We will look to increase funding streams and to provide more research training (in particular through internal and external guest speakers to address impact and research from the earliest opportunity, to further embed impact in research design). We will look to develop a vibrant PGR community by taking advantage of the natural and close alignment between our research themes and the University's strategic themes over the next decade (see below). We plan to build on existing knowledge-exchange activities and impactful research (**Scolnicov, Pachi**) and on new research projects coming online (**Ziemer, Stadheim**). The early phase of the next REF cycle will see existing themes further emphasised and developed. **Ziemer** will undertake and complete her funded research project on cyber-security. **Roberts** will continue his work on Russian norm diffusion in the South Caucasus, developing publications based on an as-of-yet unused dataset of primary interviews, while **Scolnicov** will research the international and comparative topic of constitutional transplantations. ECR Stadheim will complete her research on EU political economy and fiscal restructuring in times of crisis, with a case study focus on Portugal.

This group of researchers, collectively, will look to build on its strong inter-disciplinary identity and aforementioned research themes of Global Order & Transition; Regional Order & Security; Gender, Youth & Participation; and Intercultural Competences & Norms, relating them to University-wide strategic themes of Global Challenges & Change; Sustainability; and Social Justice. Thus, the Politics and International Studies Working Group, from modest beginnings in 2015 is now looking to be strategically placed in the next REF cycle to produce research, impact and outreach on institutional themes central to the University's long-term strategic goals.

## 2. People

### 2.1 Staffing & staff development

The research group continues to benefit from those UoA support structures already mentioned (Section 1), as well as from wider university structures. Notwithstanding institution-wide Flexible Working Agreements (FWA), staff also benefit from University-wide training and committee participation relevant for research. They include:

- Online training on Equality and Diversity. This is compulsory for all staff;
- Conscious and Unconscious Bias training. All staff attended these sessions as mandatory, in addition to the UoA Working Group attending bespoke training focused on REF. As a result, the UoA collectively looks for bias in day-to-day working practices, but also relating to the research management process. For example, the UoA Lead now scrutinizes all external reviews received for UoA publications for any evidence of potential gender and other forms of research bias in order to evaluate external reviewer performance;
- Impact-related training. In 2019, the University ran drop-in sessions with *The Conversation* to encourage research-active staff to publicly disseminate research findings;
- Participation in the Faculty Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee (FRKE). This gives direct input into University-wide, research-related discussions and decision-making. **Terhalle, Ziemer** and **Roberts** have sat on this committee;
- Staff are also encouraged to make full use of a wide-range of additional development opportunities available to them organised through the University's Research and Knowledge Exchange Centre, such as day-long workshops on grant writing, provided by external consultants, and Open Access days covering a range of topics such as open data, pre-registration of research and registered reports, and pre-print archiving systems.
- Staff also benefit from an open and transparent promotion system. **Terhalle** was promoted

from Senior Lecturer to Reader in International Relations in 2016, following the creation of UoA19 in 2015. **Scolnicov** was promoted to Professor of Law in 2013, during the previous REF cycle, and **Ziemer** from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer during the same cycle. Promotion is aided by those mentoring schemes already outlined at the level of the UoA (see Section 1). In addition, and at Departmental level, all staff have annual career development meetings with their Head of Department, allowing for research-related discussions with line managers on needs and strategic development. From June 2020, a new Individual Review and Development Scheme (IRDS) was launched by the University.

Mentoring is sustained and regular for Early Career Researchers (ECRs). In addition to the institutional-wide support for ECRs (see the UoW *Institutional Statement* 3.5), at the Faculty level ECR's benefit from:

- Support from the UoA Lead and other members of the UoA with allocated workhours for mentoring for Readers and Professors (**Terhalle** and **Scolnicov**);
- Regular probation meetings with the Head of Department (every three months) in the first year of employment with stated SMART research targets;
- Extra hours for teaching preparation (teaching of new modules) to aid research time and the transition to full-time employment.

## 2.2 Integration & support of ECRs

Since her appointment in August 2019, and with the encouragement of the UoA as a whole, ECR Stadheim has developed her research independence. In November 2020, her first journal article was published ('Banks 1–Portugal 0'? Financial player entanglements in the Eurozone crisis, *Competition & Change*), and she is working on her first monograph stemming from her doctoral research. Stadheim will also contribute to the vitality and sustainability of the Unit post-REF2021 with her impact and KE. She was involved in a rapid research project in collaboration with United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eurodad, and the Municipal Services Project on public banks' role in countering the recession caused by Covid-19; in December 2020 she was awarded an internal Strategic Priority Funding (SPF) grant of £5000 to research the project 'Combating the Pandemic with Public Banks: Lessons for the UK', which will lead her to co-write policy briefs in collaboration with UCL's Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose with recommendations for the proposed UK National Infrastructure Bank and the Scottish National Investment Bank. Since her appointment at the University, Stadheim has given papers on the financial crisis in Portugal and on the financial ramifications of Covid-19 at national and international events (King's College, SOAS, Metropolitan Autonomous University [Mexico]).

## 2.3 Research students

As mentioned in the previous section, the Politics and International Studies Research Group, as the basis of UoA19, has benefitted from significant institutional investment and capacity-building since 2015, which has included the creation of an MA programme (below) and opportunities for staff to engage in research-led teaching and supervision. The newly formed Department of Applied Social Sciences, Forensics and Politics (2019) successfully gained PhD hosting rights, as part of a sustained institution-wide drive to recruit research students and as recognition of the supervisory expertise within the Department. This will directly benefit UoA19 going forwards. Students are encouraged to explore PhD study at the University, in particular interdisciplinary research, and it is envisaged that PhD numbers will grow substantially over the next REF cycle, reflecting the

dynamic growth of Politics and International Studies research. As a truly interdisciplinary group, the UoA is now well-positioned to take advantage of the University's strategic investment in addressing the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) and the UK's Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), to generate research income, attract PhD students and develop into the next REF cycle and beyond.

In line with this growth, 2020 saw the first completed PhD supervised by a UoA19 member (**Zierner**, third supervisor) in collaboration with the Institute for Values Studies at the UoW. **Zierner** is currently second supervisor for a UoW studentship-holding PhD student working on a thesis examining expert knowledge and terrorism, with an expected completion date of 2021. Building on her expertise as HSS Faculty Postgraduate Research Student Lead, **Zierner** is helping coordinate the expected increase in the number of PhD students to improve this aspect of the UoA's environment. Information on training for PhD supervision is also communicated through the UoA with Post Graduate Supervisory Sessions mandatory for PhD supervision for first, second and third supervisors.

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Academic year	No. of PhDs awarded	No. of Professional doctorates awarded
2013-14	0.00	0.00
2014-15	0.00	0.00
2015-16	0.00	0.00
2016-17	0.00	0.00
2017-18	0.00	0.00
2018-19	0.00	0.00
2019-20	0.25	0.00

(Total 0.25)

In addition, the University runs an Early Career Research Visiting Fellowship scheme to support our PGR students in the first two years post-award. While carrying no remuneration, Visiting Fellows on this scheme enjoy full institutional support as well as mentoring. The Politics and International Studies Research Group supported its first Fellow on this scheme (Cappucci from 2018) with a project examining Georgia-Russia relations.

The expected growth in PhD numbers will be supported by the expanded provision of Master's courses. The MA in Politics and International Relations accepted its first cohort of postgraduate students in the 2018-2019 academic year with a healthy intake of 13. For the 2020-2021 academic year, this number rose to 17 students. **Terhalle**, **Roberts** and **Stadheim** contribute to this new MA, which enjoys institutional support through the Alumni Masters Scholarships and Winchester Graduate Masters Scholarships, offering a 50% fee discount. **Scolnicov** contributes to the MA in Reconciliation and Peace, administered by the Department of Theology, Religion and Philosophy.

In addition, researchers in the Politics and International Studies Research Group are part of the UoW Winchester Research Apprenticeship Programme (WRAP) scheme. This scheme offers the opportunity for undergraduate students to gain work experience in research by working alongside an experienced member of staff at the University on a real-life research project. In general terms, this scheme has helped embed our research culture, but more specifically it has helped academic staff and their research projects, and is partly responsible for the healthy number of students on the new MA in Politics and International Relations.

In the period 2016-2019, WRAP projects covered a number of areas. Working with Professor Denham's Centre for English Identity and Politics (CEIP), politics students collaborated on topics including 'BAME communities and English identity', 'Understanding Ideas of England' and 'Contemporary Celebration of St George's Day', leading to newspaper articles and blog posts on ethnic diversity in England, as well as an academic journal article co-authored by Denham (England, Englishness and the Labour Party, *The Political Quarterly*, 2018). Other WRAP projects included work on **Ziemer's** research in 2016-2017 ('Gender and Political Transformations in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh') – research that manifested in her edited volume *Women's Everyday Lives in War and Peace in the South Caucasus* (Palgrave, 2019). Another WRAP scheme included a former Part-Time member of staff and member of UoA19, Katharine Wright, who shared a project with a student on 'NATO Activist Women from the 1960s to Today' – research leading to the edited volume by Wright, Hurley and Ruiz (eds) *NATO, gender and the military: Women organising from within*. (Routledge, 2019). In total, WRAP schemes relating to politics themes, 2013-2020, attracted £2,200 of internal funding.

## 2.4 Equality, diversity and inclusivity

As well as reflecting the institutional strategic emphasis on interdisciplinarity, the Politics and International Studies Research Group reflects the wider UoW commitment to equality and diversity as outlined in the *Staff Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2016-2020* (see *Institutional Statement*, 3.2) viewed in terms of both gender equality and internationalisation. **Pachi** (Greek national), **Scolnicov** (Israeli), Stadheim (Norwegian) and **Ziemer** (German) as female researchers comprise four out of six staff within UoA19. **Terhalle** (German) and **Roberts** (British) complete the group.

## 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

### 3.1 Research funding and strategies for generating research income

Owing to the rapid development of the Politics and International Studies Working Group, success with external funding remains 'work in progress' but there are already notable external funding successes, in particular in gaining prestigious research fellowships in the period, 2015-2020. In addition, all UoA members have either applied for external funding or have plans to do so in the near future, and this is supported through the UoA in the form of internal funding and teaching buyouts. In addition, mentoring and reciprocal sharing of best practice has played an important role. **Roberts**, based on his previous experience in Finland helped **Ziemer** with her Fellowship in Helsinki (see below), and in turn **Ziemer's** experience of funding bids has been passed on to the rest of the group.

External Grants awarded in the period 2015-2020 include:

- British Academy Small Grant (2020). **Ziemer** was successful in gaining funding to conduct research on cyber-crime (*Technology, development, culture and cybercrime: a case study of cybercrime and illicit internet use*) along with Professor Tim Hall from the Department of Archaeology, Anthropology and Geography, the UoW (£9,991);
- Fellowship, the Israeli Institute of Advanced Studies (2019). **Scolnicov** was successful in gaining a prestigious five-month stay (September 2019-February 2020) to research constitutional transplantations. This included a fully remunerated professor's salary, accommodation and travel, costings for a research assistant and administrative help. This Fellowship also included funding for two international conferences (Scolnicov organised the



*Constitutional Transplantations Conference* in Jerusalem in January 12-13<sup>th</sup> 2020) and assistance with publications (estimated worth in-kind in excess of £100,000);

- Fellowship, Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki (2017). **Zierner** was successful in gaining a two-month research stay (August-September 2017) exploring Geopolitical Challenges and National Identity in Armenia. This included a stipend (€6,000), accommodation and flights;
- Research grant, the Armenian Institute, University of Southern California (2017). **Zierner** was successful in gaining funding for ethnographic fieldwork in Armenia (\$2,646). Both this funding and the previously mentioned Aleksanteri Fellowship enabled Zierner to complete her edited volume *Women's Everyday Lives in War and Peace in the South Caucasus* (Palgrave, 2019).

Whilst none of the above awards is officially coded as research income due to either funds being delayed by the inception of the Covid-19 pandemic, or their being paid directly to the recipients, they nonetheless demonstrate the international excellence of the UoA and its members.

Since its inception, the Politics and International Studies Research Group has employed several strategies, in conjunction with the institutional infrastructure (see REF5a, 4.1 & 4.3) to generate grant income and increase impact. These strategies include:

- Consultation with the University's Research Funding Managers. UoA members are encouraged to engage with these colleagues in one-to-one meetings to discuss research ideas and suitable funding bodies and to 'match' their research topic with funding outlets. Research Managers also help with costings and the application process;
- Internal funding application scrutiny. Funding Managers feedback on research applications, which supplement the UoA peer-review support. In addition, the Faculty Peer Review College offers separate feedback on prospective funding applications;
- UoA funding. From 2015, UoAs could bid centrally for funding to support their strategic research aims, with an amount being allocated to each UoA based on their size. This important change gave more power to the UoAs to direct their own research, including, for example, to pay for external speakers to brief UoA members on funding opportunities;
- Research Away days. 2020 was to see the first Politics and International Studies Research 'away-day' to discuss research funding and impact. COVID-19 caused the cancellation and indefinite suspension of two 'away-days' planned for June and July 2020 to discuss Leverhulme Trust applications and research impact, with invited internal and external speakers already contacted. These plans will be enacted remotely and face-to-face at the earliest opportunity and form part of the future strategic development of the UoA in 2021;
- External publication reviews. The University allocates resources to pay for at least two external reviewers to feedback on every written output eligible for REF 2021. This feedback has proven invaluable for tailoring future research, impact and funding applications;

In addition, the UoA has directly benefitted from generous internal funding, including teaching buyouts to promote research. Notable examples include:

- Teaching buyouts. **Terhalle** had a complete teaching buyout, January-August 2017, to develop publications. One notable outcome was his monograph *The Transition of Global Order: Contestation and Legitimacy* (2017, Palgrave). **Zierner** received a teaching buyout in 2018 to support completion of her edited volume *Women's Everyday Lives in War and Peace in the South Caucasus* (2019, Palgrave);
- Annual research funding allocations separate from the UoA. As a participant in the previous

REF cycle at the UoW, **Ziemer** received a £3,000 QR allocation every academic year;

- Funding for workshops. **Ziemer** was successful in gaining additional internal funding to host and deliver two workshops with international participants. In May 2018, a Participatory Needs Assessment Workshop on Women and Militarization was delivered at the UoW's Centre of Religion, Reconciliation and Peace (£7,755). In 2020, internal funding was allocated to run a second Participatory Needs Assessment workshop on Women, Trauma and Reconciliation in Nagorno Karabakh via the Armenian Women's Research Centre (£6,825). The COVID-19 pandemic postponed the original February 2020 date. Both workshops are key elements of **Ziemer's** Impact Case Study for UoAC19;
- University internal funding for impact case studies (ICS). **Ziemer**, **Terhalle** and **Scolnicov** have received financial support to develop impact case studies, based on their on-going research.

### 3.2 Organisation infrastructure supporting research and impact

In terms of the institutional-level facilities (see REF5a, 4.2) and equipment, the Politics and International Studies Research Group benefits from:

- Support for international events. **Ziemer's** four-day workshop and conference conducted in May 2018 was hosted by the UoW. This event included accommodation for participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia;
- Working spaces. The University provides well-equipped working spaces for all academic staff and full-time PhD students, containing state-of-the-art computing facilities with IT support available. This is also extended to colleagues on the Visiting Fellows scheme (see Section 2);
- Research-related IT support. The University provides personalised IT support for research. For example, the need for rugged and highly portable IT has seen **Ziemer** twice issued with a personal UoW iPad (2013 and 2019). This has proved invaluable for use on extended fieldwork trips, sometimes in remote locations, and for international conference attendance;
- Research-related resources at the UoW. The University maintains extensive library provision, including an exceptional range of politics related periodicals and online materials (e.g. *The Financial Times*, *The Economist*), with a subject librarian providing support to staff and training to all Post-Graduate Researchers. Researchers are also able to use the University's Sona and Qualtrics software to coordinate and conduct research. For example, **Pachi** has used Sona to recruit research participants.

## 4. Collaboration and contribution to the research base, economy and society

### 4.1 Relationships with research users, beneficiaries and audiences

All staff disseminate their research by participating in international conferences and/or give keynote papers and guest lectures. This has been an area directly benefitting from informal contact and experience-sharing within the Politics and International Studies Research Group. For example, **Scolnicov** (2020) organised an international conference on Constitutional Transplantations at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, and presented at the conference on Constitutional Culture in Kingston, Canada in 2015. **Terhalle** (2017) presented at the International Studies Association in Hong Kong, China and gave a keynote speech at the Presidential Roundtable of the International Studies Association in 2016. **Pachi** (2018) presented at the International Conference of Applied Psychology in Montreal, Canada and **Ziemer** (2018) at the International Gender Studies University of Oxford, UK. **Roberts** has presented at Conferences and Workshops in Norway, Finland, Russia,

the USA and Sweden in the current REF cycle. In 2014, he briefed EU representatives in Brussels on the Eurasian Economic Union.

Members of the UoA have also been recognised for their expertise in the UK and abroad and selected for various evaluating roles. In addition to the Fellowships with remuneration outlined in the previous section, **Terhalle** has received two prestigious UK-based fellowships in recognition of his international standing. They include a Visiting Senior Research Fellow position at King's College, London (2018-20) affiliated with the Grand Strategy Programme, and a current Senior Researcher post in the Centre for Rising Powers, University of Cambridge (2019-2021). **Scolnicov** was Visiting Professor at the Department of Constitutional Law, Complutense University, Madrid, in March 2019. **Scolnicov** also acts as a Fellowship reviewer for the Israeli Institute of Advanced studies. In 2018, **Ziemer** was invited to contribute to an expert forum at Chatham House (Round Table on Armenia). In 2019, **Ziemer** was appointed to the Expert Team for Women and Gender in the Eurasian Region at the PPMI – Public Policy Research Institute, Vilnius Lithuania and in 2018 to the Advisory Committee for the Armenian Diaspora Survey, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal. She also sits on the editorial board of Palgrave Communications. **Roberts** has acted as a country expert for Russia on the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) survey, V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, and has been invited again for January 2021. He has also acted as Grant Evaluator for the Norwegian Research Council and a Country Analyst (Russia) for the PRIX Index on Political Risk and Oil Exports.

#### 4.2 Contribution to sustainability of the discipline

The UoA continues to retain a high-level of engagement in journal and manuscript review. This again has been a concerted strategy to raise the Research Group's awareness of the journal review process, with an informal commitment that members will undertake review at least once per academic year and feedback on experiences. **Scolnicov** is a manuscript reviewer for Routledge and a submissions reviewer for *Ecclesiastical Law Review* and *European International Law Review*. **Roberts** for *East European Politics*, *The Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, *Europe-Asia Studies*, and *Political Studies*. **Terhalle** is a reviewer for *World Politics* and the *Review of International Studies*. **Pachi** is a reviewer for *Contemporary Social Science* and *Zeitschrift für Psychologie*. **Ziemer** is a reviewer for *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Ethnopolitics*, *European Journal of Women's Studies*, *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, *Nationalities Paper*, *Sociological Research Online*, *Slavic Review*, *Caucasus Survey*.

Staff are also active in relevant learned societies. **Scolnicov** is a member of the ICON society (International Society of Constitutional Law) as well as a member of the Israeli Bar.

**Roberts** and **Ziemer** are members of the British Association for Slavonic & East European Studies (BASEES) and members of the BASEES Caucasus Study Group. **Terhalle** was a member of the International Studies Association, 2015-8, and **Roberts** has been a member of the Political Studies Association since 2014. ECR Stadheim is a Research Associate at SOAS's, Department of Development Studies and the Centre for Socioeconomic and Territorial Studies (DINÂMIA'CET-IUL) and a member of the Political Studies Association (from 2020).

Staff have also been encouraged to develop research impact in parallel to the Impact Case Studies formally submitted by UoA19 for REF 2021. This encouragement has come in the form of internal feedback, but also financial support for external consultants to provide advice on increasing the impact of existing research. For example, **Terhalle**, working with colleagues in Germany, has helped channel and foster the (German) public debate on its future role in international politics and the so-called 'Munich Consensus' – or the 'purpose of German power'. This impact, which has

been developed in addition to the UoA's two submitted impact studies, has included high-profile publications aimed at fostering public and academic debate (e.g. Giegerich, B. and **Terhalle**, M. (2016) 'The Munich Consensus and the Purpose of German Power', *Survival*, 58:2, p155-166 and **Terhalle**, M. (2018) 'Can Germans Think Strategically?', *The National Interest*). **Terhalle** also has citations in *Foreign Affairs* (2017) and *The Economist* (2018). This embryonic idea was systematically developed with the help of the UoA. In addition, **Pachi** is developing a future ICS from her current research on political participation and dementia among West African populations living in London.

Staff have also been active in public engagement. Drawing on the experience of Professor Denham's successful public engagement in the Centre for English Identity and Politics (CEIP) and on **Robert's** media training at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA, 2013), the Politics UoA has tried to raise its own profile through non-academic dissemination of research and profile-building with outputs in online outlets such as *OpenDemocracy.net* (**Ziemer** 2015), *The Conversation* (**Roberts** 2016), but also popular media. **Terhalle** has offered commentaries for the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* and **Scolnicov** wrote a series of legal commentary articles on Brexit in *Haaretz* (Israel's leading broadsheet daily newspaper). Elsewhere, public media appearances have included radio (**Terhalle** on DeutschlandRadio, Deutschlandfunk, **Scolnicov** on Israeli radio *Galei Zahal*) and online blogs (**Roberts**, Matisak's Stamp on the World, **Ziemer's** research-related blog posts at the UoW). **Ziemer** was interviewed by the *New York Times* in July 2020 for expert opinion in the piece 'Mothers' Power in U.S. Protests Echoes a Global Tradition' (Taub 2020) and provided an expert guest appearance on Iranian TV (PressTV, Tehran) in November 2020 to comment on the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. In this case, **Robert's** experience in answering journalist questions developed while working at the FIIA helped **Ziemer** adapt to the challenge of live interviews.

In line with the UoA's commitment to interdisciplinarity, we are seeking to maximise cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary collaborative research, both nationally and internationally, as well as institutionally within the University. For example, **Terhalle** continues to work closely with international partners. In 2015, he contributed to a Special Issue of the journal *International Politics* (International Relations Theory and the Moderation of Revisionist States) along with Robert Jervis, Arthur Stein, Gregory Gause, Louise Fawcett and Fred Lawson. In 2016, he published an edited volume (The New Power Politics of Global Climate Governance) based on a Special Issue in *Climate Policy* (13:5 2013). **Ziemer** and **Scolnicov** have published edited volumes drawing on a wide range of international expertise and scholars. (**Scolnicov**, *Boundaries of State, Boundaries of Rights: The state, human rights, positive obligations and private parties*, 2016 and **Ziemer**, *Women's Everyday Lives in War and Peace in the South Caucasus*, 2019).

At institutional level, **Scolnicov** and **Ziemer** have collaborated on research projects, knowledge exchange and public events with the Centre for Religion, Reconciliation and Peace – contact facilitated by the Politics and International Studies Research Group. **Scolnicov**, along with colleagues at the UoW initiated the Winchester Database of Truth and Reconciliation Committees – the largest international database of its kind – to go live in 2021. **Ziemer** has also collaborated on workshops with the Centre for Religion, Reconciliation and Peace. **Scolnicov** and **Ziemer** have both been active in presenting their research findings at public seminars at the UoW. **Pachi** continues to work with research groups within the Psychology Department and **Ziemer** has the aforementioned British Academy research project in collaboration with the Department of Archaeology, Anthropology and Geography.