

<b>Institution: Canterbury Christ Church University</b>			
<b>Unit of Assessment: 19 – Politics and International Studies</b>			
<b>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</b>			
<b>1.1 Unit Context and Structure</b>			
<p>Our submission brings together theoretically driven impactful research, which embodies the principles of social inclusion, individual rights and human dignity. 2021 will be the second time research in Politics and International Studies at Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) has been returned to the Research Excellence Framework. Our UoA is innovative in its interdisciplinary character, with a particular focus on the co-creation of outcomes. We seek to impact on political issues locally, nationally and internationally through research, curriculum engagement, research networks and knowledge exchange.</p> <p><b>13.8</b> FTE have been returned across the UoA. Staffing draws from 3 Schools (Law, Policing and Social Sciences; Christ Church Business School and Psychology and Life Sciences). UoA19 sits within the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Social Sciences (SESS). It incorporates 6.8 full time staff from our Politics team, 3 full time staff in Business Studies, 3 full time sociologists, and 2 full time geographers. Out of the staff returned, 13 are employed on full time contracts, and 1 on a part time contract (0.8). Included in the submission are 1 Professor (<b>Bates</b>), 2 Readers (<b>Keil</b> and <b>Kent.A</b>), and 4 Early Career Researchers (ECRs). Examples of former staff included are 1 Professor (<b>Hadfield</b>) and 1 Reader (<b>Bennister</b>).</p> <p>In 2015, CCCU introduced a new strategic framework (2015-2022). This enabled us to strengthen our strategic priorities in anticipation of a submission to REF2021. As part of this process a decision was made to return aspects of our work within a Law submission. The Politics and International Studies submission to REF2014 acted as an important springboard for the development of a Law return to REF2021.</p>			
<b>1.2 Research and Impact Strategy</b>			
<p>Our research is underpinned by a vision of high-quality applied work. Our structure is oriented towards delivering applied research which informs local, regional, national and international policy and practices. This work is drawn together within four overarching research themes:</p>			
<b>Theme 1: Politics, Policy and Society: Europe and Beyond</b>	<b>Theme 2: Conflict, Security and Cooperation</b>	<b>Theme 3: Applied Political Theory</b>	<b>Theme 4: Politics of Work, Education and Generations</b>
<p><u>T1. Politics, Policy and Society: Europe and Beyond</u></p> <p>This brings together research from political sociologists, political scientists, economists, and political geographers. It encompasses activities relating to the European Union, political elites, EU policy-making and geopolitics. Across the university, the theme has developed collaborative partnerships to include colleagues in Law, Policing and Criminal Justice, Health and Education. Work in this area has formed the basis of key policy impacts – particularly at a regional level (for example, through helping to shape responses to Brexit in Kent and Medway). <b>(Anderson, Babalola, Bennister, Cashman, Hadfield, Keil, Koeker, McManus, Lieberman, Kent.A, Kent.R)</b></p>			
<p><u>T2: Conflict, Security and Cooperation</u></p> <p>This brings together research on post-conflict societies and democratisation. It links to activities in the area of power-sharing and federalism along with key issues relating to security. Research forms the basis of the impact case study: Promoting federalism in Myanmar: Integrating indigenous solutions for federalism into framework principles for peace negotiations and building capacity to establish and promote federal governance (<b>ICS19.01</b>). <b>(Anderson, Babalola, Barrinha, Keil, Lieberman, McLaughlin and Russell)</b></p>			

T3. Applied Political Theory

This comprises research on applied theory, tackling issues of marginalisation and social exclusion, political activism, racism, and moral questions related to ethics – specifically ‘dirty hands’ dilemmas. The work is connected to our Activism Research Network, and to the Impact Case Study: Politically Engaged Artistic Practice – Changing the Lives of Young People through the Tate Exchange Programme (ICS19.02).

**(Bates, Cashman, Ogilvie, Tillyris, Van Milders)**

T4. Politics of Education, Work and Generations

This has set out to develop high quality impactful research at the intersection between social policy and politics. It brings together work in policy studies, specifically as relating to research on generational issues in education and work. Research has been particularly impactful through informing current policy – for example in debates in the UK government’s Intergenerational Commission, and with key advocacy organisations.

**(Bristow, Ogilvie, Potter and Van Milders)**

**1.3 Strategic Aims**

Following a review of REF2014, we developed a strategic research plan, which identified five overarching aims:

- A1. To support and enable all research active staff to deliver high-quality impactful research.
- A2. To increase the volume and quality of research outputs.
- A3. To develop an innovative approach to co-creation which integrates research within the curriculum.
- A4. To target our activities towards high-quality impactful research, which embodies the principles of social inclusion, individual rights and human dignity.
- A5. To create sustainable growth of resources commensurate with the delivery of A1-4.

**A1. To support and enable all research active staff to deliver high-quality impactful research:**

- a. Internal funding has been directed towards enabling staff to achieve the targets in Workload Profiling (WLP). Research support is identified in Individual Research Report Plans (IRRPS). WLP ensures that all staff with Significant Responsibility for Independent Research (SRIR) are allocated at least 0.2 FTE pro-rata for research and ECRs have 0.30 FTE equivalent. This has led to the increase in output quantity and quality identified below.
- b. Our 4 research themes scaffold staff to meet their expectations and aspirations, acting both as an arena for internal support and scrutiny, and an access point for research and wider networks. This has led not only to an increase in the quantity of outputs, but a demonstrable increase in quality across the cycle. This is evidenced by external review feedback and successful publication in target journals.
- c. The creation of this supportive environment has been key to the delivery of our staff strategy (see Section 2).

**A2. To increase the volume and quality of research outputs:**

We have:

- a. Increased our pool of available research outputs by 250%, from 52 in REF2014 to a supply pool of more than 130 outputs in 2020. This amounts to an average of 9.4 outputs per staff member across the cycle.
- b. Enhanced qualitative control mechanisms: All developmental outputs are subjected to a process of pre-submission scrutiny, supported by internal investment (see Section 3). This includes the use of external critical friends with significant REF experience, and a wider programme of staff development.

**A3. To develop an innovative approach to co-creation which integrates research within the curriculum:**

We have:

- a. Focused resources, allowing an increase in the volume and quality of outputs.
- b. Enhanced supervisory capacity through planned progression of new supervisors.

c. Supported a philosophy of students as co-creators of knowledge and impact. At PhD level, our supervisors have worked on joint outputs and impacts with their students. Two outputs returned to this REF have developed from this approach (Bates, Ogilvie and Pole 2016; Bates and Sharky 2020)– which we aim to expand in the next REF. This strategy for co-creation has also been crucial in our wider curriculum offer. Since 2014, we have funded 25 student internships aligned with research projects. Research has also been aligned to the curriculum, through 4 Jean Monnet Modules (**Hadfield; Keil; Lieberman**), and 1 Parliamentary Studies module (**Bennister**).

d. Facilitated the recruitment of high-quality staff and PhD students, specifically through attractive forms of thematic alignment. Since 2014, there has been a substantial increase in the number and quality of PhD applications, and an 11-fold increase in PhD completions (see Section 2).

e. Enhanced the student experience, through a strategy of co-creation. Academic programmes contributing to this submission have strong records of student satisfaction. For our Politics offer, our standing in the National Student Survey (NSS) is consistently high (over 90% overall student satisfaction). In the 2021 Guardian League Table our Politics programme achieved a position of 9th – the only post-1992 institution in the top 10.

**A4. To target our activities towards high-quality impactful research, which embodies the principles of social inclusion, individual rights and human dignity:**

a. All staff are expected to achieve impact in their work. Staff are supported through the allocation of internal resources as part of the appraisal process to work with partners (NGOs, international organisations, the public sector and businesses). Investment has been targeted to the development of impact case studies (see Section 3). Moreover, the incorporation of three academics from Christ Church Business School integrates our approach to impact with our Business to Business (B2B) offer.

b. The impact of our research has occurred locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. At local and regional levels, we have focused on delivering change to the communities of which we are a part – in alignment with the University commitment to the Civic University. Our success in this area was evidenced by the Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF), in which we were in the top 30% of English HEIs for both 'Working with the Public and Third Sector' and 'Public and Community Engagement' (see REF5a, 2.2).

Locally, we have hosted research engagement events with the public, through our Making Politics Matter (MPM) initiative. Regionally, our work on the impact of Brexit for Kent and Medway brings together the local and regional aspects of our strategy. Impactful work as part of the Tate Exchange partnership (**ICS19.02**) is local, to the extent that it has transformed the lives of young people in Dover, and national, to the extent that it has involved co-creation of impact with young people and community groups in the Rhondda Valley. Internationally, work on federalism and conflict resolution has impacted on policy and practice in Myanmar, Syria, Lebanon, and Bosnia (see **ICS19.01**).

**A5. To create sustainable growth of resources commensurate with the delivery of A1-4:**

Our approach integrates internal investment, research income, knowledge exchange and curriculum funding, towards the delivery of our objectives. We have emphasised:

a. Targeting funder diversity: Along with bidding success from research funders such as the Nuffield Foundation, our knowledge exchange and curriculum work (including funding from the EU's Jean Monnet programme) has been essential to our income strategy.

b. Encouraging collaborative bidding inside themes, and through external research partnerships, for example **Potter's** work with the LSE and **Bates'** work with Valley's Kids.

c. Building capacity and expertise for high level bidding. We have supported bidding activity throughout the UoA, from ECRs to research leaders (see Section 2).

d. Encouraging like-for-like investment. **Keil's** work in Myanmar has been supported by the Hanns-Seidel-Foundation. **Bates'** work with the Live Arts Development Agency and Tate Exchange, allows access to high-cost resources and facilities (see **ICS19.01** and **ICS19.02**).

**1.4 Future Strategy**

In this REF period, we enhanced the quality of outputs and impacts. This included establishing clear research themes, identifying strong impact case studies and embedding support for all staff. Our headline objectives for the next REF are:

**F1 - To enhance our profile for high-quality research in applied political theory, constitutional and territorial politics, and security studies**

The step change in the quantity and quality of outputs was enabled by the clear thematic alignment of our work in the 2014-2020 period. We will continue to refine this alignment in a way that supports the distinctiveness of our work.

As a result, the UoA will be organised in 3 future research themes:

Future Theme 1	Future Theme 2	Future Theme 3
Applied Political Theory	Constitutional and Territorial Politics	Security Studies

The theme of Applied Political Theory will remain. Anticipated interdisciplinary alignments with Law colleagues, recent appointments in territorial politics (**Anderson; Babalola**) and a move from a European to a global focus, are key reasons for developing the theme of Constitutional and Territorial Politics – building on the achievements of Politics, Policy and Society: Europe and Beyond. A change of name of the theme Conflict, Security and Cooperation to Security Studies better encompasses the breadth of future work and presents the possibility for interdisciplinary work with colleagues working in Policing. The research in Theme 4 in the 2014-2020 period is expected to lead to a Sociology submission in the next REF cycle.

If a key aspect of our strategy was to increase the quantity of outputs, the focus in the coming cycle will be to enhance publication efficiency (the number of high-quality outputs proportionate to the total outputs produced). This process aligns with a new institutional Individual Research Responsibility Plans (IRRP) process which came into effect in 2020 (see REF5a).

**F2 – To facilitate and support interdisciplinary research aligned to our research themes**

The thematic alignment will scaffold interdisciplinary research. A Faculty restructure has brought aspects of Politics and International Relations, Law, Policing and Sociology together in a new School, enabling strategic alignment of investment and activities. The £65m Verena Holmes Building will provide resource to underpin such collaboration – a key example being the Hydra Suite (See Section 3). The focus on applied political theory is an example in practice, of our belief that all research can be impactful. Work in this area is already producing collaboration not only with colleagues in Law, but also continues to build on collaboration between Politics and Sociology (**Bates, Ogilvie**). Co-created work in the Daphne Oram Building for the Creative Arts will also help to support interdisciplinarity beyond our Faculty, enabling collaboration with the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Education.

**F3 - To maximise opportunities for local, regional, national and international impact**

The growth of impactful research has been a priority since 2014, and resulted in the development of local, regional, national and international partnerships. We will continue to use the university structures to deliver impactful research in these areas – locally and regionally, through working with our Enterprise and Engagement Team, and nationally/internationally working with our Research and Innovation Funding Unit (RIFU). We will continue to embed research users throughout the entire research lifecycle, from conceptualisation and design, to conclusion, outcome and impact.

**F4 - To become a beacon area for the co-creation of research**

Building on the success of co-creating research and impact with students, we will ensure the full alignment of our research with our curriculum. We will continue to generate creative possibilities for the co-creation of impactful research. To achieve this, we will work with the Graduate College to recruit PhD students aligned to our thematic strengths, and existing collaborative partnerships.

**1.5 Research Integrity and Governance**

Our processes focus on the implementation of clear, transparent and fair policies with a high standard of research integrity and governance. Processes for funding allocation are set out in Section 3. The IRRP process establishes expectations for researchers, with an alignment between individual researchers and strategic priorities.

All research proposals undergo peer scrutiny before they are submitted to the CCCU ethics committee for approval. The online tool Research Space ensures that research goes through all necessary steps before ethical approval can be granted. The School level ethics panel assesses PGR proposals before the request approval stage. All staff and research students receive ethics training, and any PGR ethics applications must first receive support from a supervisor.

UoA members are actively involved in wider institutional processes of research governance. For example, **Bates** is a member of the Research and Enterprise Integrity Committee, and the institutional REF steering group, as well as co-chairing this UoA.

**1.6 Public availability of research**

We are committed to the principles of openness, transparency and reproducibility of research. 100% of our REF submitted outputs are open access compliant. All staff have received training in making their work accessible, with registration on platforms such as ORCID, and Research Gate encouraged. The University encourages Green Open Access publication, and directs funding to support it. All staff and research students are expected to upload their outputs to Research Space, CCCU's institutional repository. Our researchers also use on-line forums to share their publications with a wider audience free of charge.

**2. People**

Our People strategy focuses on developing and supporting a thriving and inclusive research culture for staff and research students.

It is essential that we recruit the best quality academic staff. This involves ensuring that our international research reputation is strong, so that we draw from the widest range of candidates. Once we have recruited high quality staff, it is important to focus on their retention. We ensure that all staff are supported to achieve their aspirations. This includes aligning their research with our strategy as a focus for investment. The requirements for career progression are transparent and supported.

CCCU is a signatory to the Concordat to Support Career Development of Researchers. We have committed to extending the principles of the Concordat to all staff on teaching and research contracts, continuing our long-standing dedication to the development of 'home-grown' researchers (see REF5a, 3.2).

**2.1 Staff Development and Support**

We provide a comprehensive programme of support for staff development. The appraisal process includes a Personal Development Plan (PDP) and Individual Research Responsibility Plan (IRRP), where research objectives are set, and research funding is allocated. Staff development is supported through targeted funds (see Section 3).

ECRs have been supported by our Supporting Progression in Academic Research Careers (SPARC) programme. The School of Psychology, Politics and Sociology was the Second School within the University to gain Athena Swan Bronze status. An area of Good Practice was identified as: 'Supporting Progression for Academic Research Careers (SPARC) programme allowing "protected" monthly afternoons for early career researchers to learn about and discuss Research and Knowledge Exchange [RKE] related issues'. As part of SPARC, ECRs are assigned a mentor who oversees their research development. ECRs are expected to contribute to the regular series of research seminars, which include contributions from internal and external speakers. The research seminars operate as an arena to bring together all aspects of our research team. All ECRs are expected to complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice.

Senior colleagues have structured mentoring opportunities through engagement with other senior colleagues, including the Professoriate. The research steering group identifies the staff development priorities. Human Resources and Organisational Development (HROD) provide training on career development, promotion processes and EDI. The Research and Innovation

Funding Unit (RIFU) provide a range of targeted staff development opportunities including on funder identification, bid writing and impact.

Internal investment is allocated for staff development for impact. This underpins our theoretically informed but applied approach to research - all researchers as impact drivers, and all research as impactful (see Section 3).

We have adopted a strategically aligned Study Leave programme. Our aim has been to allocate one period of study leave per year – lasting for one semester. As a competitive process, staff must bid for study leave as part of the IRRP. Applications are assessed by panel members from inside and externally to the UoA. The strategic priorities for study leave are: the production of high-quality outputs; a demonstrable contribution to the curriculum; and a contribution to impact and income generation.

## 2.2 Recruitment and Progression

All staff included in the FTE are employed on permanent contracts. We have focused on recruiting and retaining high quality research active staff. We ensure opportunity for career progression and promotion. Since 2014, 2 staff became Professors (**Bates, Hadfield**), and 4 staff gained the status of Reader (**Bennister, Hadfield, Keil, Kent.A**), while 6 staff were promoted to Senior Lecturers.

Stage 1 of the institutional Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) as described in our REF2021 Code of Practice has been completed and is reported in Section REF5a 3.4. Owing to small numbers and requirements of GDPR, analysis remains at Faculty level. UoA level data is not formally available. The data for REF2021 shows that in this Faculty, 47% of REF eligible staff are female, compared with 53% male. This compares to 37% of female staff who were returned to REF in 2014, and 62% male. Clearly whilst progress has been made since REF2014, there is more work to be done. 80% of staff returned in this submission have worked in Schools with an Athena SWAN Bronze Award.

UoA level co-ordinators and panel members attend training on implicit bias and complete the university's on-line module in this area. The criteria and process for inclusion in REF was made transparent to staff through staff forums, and through the dissemination of written material. Prior to review, publications were anonymised. REF has been emphasised throughout as a developmental process. Self-rating in line with REF criteria and ratings feedback was carried out initially in research pairings. Ratings were discussed with the wider teams. These ratings – and decision mechanisms – were then checked in discussion with external 'critical friends'.

Underpinning principles of equality have been emphasised throughout this process.

We have adopted family-friendly work policies. All staff are required to engage with the institution wide campaign 'Expect-Respect' which focuses on respect for EDI amongst staff and students.

**Cashman** was awarded an institutional Golden Apple for her work on this issue in 2019.

We take a lead role in institutional debates on decolonisation. We are working with our BAME Staff Network, the Closing Our Gap Project, and to build alliances with the QTPOC (queer/trans/intersex people of colour) community. We have worked to ensure that all staff with disabilities and/or long-term health concerns are fully supported, for example through access to university counselling services (See REF 5a, 3.1). Our work concerning EDI issues is shared through regular comments via our Blog pages, on issues such as Black Lives Matter.

Visiting Professors have a key role in our outreach, impact and knowledge exchange work.

Strategically, we:

Appoint Professors with expertise beyond academia to support impact and engagement (Macgregor, Hammond and Fidler have contributed to the Centre for European Studies (CEFEUS) and our curriculum. Macgregor is a retired British diplomat - former ambassador. Hammond is the former CEO of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission. Fidler is currently UK and Brexit Editor of *The Wall Street Journal*).

Add value to our research informed and research engaged curriculum, by appointing leading experts in the field. (McLellan and Sayers - world renowned political philosophers - are aligned with the Applied Political Theory theme and work closely with **Bates**).

## 2. 3 Support mechanisms for training and supervision of PGR students

We have a diverse PGR portfolio, including an MSc by Research, a PhD by Thesis, a PhD by portfolio and a PhD by publication, each of which supports our aspirant PGR community to carry out research in the settings that most support their careers.

Since our return to REF2014, we have delivered an 11-fold increase to PhD by thesis completions. This has been achieved partly through an alignment of PhD projects with research themes. The focus in the cycle was to target supervision in Themes 2 and 3. Theme 3 achieved 2 successful completions and Theme 2 achieved 9 completions. From 2021, supervision will be aligned to the revised thematic structure.

Success has also been achieved through the creation of a vibrant research culture, which integrates PhD students into all aspects of our work. PhD students are involved in the co-creation of outputs, along with structured opportunities to co-create impact. For example, **Bates** has worked with PhD students to develop the model of Politically Engaged Artistic Practice (see **ICS19.02**), which also resulted in a key publication in the on-line Open Access journal *Tate Papers*. **Keil** worked closely with Anderson in relation to **ICS19.01**.

All PGR students are expected to take part in the Researcher Development Programme (RDP) based on the Vitae Researcher Development Framework (REF5a 3.3). These activities are captured digitally through our 'ReCap' technology and made available on the virtual learning environment (Blackboard) to which all PGR students have access. PGR progression and support is managed through Research Space, and further support is provided through the Post-Graduate Research Association (PGRA). PGR students have representation within key committees, including Faculty Board, Faculty Research and Enterprise Committees, the University's Research Degrees Sub-Committee and the Research and Enterprise Integrity Committee.

We work with our Graduate College to ensure that all staff have adequate training to support PGR students. The Graduate College establishes criteria for the designation of PhD supervisors – at either 'accredited' or experienced level. Potential supervisors in the area of Politics and International Studies are encouraged to become involved in PhD supervision as part of their professional role. Involvement and achievement is monitored through the IRRP and appraisal processes, and is supported in workload profiling (WLP) – specifically through time allocation and training. In the PDP process at the appraisal stage, a skills needs assessment is carried out to identify what support staff require for research supervision. This informs the content of Graduate College training provisions for all staff, including new supervisors.

Our approach to postgraduate recruitment is as follows: We advertise our PhD offer internationally in alignment with our 4 research themes. We have offered 8 fully funded and full-time studentships since 2014 to the total value of **£426,000**. We have worked closely with external partners to provide funding opportunities. We have had considerable success with the Algerian Government, which has funded 3 Algerian PhD students for a 4-year period, to the approximate value of **£288,000**. The introduction of Postgraduate Loans at a national level has also meant that we have had a significant increase in the application for self-funded places. All PGR students are awarded **£500** per year from the School budgets for conference attendance; they can apply for additional funds. We provide a programme of career advice tailored through our Graduate College and needs assessment with students.

We have aligned our PGR recruitment with our staff approach to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion above. For example, in our Politics and International Relations pathway, 40% of our PGR students are male, 60% are female and 40% have a BAME background.

### 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

#### 3.1 Income and Investment Strategy

Our research is embedded in our local and regional economy. We have prioritised bidding activity and inwards investment in research activities and facilities which can help to make a difference to the lives of our communities. Much of our research – given the nature of our discipline – also has an international focus.

Responding to the competitiveness of the funding environment, we have developed a diverse approach to income generation, encompassing research and knowledge exchange income. We have committed to internal investment which has allowed us:

- To deliver high quality outputs and impacts aligned with our key research themes.

## Unit-level environment template (REF5b)

- To develop bidding knowledge and capacity to the secure long-term viability of our research.
- To focus on funder diversity (in terms of research and knowledge exchange income, and the size of funding bids, and the range of funders).

In the 2014-20 cycle we have developed a 3-Pillar funding and investment strategy:

	<b>Pillar 1: Inward Investment</b>	<b>Pillar 2: Research Income</b>	<b>Pillar 3: Knowledge Exchange and Curriculum Projects</b>
<b>2010-14</b>	£90,000	£296,191*	£0
<b>2014-20</b>	£341,500	£159,107*	£241,000

\*The 2014 submission included research income from Law and Policing, which is now returned as an independent UoA, with research income to the amount of £523,258.

### **Pillar 1: Inward Investment totalling: £341,500**

We have focussed on investment, targeted towards building the capability and capacity to deliver high quality research outputs and impacts. This process has been advanced with the introduction in 2017/18 of the annual Research & Enterprise Quality Improvement and Enhancement (REQIE) process to drive quality improvement and inform resource allocation (see REF5a, 2.1). To this effect, we have:

Invested **£96,000** into a **Research and Impact Strategy Fund**, which has focused on: developing research capability through staff training; enhancing the knowledge of research quality (particularly through employing experienced 'critical friends') and increasing output, impact and bidding capacity (specifically through the employment of a Senior Research Fellow).

Invested **£93,000** in an **Impact Enhancement (Projects) Fund**. This fund has focused on the early-stage development of impact case studies, and the process of selection, refinement, support and enhancement in the cycle, including allocated supportive RKE student internships for impact support. This resulted in the initial development of 4 case studies across all 4 Themes in the period, and to the ultimate selection of 2 (**ICS19.01** – Theme 2 and **ICS19.02** – Theme 3).

Invested **£152,500** in a **Research Output Fund**. This has focussed on enabling staff to enhance the quality of outputs, including through processes of pre-publication review and international conference attendance. The fund has also provided student intern support, thus helping to operationalise our strategy of co-creation. This has helped to generate a **250 %** increase in output quantity.

Invested **£426,000** in PhD bursaries aligned with research themes. This investment – combined with the equivalent of **£288,000** external bursary funding specifically from the Algerian Government - has allowed the delivery of an 11-fold increase in PhD completions across the period.

Invested in like-for-like funding, particularly drawing on the internal investment streams above. For example, internal investment in our work with Tate Exchange enabled access to the internationally renowned facilities of the Tate Modern, thus supporting the development of research and impact (**ICS19.02**), alongside curriculum enhancement. Our work in Myanmar has been supported by like-for-like funding (to cover travel and expenses) by the Hanns-Seidel-Foundation (**ICS19.01**).

In addition to the large growth in the quantity of outputs, this approach has also produced successful bidding activity for external research and knowledge exchange and curriculum enhancement income to the total value of **£400,107** which has been invested in the production of impactful research.

### **Pillar 2: Research Income to the total of £159,107**

The headline funding achieved by the UoA is **£159,107**. This compares to a figure of **£296,191** in 2014. This change is in part a result of the success elsewhere, in helping to grow the Law UoA. Research income has been focussed towards Themes 1, 2 and 4. It demonstrates success in funder diversity, but also achieving funding from prestigious research funders. For example, we



have achieved: **£37,200** from the Nuffield Foundation for work on Prime Ministerial Accountability (**Bennister**) (Theme 1), which has resulted in two high-impact publications, of which one is returned to this REF, as well as report for the UK Parliament. **Bristow** has received £8,000 from the Leverhulme Trust. It has resulted in key publications submitted to this REF (Theme 4). The EU-funded EMAR project (which generated 4 industry-specific reports) received **£44,000** to examine how to make European maritime more competitive (Theme 2) – thus enhancing our B2B offer.

### **Pillar 3: Knowledge Exchange and Curriculum Projects**

At **£241,000** this comprises the largest section of our external funding. Given our strategic focus on the production of impactful research which benefits the local and regional context, the generation of knowledge exchange and curriculum income has been important. The Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence (CEFEUS) has been pivotal here. The majority of CEFEUS's work has been aligned to Themes 1 and 2, though its work is also of cross cutting significance. Since it was established in 2015 (led by **Hadfield** and subsequently **Keil**), CEFEUS has been an overarching focus for funding capture and interdisciplinary research across and beyond research themes, and a key support for our co-creative curriculum and research. From 2014, funding was gained for two Jean Monnet modules, a Jean Monnet Chair (renewed in 2017), and a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence. This amounts to **£224,000** of competitive funding. The majority of CEFEUS's research in the period has focused on the local and regional impact of Brexit, and has involved close collaboration with local and regional partners across the public and private sectors. This has resulted in five research reports, as well as key submissions of evidence to parliamentary enquiries and public consultations. Further knowledge exchange funding for projects associated with the local and regional context include **£17,000** for work with the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation on Green Space Identification (using Geographical Information Systems (GIS)). Additional inward investment in GIS has meant that we have key expertise and infrastructure, positioning us well with knowledge exchange bidding activity.

**Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:** We focus on a transparent and inclusive mechanism for the allocation of internal investment, in line with our wider EDI processes. Our UoA Steering group is the primary means for the allocation of research and enterprise support funding (RESF), and contains representation of male and female staff. Research governance is representative of our staff base. All staff involved with making decisions regarding funding allocation have received unconscious bias training. We use the appraisal process to identify and address any EDI issues in relation to the overall funding strategy.

### **3.2 Facilities**

Staff and postgraduate researchers have access to the Augustine House learning and resources centre. This £23m centre opened in 2009 and has cutting-edge facilities for researchers and PhD students.

The Hydra Simulation Suite (a collaborative resource hosted by the School of Law, Policing and Social Sciences) is located in our £65m Verena Holmes Building. This suite is a technological tool for researchers and students to take part in immersive simulations of real-life natural decision-making, and is of particular use for research associated with Theme 1 and will continue to be significant in the development of our future research strategy.

The Mabb Lovell Court Room is funded by the School of Law, Policing and Social Sciences. This was historically the court room attached to a prison (also now part of the CCCU estate), which has been refurbished as a court room which also supports the simulation work of the Hydra Suite.

We make extensive use of our £13m Daphne Oram Building for the Creative Arts which opened in 2019. This facility includes cutting-edge production and performance spaces for staff, students and the local community. This resource is of particular importance for our work on politically engaged artistic practice, which comprises an aspect of research (see Theme 3 and **ICS19.02**).

Partnership with the Tate Exchange Associates Programme enables access to Tate Galleries and exhibitions for our researchers and postgraduate students. It also provides us each year with floor space and resources at Tate Exchange (located in the £260m Blavatnik Building). This has been pivotal to the development of **ICS19.02**.

The European Review of International Studies (ERIS) partnership with Sciences Po, Paris enables an exchange of access to research facilities, for staff and research students between Paris and Canterbury. The Parliamentary Academic Fellowship provided **Bennister** with access to the extensive resources of the UK Parliament.

We have invested in technology to support our geopolitics provision (Theme 1 and 2).

Geographical Information Systems (GIS) is a software package that allows the analysis, exploration, and visualisation of spatial data. We have purchased an ArcGIS educational licence to the cost of £3,150 p.a. Quantum GIS (QGIS), which is a free and open-source GIS software package, is maintained by a growing community of developers worldwide. We currently use Erdas IMAGINE (at a cost of £2,150 p.a.), which is an industry-standard software for processing satellite and aerial imagery.

### 3.3 Income generation and future investment

In order to deliver our future strategic objectives (Section 1, F1-F4), income generation and the investment in people and infrastructure remain key priorities. Internal investment in the 2014-20 cycle has led to a step-change in the quantity and quality of impactful research. It has allowed the strengthening of capability and capacity for external bidding activity. Building on the existing 3-Pillar structure for investment and income capture, we are now in a position to grow external income to ensure the sustainability of the UoA.

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

Collaboration is at the heart of our work. Our approach stresses both the importance of collaboration and the co-creation of research. This has involved the development of partnerships, and engagement with key beneficiaries and users.

### 4.1 Partnerships and Collaborations

We have focused on the development of sustainable partnerships within an international higher education context and beyond, to deliver high quality outputs and impacts which make a positive contribution to society. Our 3-Pillar investment and funding strategy directs resources towards key strategic collaborations. Our partnerships and collaborations are aligned with our 4 research themes. These themes have operated as hubs, bringing together research across the University. These research themes also operate as points of contact for collaborative research beyond the university. Collaborations have been key to our impactful research and funding strategy. While some of the examples are captured in our submitted impact case studies (**ICS19.01** and **ICS19.02**), other collaborations show the wider diversity of our impactful research, including our B2B offer.

### Theme 1: Politics, Policy and Society: Europe and Beyond

Joint academic projects:

Work aligned to this theme has included a key strategic partnership with Sciences Po, Paris (*The European Review of International Studies* (ERIS)) involving **Bates, Keil and Lieberman** at CCCU, Professor Christopher Hill (Cambridge), and Professors Bertrand Badie (Sciences Po) and Christian Lequesne (Sciences Po and Director of the Centre d'études et de recherches internationales (CERI)). ERIS is a journal with a growing international reputation. **Bennister's** Nuffield Foundation funded work on Prime Ministerial Accountability, in collaboration with Kelso (Southampton), led to his Parliamentary Academic Fellowship which gave privileged access to the parliamentary estate and collaboration with the House of Commons library. **Bennister's** work with 't Hart (Utrecht) and Worthy (Birkbeck) on the influential Leadership Capital Index (LCI) has resulted in the production of 3 collaborative outputs, including a major edited work with Oxford University Press.

Collaborations:

Work on the local and regional impact of Brexit (**Hadfield, Keil, Lieberman**) has engaged governmental organisations (the European Commission through Jean Monnet funded projects), local and regional MPs, UK Parliament across parties, local government (specifically Kent County Council) and other organisations including the Dover Ports and Harbour Authority. It has led to a total of 15 public events for the dissemination of research findings such as regular Brexit

townhall meetings between 2015 and 2020. **Kent.A's** work with the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation has informed the design of new blue and green spaces.

### Theme 2: Conflict, Security and Cooperation

Joint academic projects:

Work on the regulation of outer space by **Lieberman** involves collaboration with colleagues from around Europe, including Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Commerciales d'Angers (ESSCA) France, as part of the European Space Policy Network. This has resulted in bidding activity, and to date in 5 research outputs. **Kent.A's** work on Soviet Mapping has involved collaboration with the Centre for the Changing Character of War (Oxford). It has resulted in 3 research outputs.

Work on federalism (**Anderson, Babalola, Keil**) has resulted in our research group on Federalism and Conflict Resolution becoming a member of the International Association for Centers of Federal Studies (IACFS) in 2020. Cooperation with the Institute for Comparative Federalism at European Academy (EURAC) (Italy) and the Institute of Federalism at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland) has resulted in 2 joint publications, as well as collaborative events such as an annual research conference since 2018.

Collaborations:

Work with colleagues in Myanmar has resulted in impact through engaging Members of the Myanmar Parliament, the Civil Service, political parties and civil society organisations. This has been achieved in partnership with the Hanns-Seidel-Foundation in Myanmar. **Keil** has worked with think tanks and NGOs to support ongoing decentralization debates in Syria (with the European Center for Kurdish Studies) and Lebanon (with Democracy Reporting International). This work has resulted in one impact case study (**ICS19.01**) as well as several research outputs and collaborative funding bids. Work within EMAR has contributed to establishing a framework which increases the competitiveness of the EU maritime transport industry. **Kent.A's** work with Geoinformation Group, to bring together governmental and other organisations to provide training, has fed into work of the Geospatial Commission (Cabinet Office). His work on Soviet Mapping has led to an invitation by the US European Command Headquarters (EUCOM), to advise senior government and military staff on Russia's capability for conducting globally integrated operations as enabled by its geospatial capability.

### Theme 3: Applied Political Theory

Joint academic projects:

**Bates'** work with McKenzie, McLellan (Kent) in association with the PSA Marxism Specialist Group resulted in an edited collection. As co-convenor **Bates** organises panels for this specialist group. **Bates** is also an Editor of the PSA journal *Studies in Marxism* working with Cowling (Teesside). **Tillyris** has worked with Edyvane (Leeds) to organise panels at the Manchester Workshops in Political Theory. This resulted in a Special Issue of the journal *Theoria* in 2019. **Tillyris** was also Co-organiser of CIAP 2018: The Ethics of Resistance Conference, CCCU, September 2018 (with Vogler (Edinburgh) and Van Hoef, (Utrecht)).

Collaborations:

At the intersection between the local, regional, and national, **Bates'** work with the Tate Associates Programme (see **ICS19.02**), has engaged young people from marginalised communities, artists, art practitioners, teachers, art institutions (in particular, galleries such as the Tate) and audiences/participants. The collaborative work (resulting in 3 exhibitions at Tate Modern and one article, a contribution to the ESRC Festival of Social Sciences, and other academic outputs) brings together community groups, artists, and local schools. Work with the Turner Contemporary Gallery (as part of our B2B offer) has led to the development of new effective models for measuring the socio-economic impact of the creative industries. This has been further enabled by cross UoA collaboration (with UoA24) accessing Arts Council funding (see REF5a, 2.4.). It has led to the production of 3 journal articles, 2 reports and developing impacts.

### Theme 4: Politics of Work, Education and Generations

Joint academic projects:

**Van-Milder's** work has involved key collaborations with colleagues from the University of Kent's Future of Work Seminar Series (with Turner). As well as participating in the Future of Work series, **Potter's** work on the politics of work has been carried out in collaboration with colleagues at the LSE.

Collaborations:

**Bristow's** work has resulted in high-impact collaborations, on the theme of 'Policing Pregnancy' with partners such as the British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS), Birthrights and the Centre for Parenting Culture Studies. **Bristow** has also carried out work with two reproductive health charities and generated a high volume of national media coverage; and the award of a grant from the Wellcome Trust in 2019, to consolidate an interdisciplinary network of academics and Third Sector organisations working on the concept of 'generations'.

#### 4.2 Engagement with diverse communities

Our approach is value led and evidence informed. This approach cuts across all 4 research themes. It aligns with our commitment to target activities towards high-quality impactful research which embodies the principles of social inclusion, individual rights and human dignity (see Section 1 – A4). We consider our outreach and engagement activities as central to our public duty and responsibility to disseminate publicly funded research findings. We work with community partners, and the university outreach programme and the Kent and Medway Collaborative Outreach Programme (KaMCOP) to access diverse audiences within the locality and region. Work with local migration charities (Samphire and Kent Refugee Action Group) has engaged some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Our international work on building peace in post-conflict societies has engaged communities in Myanmar, Syria, Lebanon, The Philippines, and Kosovo.

Our Enterprise and Engagement Team provides support, resources and networking to enable staff to engage across the employment, enterprise, research and knowledge exchange agendas. Our success in this area is evidenced by the KEF. Our Making Politics Matter public speaker series – organised by students and community members has been cited in our successful return to KEF1, as has our work on Politically Engaged Artistic Practice as part of the Tate Exchange Programme (ICS19.02).

#### 4.3 Sustainability of the Discipline:

Members of our UoA recognise the importance of contributing to the sustainability of Politics and International Studies (and cognate disciplines) in a number of ways. Staff contribute substantively to the activities of their professional organisations. For example, **Kent.A** was President of the British Cartographic Society (2015-2017). **Bates** is the Co-Chair of the Marxism specialist group of the PSA. **Keil** is a member of the Programme Committee of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) and an Executive Member of Research Committee 28 of IPSA. **Bennister** is a founding member of the Leadership Specialist Group in the ECPR and the PSA, and **Anderson** is currently co-chairing the UACES Collaborative Research Network 'Territorial Politics in Crisis.' We are an institutional member of UACES and have been a member of the ECPR.

The national and international standing of staff is also regularly drawn upon to act as External Examiners. We support other scholars through acting as internal and external examiners of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. **Bates** is currently the External Examiner of the BA in Politics and International Relations at the University of Loughborough, **Keil** was External Examiner at the University of Plymouth and London Metropolitan University. **Lieberman** was external examiner for an MA programme at the University of Roehampton. **Keil** has examined PhDs at the Universities of Leicester and Sussex, as well as in Germany (Universities of Passau and Erfurt), Austria (Vienna University) and Italy (University of Trento).

Staff are involved in editorial and review activities. We encourage and support our staff to sit on the editorial boards of key journals in their discipline, and to engage in journal and grant reviewing activity. **Bennister** was a member of the ESRC Peer Review College, **Keil** was an expert reviewer for Horizon 2020 funding, as was **Hadfield**. **Keil** is regularly called upon by the British Council to act as a reviewer for the Newton Fund on International Research

Collaborations and Networks. We have encouraged and supported our staff to become involved in reviewing activity with leading journals in their field. Staff have acted as reviewers for publishers such as Oxford University Press, SAGE, Palgrave, Routledge, Rowman and Littlefield, Manchester University Press and Springer. Our staff regularly review for the major journals within their discipline, including: *Europe-Asia Studies*, *The Sociological Review*, *The British Journal of Sociology*, *Review of International Studies*, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Publius*, *CRISPP*, and *Space Policy*. Altogether, staff reviewed potential articles for over 80 journals.

Examples of editorial responsibilities include: Since 2013, we have co-hosted the journal *The European Review of International Studies* (ERIS) with CERI in Paris. **Bates**, **Keil** and **Lieberman** are currently members of the Editorial Board. The journal is supported by a Managing Editor, employed by CCCU and funded by the UoA. Since 2014, CCCU has also been the host of the annual ERIS lecture. Further examples include: Editorship of *The Cartographic Journal* (peer-reviewed journal of the British Cartographic Society (**Kent.A**)); Editorial Board Membership: *Croatian International Relations Review* (**Keil**), *Ethnopolitics* (**Keil**), *Contemporary Southeastern Europe* (**Keil**), *Nile Journal of Political Science* (**Babalola**), *Contention: The Multidisciplinary Journal of Social Protest* (**Ogilvie** as associate editor), and *Studies in Marxism* (with **Bates** as co-editor).

We host two book series, 'Federalism and Internal Conflict'. So far 7 books have been published in the series (since 2019). Our 'Balkan Politics and Society' series has published 4 volumes since 2019.

As well as extensive participation in national and international conferences, we have hosted numerous events within our UoA. These have included: a conference on the Ethics of Resistance in 2018, in partnership with the Conference for Interdisciplinary Approaches to Politics (CIAP). We co-hosted the UACES collaborative Research Network (CRN) Europe and the Everyday (with colleagues from Aston and Leicester University) and in the wake of this organised a workshop on the future of Europe at CCCU in 2017. Members of the UoA have been invited as keynote speakers in the UK, Europe and worldwide. Examples include: The Forum for European Philosophy, LSE (2017) (**Tillyris**); Friedrich Naumann Foundation and Sarajevo School of Technology, Bosnia (2019) (**Keil**); Members of the UoA have also delivered other invited talks, including at the University of Kent, Birkbeck University (**McManus**); Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford University (2019) (**Bristow**); Peking University (2018) (**Bates**), and the University of Loughborough (2016) (**Tillyris**).

We continue to disseminate our work in the media – both in the print media, and through social media. In 2017, **Keil** and **Anderson** launched the website [www.50shadesoffederalism.com](http://www.50shadesoffederalism.com) which provides short articles on different themes related to federalism. The website has had more than 700,000 clicks. Articles from the website are also available in French, through a partnership with the Canada Research Chair at the University of Quebec in Montreal, and in Spanish and Catalan, through cooperation with the Institute for Autonomy and Local Government Studies in Barcelona. Working primarily in the contexts of CEFEUS and Themes 1 and 2, **Hadfield** and **Lieberman** have had considerable media activity, particularly with BBC Kent (amounting to over 100 appearances since 2015). **Bristow** has an extensive media profile, including on BBC Radio 4's Moral Maze. **Potter** has discussed his work on BBC Radio 4's Thinking Allowed. We have a vibrant Blog which publishes short blog pieces by staff, research students and undergraduates.