



ANNUAL REPORT

2015-16



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Overview of the Programme

The Oxford Changing Character of War (CCW) Programme is devoted to the interdisciplinary study of war, strategy and the implications of violence and armed conflict. It is a successful, world class research programme enjoying global influence, and connected to scholars of the highest standing at the University of Oxford, throughout the United Kingdom and around the world. The CCW Programme is the catalyst to critical thinking beyond the academy, and has a strong track record of advice to the government of the United Kingdom and its armed forces, as well as many other countries. The excellence of our comparative work and our ability to blend theoretical and applied understanding are particularly highly valued.

Is the nature of war changing? This question drives the research agenda of the Changing Character of War Programme. In the 2015-16 it led us to explore the ambiguity which surrounds war and armed conflict as a result of the manifold ways in which the character of war has changed and the resulting challenges in making policy and strategy. Each member of the programme has reflected on some aspect of these themes in their individual research.

Collectively, our work has enhanced understanding of the actors, methods, environments, and wider context of contemporary and future armed conflict by exploring the responses of states and international organisations to these factors and tackling issues surrounding their legal and moral dimensions. Through strategic, in-depth thinking and identification of key trends, our research has informed decision-making on pressing issues of contemporary conflict and proffered insights on the future character of war. Details of the Director's advisory work and policy briefs produced by the Director of Studies are included below alongside a summary of research conducted by our Visiting Fellows.

Central to our research method is an interdisciplinary approach which employs the differing perspectives and expertise of a variety of disciplines. By convening events involving subject specialists and bringing together personnel from academic, government, international organisations and the armed services, we have been able to offer a realistic, theoretically sound and nuanced appreciation of the difficulties in the formulation of policy and of strategy.

2015-16 began with the delivery of a major conference in honour of the work of Professor Sir Hew Strachan in September 2015 at All Souls College. We also staged two further international conferences, 'Upstream' Stabilisation (8-9 December 2015) and a conference on the First World War in the Middle East in conjunction with the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (20-22 April 2016). Our proven track record in the delivery of high quality, high impact activities has continued to generate requests for bespoke events. This year, many of these proceedings were focused on the problems of making strategy, including for the third year running, in collaboration with the Development Concepts and Doctrine Centre, the national 'Strategy Forum' (February 2016 and June 2016), and a study day on Nordic-Baltic Defence (November 2015).

Several books have been published by our CCW authors this academic year, including Lukas Milevski's *The Evolution of Grand Strategy*, Robert Johnson and Metin Gurcan's *The Gallipoli Campaign: The Turkish Perspective* and Christopher Elliott's *High Command*. We anticipate the imminent publication of Sir John Kiszely's *Norway Campaign*, Simon Akam's book on the British Army and Robert Johnson's *The Great War and the Middle East*. This year we also published the first edition of the *New Strategist Journal* online.

Crucially, while concentrating on the quality of our own research, CCW is outward-facing and we have continued to support individuals and organisations in government and the armed forces, in the United Kingdom and internationally, by offering lectures, bespoke advice, committee support and connections to subject specialist academic colleagues around the world. Within the University of Oxford, we are connected to a community of outstanding scholars, an array of related research activity, and enjoy frequent engagement with the world's leaders in every field.

Once again, we have continued the tradition of hosting Visiting Research Fellows (VRFs) from academic, political-diplomatic and military backgrounds, who contribute to our research themes. In 2015-16 we were also able to support the participation of individual practitioners by bringing to Oxford representatives of the armed services, of governments and of multinational organisations to engage in our research projects and seminars.

2015-16 marked the third year that the Programme has been based in Pembroke College. This dynamic and outward-looking College has provided an ideal home for the Programme and we are now fully embedded in the life of the College. We are privileged to enjoy tremendous support from College staff and to have access to some of the best conference facilities in Oxford, of which we made ample use for many of our 2015-16 events.

In this year we also saw a number of memoranda of agreement signed with partner institutions and departments, often formalising long-standing and close relationships, for example, within Oxford, with the Department of Politics and International Relations, and, internationally, with the UN Staff System College and the Netherlands Defence Academy.

Of course, it is through the generous support of our donors that we are able to function as we do. Thanks to their continued investment in our work, we have been able to develop our research agenda, and all members of the programme are immensely grateful to them. A key element of the programme's work in 2015-16 has been to seek fresh funding for the programme. These initiatives are proving successful and are reported below. As a result of this fresh funding, we intend to increase the number of research staff employed by or associated with the programme, to generate further research activity and publications, to develop our links with other institutions, and to generate sufficient funding to support all of our activities. We are a growing organisation and we have a significant contribution yet to make.

Director's Report on the Programme

Our research themes have been strongly influenced by conflicts that continue to shape events in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and central-South America. Tensions in other parts of the globe, and attempts to resolve older conflicts have also been striking aspects of this year's research. The seminar series has drawn attention to other thematic aspects of the programme's interests in war's changing character, from child soldiers to maritime security, and automated technologies to guerrilla strategy, local conflict drivers and internationalised conflict resolution.

The CCW programme has been pleased to support the work of the Development Concepts and Doctrine Centre (DCDC) in Shrivenham by conducting Strategy Forum events, providing interns and offering bespoke support on preparations for doctrine and concept materials, including *The Future Operating Environment*, and other publications. CCW was also able to assist in the preparation of *Global Strategic Trends 6*, a flagship piece of work by DCDC, while the Director is also offered support to the Royal Navy with *British Maritime Doctrine*, and the British Army with doctrine (*3 Operations* and *10 Counter-insurgency*).

Our study days have addressed a range of issues with events on 'Orchestrating Revolts', 'Drones, Robotics and Autonomous Systems' and 'Insight and Understanding: the Levant'. CCW Team Meetings reviewed papers produced by Visiting Fellows, on topics varying from remotely piloted air systems, 'human terrain' analysis, and the South China Sea dispute, to foreign fighters in the Spanish Civil War, US strategic culture, and the Swedish experience in the Cold War. Alongside the weekly CCW seminar series, addressing a great range of themes outlined below, there has also been a fortnightly Violent Non-State Actors Seminar Series which sought to explore the ground realities of armed conflict. For the full details of the seminar series, see page 14.

The resonance of this research has been highlighted by the fact that the Programme Director has been called upon to act as a specialist advisor to the UK Ministry of Defence and to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, British and American armed forces, US Department of Defense and State Department, Turkish Army and NATO Headquarters on security, defence and future developments. A new development in the summer 2016 was the request by the government of Colombia to assist in the transformation of their army brought about by the peace process between the government and the FARC, and in this work the Director of Studies has been instrumental. Our collective advisory work has taken the form of study days, lectures, and training, both in Oxford, in the United States and elsewhere, and is in keeping with the Programme's mandate to make research relevant and to inform those charged with making decisions or executing change. In addition, the Director has been called upon to give specific support to the institutions dealing with professional military education in the UK and the United States (including the Royal College of Defence Studies, the Joint Services Command and Staff College, and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst).

This was also a year of greater collaboration with other institutions, including a visit to the United States to participate in round table events in Georgetown University and MIT, the IISS-ISAC Conference (October 2015), the United Nations (November 2015), the Future of War conference in Washington DC (March 2016), the Turkish Staff College (14-17 March 2016), the joint conference with the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (20-22 April 2016), The United States Army and at Basin Harbor (6-11 June 2016).

These institutional links are the outcome of a far more important feature of the programme's work, namely the hosting of Visiting Research Fellows and Research Associates. In the last twelve months, we have had 24 new and 3 returning Visiting Fellows with CCW. Their work significantly increases the research output of the programme and ranged from grand strategy through to the use of social media in radicalisation. Our Visiting Fellows were drawn from 7 different nations, including China, the United States, Sweden, and the

Netherlands as well as British military personnel. They were quite evenly divided between serving military officers, visiting academics, and others, normally hybrid academic serving officers or professionals from other sectors.

As a result of a Smith Richardson Strategy and Policy Fellowship, the Programme was able to employ Dr Lukas Milevski, who has previously been with the Programme as a Visiting Fellow, on a one-year contract to conduct research on contemporary Baltic defence from a historical and strategic perspective.

Despite the acute pressure on the small staff we possess, that is, our Steering Committee, Director, Director of Studies and part-time Administrator, CCW managed to stage several large scale public conferences during the year (3 Strategy Fora, with three conferences in September, December and April), an Annual Lecture and alumni dinner, and 5 study days, as well as our term time seminars and workshops.

There have also been a number of other events, including extraordinary seminars. These included Sean McFate's new work on modern mercenaries and a joint event with Oxpeace and the V&A on the protection of material culture and another on conflicts and peace processes. We ran joint seminars with CRIC (Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflicts). There were 48 regular seminars, 3 conferences and a number of extra seminars this year.

There were particular highlights amongst the visitors we hosted, including Ingrid Betancourt, who had been held hostage by FARC; Rob Wainwright, the Director of Europol; Professor Stathis Kalyvas from Yale and UN Special Envoy Alvaro de Soto. In November 2015, the programme hosted General Nakasone, the US Army commander responsible for cyber security. In March we hosted, at very late notice, Bear Grylls, the survival specialist, and he spoke on the values of team work and leadership by drawing on his military experience.

All of these indicate that CCW is a busy and thriving enterprise, fulfilling its remit to be relevant to contemporary issues.

In terms of the fulfilment of the CCW Strategic Plan, our objectives were to secure further funding, increase staff numbers to fulfil research areas, extend our Oxford, national and international links and to develop our research activity in line with emerging research interests. Funding remained critical and it seemed that unless further significant funding was acquired, there was a risk that the programme would have to consider its options in 2016-2017. We are therefore very grateful to the Ax:Johnson Foundation for generously agreeing to fund CCW to meet its turnover costs for three years. This lifeline is crucial and has enabled the CCW to bid for further new funding through research councils. It has also facilitated the presence of Swedish fellows on the programme, including members of the armed forces. We wish to express heartfelt thanks to the Foundation for its support at a critical time in the programme's history.

People

Steering/Advisory Committee

The Steering Committee for 2015-16 comprised:

Professor Dominic Johnson (Chair)
Lord John Alderdice
Professor Cecile Fabre
Professor Peter Wilson
Prof Andrew Hurrell
Dr Robert Johnson (Director)
Dr Annette Idler
Dr Adrian Gregory
Dr Eamonn Malloy
Mike Naworynsky
Nancy Braithwaite?

The Committee met twice each term.

Staff

Dr Robert Johnson has continued as Director of the Programme and Dr Annette Idler as Director of Studies. The Steering Committee and Academic Visiting Fellows have offered support to the programme and have supported the supervision of professional visiting fellows. Moreover, extending our links to other programmes in Oxford has had a considerable beneficial effect over the past year.

Ruth Murray has continued in post as the part-time Programme Administrator.

The Research team has expanded this year to include Lukas Milevski who received funding from the Smith Richardson Foundation for a fixed term research position. There are plans for the further development of the Programme's research team.

The Director's Research and Advisory Work

It was a busy year in 2015-16. As always there was a requirement to balance programme management, advisory support to key donors, developing links with partners, and personal research and supervisory work within the university. In broadly chronological terms, the Director's research and advisory activity began before term with visits overseas.

In July 2015, the Director attended General H.R. McMaster's Operation Unified Quest assessment of the Changing Character of War where he delivered a paper on the subject. He returned to the US in March 2016 to support the future orientated phase at the US Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Dr Johnson also joined the debate at Basin Harbor, organised by SAIS, our partner programme in the US, on future geostrategic issues facing the United States. He lectured on the 'Future Character of War' at the NATO Defence College in Rome on two occasions this year, to a standard course and to the Generals, Flag Officers and Ambassadors Course. There were also visits to NATO at SHAPE and the Centre of Excellence in Rome for simulations.

The Director visited Turkey in March along with CCW research associates Graham Fairclough and Dr Andrew Monaghan, giving a presentation to the Staff College on the future of 'hybrid' warfare. There was

also strong CCW representation at the Wilton Park event on 'Smart Cities', part of a wider perspective on urbanised conflicts which form part of CCW's research agenda.

Closer to home, the Director serves on the Advisory Group for the Joint Services Command and Staff College (November 2014) and the Chief of the Air Staff Fellowship Board (for the selection of RAF officers to join academic programmes).

In February 2016, the Director lectured at the Higher Command and Staff College (HCSC) on indigenous military forces. More importantly, he has assisted in the development of the HCSC curriculum for two years' running, and adjustments were made in July to support the new programmes.

In January 2016, the Director ran the week-long exercise at the Royal College of Defence Studies, giving the final lecture on 'Strategic Planning'. The two case studies, developed through the Director's research and using archival materials, were UK strategy in the inter war years in the Near East and the air campaign in Vietnam. These were well-received and regarded as apt given the consequences of recent Western air operations in Libya and Syria.

In accordance with his commitment to doctoral supervision, there were sessions with postgraduates throughout the year. Two doctoral students qualified this year. The Director examined the doctoral thesis of Alex Strick van Lindschoten (LSE) in the summer of 2016. The thesis was focussed on the Taliban of Afghanistan, their ideologies and evolution between 1990 and 2002. Supervisory support was also given to the Visiting Research Fellows covering a variety of subjects and areas, including integration of the Royal Navy with the United States, the army reserves, maritime planning, reflections on British soldiers' experiences in Afghanistan, future conflict analysis, and green-on-blue attacks by indigenous personnel.

Under the theme of the centenary of the 1914-18 war, Dr Johnson gave a paper on British strategy in the Middle East during the Great War to the Military History Seminar at All Souls College (January 2016), and a paper on Britain's strategic objectives at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst on 22 April 2016. He gave a public lecture at the Museum of the Rifles in Winchester on Britain's war strategy between 1914 and 1916.

To support the theme of public education, he made a series of short television and on-line video recordings on the First World War, military leaders and a variety of conflicts. The Director appeared in ITN Productions television series, 'Top Ten of War' which was broadcast in April 2016.

Advisory work took several forms and was balanced across the three UK armed services. The Director gave talks on Operation Torval, the UK mission to Afghanistan, and assisted the senior leadership to understand the Afghan perspective on the situation in the country. He participated in the review and development of British Maritime Doctrine. He critiqued and suggested enhancements to the British Army's doctrine on operations, their ISR concept, and their work on counter-insurgency. He gave a number of talks and study days on these subjects to assist in the development of the armed forces.

There was an opportunity to attend other academic events this year, and the Director gave papers at Georgetown (October 2015) and MIT (October 2015), IIIS-ISAC (October 2015).

To broaden the reach of the programme, the Director and Director of Studies designed an Executive Leadership Course that was delivered in the summer of 2016. Its focus was the changing character of war and how those in positions of executive authority can develop insights that enable them to manage the evolving security environment of this century.

The Director wrote a number of books, articles and papers during the year, which are detailed on page 20.

The Director of Studies' Work

The Director of Studies balanced her time between research, coordinating the seminar series, supervision and teaching, outreach work, advisory services, policy engagement and securing funding in order to extend CCW's activities over at least the next four years. In the context of her research, Dr Idler carried out four fieldwork research trips to Colombia, including to the demobilisation zones of the FARC rebel, where she interviewed military and police officials, rebels, displaced people and other war-affected individuals. The Director of Studies wrote numerous articles, papers, policy briefs and op-eds during the year (see below). She also completed a book manuscript which is currently under review with OUP. In September 2015 she was awarded the Cedric Smith Prize for the best piece of UK-based conflict and peace research.

Dr Idler successfully applied to a Knowledge Exchange Dialogue Scheme on "The Impact of Terrorism on Democratic Governance and Civilian Security" (Budget: £1,000, Funder: Higher Education Innovation Funding) and completed a Knowledge Exchange Fellowship on "Putting Frontier Research into Action: Co-designing Security Policies to Tackle Violent Non-state Groups in Peripheral Spaces" (Budget: £25,000, Funder: Higher Education Innovation Funding) which resulted in advisory reports to the United Nations, policy briefs and academic publications. Due to the success of the project, she was offered the opportunity to work on a follow-up project on "Implementing the Bilateral Ceasefire and the FARC's Disarmament: How to Enhance Human Security and Cross-border Development in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela" (Budget: £8,854, Funder: ESRC IAA GCRF).

Dr Idler's research and connections in Colombia resulted in a framework of agreement with the Escuela de Ingenieros Militares (Bogotá, Colombia). This agreement is to facilitate academic visits and research collaboration. Several members of the Colombian armed forces attended the Executive Leadership Course in June 2016 and as a result of the agreement, in July 2016, Dr Idler was able to secure funding for her research project "Towards Sustainable Peace in Colombia and the World: A Critical Perspective on Army Transformation". This project paved the way for a government-funded project on "From Conflict Actors to Architects of Peace: Promoting Human Security in Colombia and Internationally" for the academic year 2016-17.

Beginning in September 2015, Dr Idler successfully passed several application cycles which culminated in July 2016 of the award of a 4-year AHRC/ESRC grant (£800,000) to work on "The Changing Character of Conflict Platform: Understanding, Tracing and Forecasting Change across Time, Space and Cultures" between 2017 and 2020. This and other funding applications to research councils were only possible because of the generosity of the Ax:son Johnson Foundation which enabled CCW to underwrite the remaining percentages of staff salaries in the grant applications.

Dr Idler engaged in many outreach and advisory activities over the course of the academic year. Among other activities, she co-facilitated UNSSC trainings on non-state armed groups in Amman, Jordan, and Nairobi, Kenya; and designed, facilitated and taught three educational courses for the Colombian Army and produced three advisory reports on doctrine, operations and human talent as well as a comparative journal article on Army Transformation. She was requested to give briefings on the Colombian peace negotiations and Colombian conflict actors to the US Department of State, the British Ambassador to Colombia, The Colombian Ministry of the Interior and Justice and other government officials, including President Santos' advisors, several UN agencies based in Colombia, the UN Department of Political Affairs, the UN Peace Building Support Office and the UK Army Headquarters (declined). She made numerous media appearances, including for the BBC World Service (TV and Radio), Al Jazeera TV programme, the UN's Politically Speaking magazine, as well as Austrian and Argentinian radio channels.

At Oxford, she was involved in setting up the War and Peace Network (<http://www.warandpeace.ox.ac.uk/>) as well as the CCW Working Group on Armed Conflict (<http://www.ccw.ox.ac.uk/working-group/>). She convened the highly successful CCW Seminar Series on Violent Non-state Actors with high profile speakers such as Ingrid Betancourt, Stathis Kalyvas and others (with regularly more than 50 attendees) and set up and ran CCW Leadership Course (<http://www.ccw.ox.ac.uk/leadership-leadership-course/>). Furthermore, she successfully implemented multi-media project on Dynamics of War and Peace: Drama, Poetry, Music and Dance, which was performed in Oxford and in Geneva.

Dr Idler had the opportunity to coordinate panels and give papers at the DPIR Alumni Event, the OxPeace Annual Conference, the ISA Convention, LASA Congress, at Georgetown and MIT, IIIS-ISAC, She was invited as guest speaker at events and institutions including Vienna Diplomatic Academy and the RUSI Peacekeeping Day. Dr Idler provided further services to the academic community, serving as International Advisory Committee Member for the Security and Rule of Law Programme of the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) , as Member of the AHRC/ESRC Transnational Organised Crime Call Selection Panel, and as Member of the Junior Research Fellowship Selection Panel, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford. She also served as academic peer reviewer for the Journal of Latin American Studies, Routledge Studies in Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding Series; International Peacekeeping; Perspectives on Terrorism; Peace, Conflict and Development Journal; Journal of Borderland Studies; International Journal of Drug Policy; Disaster; and the RUSI Journal. Moreover, Dr Idler is the Coordinator of the International Network of Conflict and Peace Research on Colombia (CPRC), she organised joint events with institutions in Oxford including CIS and OxPeace, and with institutions outside Oxford such as at MIT, New America Washington. Dr Idler was also actively involved in teaching, supervision and carried out examinations of students at Oxford.

Smith Richardson Fellow's Work

During the period of 1 August 2015 through 31 July 2016 Lukas Milevski worked on a number of projects, including publishing a book, researching and writing another book-length manuscript (a project which was funded by the Smith Richardson Foundation in the United States), and writing nine articles or conference papers, most of which have now been published.

2015-16 saw the publication of Dr Milevski's first monograph, *The Evolution of Modern Grand Strategic Thought*, an edited and revised version of his PhD thesis (2011-2014, University of Reading). Oxford University Press accepted the manuscript for publication in July 2015 and it was published in mid-May 2016.

In June 2015 Dr Milevski applied for a Smith Richardson Strategy and Policy Fellowship for young academics. He learned in mid-October that he had received this year-long grant, which would be administered by the Changing Character of War Programme. The award was to produce a policy-relevant work on contemporary Baltic defence from a historical and strategic perspective. The completed manuscript includes two chapters on Baltic history and geopolitics, a chapter on analogies for West-Russia relations, and two contemporary chapters about the present situation in and around the Baltic as well as a chapter considering factors relevant to the potential practice of strategy in the Baltic states. In September 2016 the completed manuscript of approximately 48,000 words was submitted for publication to Oxford University Press.

In addition to the Smith Richardson project, Dr Milevski wrote a number of articles and spoke at various conferences during the year: Articles are listed under publications below. Dr Milevski was also a discussant at a CCW in-house workshop on Baltic-Nordic defense in November 2015, and attended the Strategic Landpower Conference at the US Army War College in December 2015, as well as the JBANC seminar on the future of Baltic-Nordic security and trade. In February 2016 he participated in the Chief of Defence

Staff's Strategy Forum and in June 2016, he attended a workshop on Nordic-Baltic regionalism at University College London and CCW's Executive Leadership Course.

Dr Milevski left CCW to take up a position at Leiden University for the academic year 2016-17.

Visiting Fellows

The Visiting Fellowship programme has continued to flourish. The past year saw a better balance between academic and military practitioner visitors. We were able to host three PLA officers, funded by Chevening, in Hilary and Trinity Term. In 2015-16 the Visiting Fellows were:

Mr Simon Akam	A journalist by profession, Simon Akam's writing has appeared in numerous publications including The New York Times, Newsweek, the Guardian, the Washington Post, the Economist, the Financial Times and the Independent. He used his Visiting Fellowship to work on his book 'The Changing of the Guard', an examination of the recent evolution of the British Army to be published by Penguin Random House imprint William Heinemann.
Lt Cdr Dimitris Baltakos	Lt Cdr Baltakos is a Greek Naval Seal. During his fellowship, he was conducting research on the Kosovo Liberation Army and its post-disbandment status in order to assess whether its fighters continue to pose a risk to both the Balkan and Mediterranean security environments.
Captain Andrew Burns OBE	Captain Burns came to CCW from the Royal Navy to conduct research into the strategic authority of the Royal Navy and to analyse emerging challenges to this authority as well as opportunities that the contemporary operating environment might present.
Dr Johan Eellend	Dr Eellend's Visiting Fellowship was funded by the Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation. Dr Eellend works for the Swedish Defence Research Agency. While in Oxford, he was able to participate in a number of CCW events looking at Nordic-Baltic Defence, and was working on a paper on information warfare and threat perceptions by Swedish psychological defence agencies.
Major-General (rtd) Christopher Elliott	Major-General Elliott continued his association with CCW in 2015-16. 2015 saw the publication of <i>High Command</i> , the General's critical analysis of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.
Professor Robert Jackson	Professor Jackson remains a Senior Research Associate of the Programme, returning to Oxford each Trinity Term. In Trinity 2016, he delivered a seminar on his recent work for the United Nations on children and war.
Lt Col Aran Jess	Lt-Col Jess, a Royal Marine, was funded by the Hudson Trust and supervised by Dr Eamonn Molloy during his Visiting Fellowship. He produced a paper on military decision-making entitled, 'How to find Blue Sky in the Eye of a Storm', investigating tactics for practical creative thinking in times of extreme stress.
Professor John Kelsay	Professor Kelsay from Florida State University joined CCW during his sabbatical while carrying out research on the individual duty of <i>jihad</i> of the sword in the context of Islamic law and statecraft.

Lt Gen (rtd) Sir John Kiszely	General Kiszely continued his association with CCW for a second academic year while completing his book on the Norway Campaign, to be published by Cambridge University Press.
Dr Samuel Kruizinga	Dr Kruizinga was working on a comparative analysis of Dutch and Belgian recruitment for the International Brigades in the Spanish Civil War during his sabbatical from the University of Amsterdam. He presented his research at a special seminar in the Faculty of History.
Wing Commander Chris Layden	Wg Cdr Layden produced a study on international defence engagement, which he was able to use to inform some immediate recommendations for the future delivery of British Defence Engagement.
Major James Luck	Major Luck produced a paper on the impact of the technology of remotely piloted air systems (RPAS) on the nature of leadership.
Lt Col Conn MacEville	A barrister and specialist in employment law, during his time with CCW, Lt Col MacEville produced a paper on <i>The Reserves, Their Employers and the Central Principle of the Military Covenant</i> . This research should have value for those at the highest level in Defence when considering the steps necessary to achieve the goals of the Whole Force Concept and Future Reserves 2020
Dr Andrew Monaghan	Dr Monaghan has continued his association with CCW, speaking at a number of events and representing CCW on several occasions, including on the CCW Panel on hybrid war at the ICMSS conference in Turkey in March 2016.
Dr Joerg Noll	Dr Noll is Associate Professor of International Conflict Studies at the Netherlands Defence Academy, specializing in international relations theory, political and strategic decision-making, and state building. As a visiting fellow with CCW, he was working on American culture and exit strategies. The main hypothesis of his paper was that the US almost never leaves a country after intervention and when it does, the intervention never leaves the US – take, for example, Vietnam and Somalia. His Visiting Fellowship continued CCW’s relationship with the Netherlands Defence Academy and saw the formal signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions.
Captain James Pastouna	Captain Pastouna used his fellowship to write a paper looking at the Green on Blue incidents which took place against the British military within Helmand Province in Afghanistan.
Staff Sergeant David Prince	SS Prince received funding from the Land Intelligence Fusion Centre to carry out a piece of research on <i>Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) utility and potential development specific to intelligence within the Contemporary Operating Environment (COE)</i> .
Dr Niklas Helmer Rossbach	Dr Rossbach’s Visiting Fellowship was funded by the Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation. Dr Rossbach works for the Swedish Defence Research Agency and produced a paper entitled <i>Fighting propaganda – How Sweden has established its psychological defence</i> .
Commander Matt Schnappauf III	Commander Schnappauf was the US Navy Hudson Fellow 2015-16. His research focussed on maximizing bilateral and multilateral cooperative capabilities to counter evolving threats in a fiscally constrained environment.

Dr Neil Shortland	Dr Shortland is a Program Manager at the Center for Terrorism and Security Studies in the University of Massachusetts Lowell. During his term with CCW he was working on his project examining decision inertia in military operations from a psychological perspective.
Professor Donald Stoker	Dr Stoker is Professor of Strategy and Policy at the U.S. Naval War College, Monterey. During his Sabbatical with CCW, he wrote a paper entitled 'Understanding Limited War: The Nature of the Problem'.
Major Hayden Taylor	Major Taylor received funding from the Land Intelligence Fusion Centre to carry out a Predictive Assessment for Integrated Action against Hybrid Threats.
Dr Haitao Wang	Dr Wang was one of three PLA fellows who received funding from Chevening for a CCW Visiting Fellowship. He was researching biological and chemical disarmament and non-proliferation.
Senior Colonel Dr Mingzhi Wang	Dr Wang was one of three PLA fellows who received funding from Chevening for a CCW Visiting Fellowship. His paper was entitled 'Unchanged Objective and Changing Means: Thinking about Combating Religious Extremism Groups and Employment of Air Power'.
Mr Xingwu Wang	Mr Wang was one of three PLA fellows who received funding from Chevening for a CCW Visiting Fellowship. He wrote a paper on how to improve US-Russia counter-terrorism cooperation.
Daniel Ward	Daniel Ward received funding from the Land Intelligence Fusion Centre to carry out research into African Union security operations.
Captain Rob Wood	Captain Wood was the Royal Navy Hudson Fellow for 2015-16. He delivered a paper to CCW on the legal dimensions of Hybrid Warfare.

Events

Conferences and Workshops

War, Strategy and Civil-Military Relations: A Conference in Honour of Professor Sir Hew Strachan

22-24 September 2015 at All Souls College. The conference, over three days, tackled three themes associated with Professor Strachan: war, strategy and civil-military relations. Sir Hew gave a superb lecture on 'war and democracy' as a well-attended public event. A distinguished group of scholars then delivered their own assessments of Sir Hew's impact, covering his speeches and publications on Clausewitz, the changing character of war, and the challenge of making strategy.

'Upstream' Stabilisation

8-9 December 2015 at Merton College. The British Army sponsored a major conference at which a range of international speakers presented. While some of the papers dealt with areas and regions, others took a more thematic approach. The result was a rich exposition of the difficulties of trying to stabilise states or to conduct any form of intervention before a crisis has developed. The conference will result in a special edition in the *Journal of Defence Studies*.

The Great War in the Middle East 1911-1923

20-22 April 2016 at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and Pembroke College, Oxford. This three-day conference covered a wide range of themes on the First World War in the Middle East, and involved scholars from across the world. The final day, at Pembroke, was marked by the papers of distinguished scholars and a final panel on the future research possibilities of the field. An edited volume of selected papers will be published by Routledge in 2018.

Dr Johnson has continued to run high level, private study days for the Ministry of Defence generously funded by a private donor. Four such study days were convened in 2015-16. In addition to these academic study days, Rob was also asked to put on a workshop on diplomatic writing. Three iterations of this workshop ran in 2015-16.

Strategy Forum

In 2009, the CDS's Strategy Forum was convened to debate issues of relevance in Defence, responding to questions on which CDS sought clarification. The Forum consisted of an on-line element and an annual meeting, but both, it was felt, would have benefited from a more critical approach. To that end, and applying what has been learned since 2009, CCW was commissioned with relaunching the Forum as a series of workshops. Two fora took place in the academic year 2015/16, bringing together the policy-makers, civil service, armed forces, academics and those in the private and public sector that have much to teach us about the challenges of making and delivery strategy:

UK Defence: International by Design

Tuesday 2 February 2016 at Pembroke College, Oxford

Keynote speaker: Professor Janne Matlary (Professor of International Politics, University of Oslo; former State Secretary, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Developing Skills for the Next Generation

Wednesday 15 June 2016 at the Royal College of Defence Studies, Belgrave Square, London

Keynote speaker: Professor Peter Grindrod (Professor of Mathematics, University of Oxford; former member of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council)

Public Lectures

Strategy and Democracy: A Public Lecture by Professor Sir Hew Strachan to mark his departure from Oxford
Tuesday 22 September 2015 at the Oxford Union Debating Chamber

Challenges of Operating in the Cyber Domain: An American Perspective by Major-General Paul M. Nakasone
(Commander of the US Cyber National Mission Force)

Tuesday 10 November 2015 in the Pichette Auditorium of Pembroke College, Oxford

The CCW Annual Lecture: *War and Strategy* by Professor Jeremy Black MBE

Tuesday 24 May 2016 in the Pichette Auditorium of Pembroke College, Oxford. Professor Black gave an inspiring lecture on the various approaches that have been taken to military history and to the study of strategy, contending that there needs to be much greater diversity in the field and a stronger acknowledgement of the political and cultural nature of the subject.

Seminar Programmes

In 2015-16, the Programme ran two seminar series. The long-running Tuesday lunchtime seminar series continued in all three terms. In 2015-16, the Wednesday evening seminars were convened by Dr Annette Idler and were entitled the Violent Non-State Actors Seminar Series.

Lunchtime Seminars Michaelmas Term

Tuesday 13 October

Joanne Neenan (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), *Responsibility to Protect on its Tenth Anniversary: Point of Collapse or Resurgence?*

Tuesday 20 October

Alessandra Pigni (Visiting Research Fellow, ELAC, University of Oxford), *Humanitarian Aid Workers in Conflict: Myths, Realities and Opportunities of an 'Impossible Profession'*

Tuesday 27 October

Eitan Diamond (Tel Aviv University), *Humanitarian Access in Palestine*

Tuesday 3 November

Anja Shortland (King's College, London). *Terrorist Kidnap for Ransom: a policy dilemma*

Tuesday 10 November

Joseph Robinson (CCW Visiting Fellow; Former Operations Director, HM Forces), *Lockean Philosophy and UK Stabilisation Policy in Sub-Saharan Africa: a Normative Framework*

Tuesday 17 November

Steve Jermy (Mojo Maritime Limited, part of James Fisher Group PLC), *Perfect Storm: Understanding the Structure of our Strategic Future*

Tuesday 24 November

Alan Lovinger (Pentagon's Office of Net Assessment & Georgetown University), *Net Assessment as a Basis for Strategy*

Tuesday 1 December

Lucas Kello (Director, Cyber Studies Programme, University of Oxford), *The Cyber Threat: Problems of Strategic Adaptation*

Lunchtime Seminars Hilary Term

Tuesday 19 January

Olga Onuch (University of Manchester), *Myths of The Ukrainian Crisis: Shades of Grey of Conflict and Crisis*

Tuesday 26 January

Jason Clark (US Army), *Prisoners of the Past, Preparing for the Future: The Influence of Institutions, Experience, and Culture on Military Adaptability*

Tuesday 2 February

Antonio Sampaio (International Institute for Strategic Studies), *The Utility of Force in Cities: Calibrating Security and Development Tools for Urban Stability*

Tuesday 9 February

Brian McQuinn (International Committee of the Red Cross), *Pathways to Revolution: Three inception paths of non-state armed groups in Libya*

Tuesday 16 February

Christine Cheng (Kings College London), *Conflict Capital*

Tuesday 23 February

Mohamed Haji Ingiriis (University of Oxford), *Clan and Conflict: The Intersection between State Violence and Societal Violence in Somalia*

Tuesday 1 March

Rodrigo Fracalossi de Moraes (University of Oxford), *Mare Liberum and Mare Clausum: Maritime sovereignty, emerging countries and war*

Tuesday 8 March

Oliver Owen (University of Oxford), *The New Biafrans: Historical imagination & structural conflict in Nigeria's separatist revival*

Lunchtime Seminars Trinity Term

Tuesday 26 April

Shashank Joshi (Harvard University and Royal United Services Institute), *Indian Power Projection: New Delhi's Capabilities and Intentions*

Tuesday 3 May

Dr Romain Malejaq (Radboud University), *Warlord Survival: The Delusion of Statebuilding in Afghanistan*

Tuesday 10 May

Dr Richard Barltrop, *Conflict and peace in Iraq today: what place for dialogue and vision?*

Tuesday 17 May

Dr Henning Tamm (University of Oxford), *Rebel Leaders, Internal Rivals, and External Resources: How State Sponsors Affect Insurgent Cohesion*

Tuesday 24 May

Dr Angela Raven-Roberts (University of Oxford), *The Poverty of Paradigms. Gender, Conflict and Response in South Sudan*

Tuesday 31 May

Professor Robert Jackson (University of Redlands), *Children and War: Victims, Villains, and the United Nations*

Tuesday 7 June

Dr Juliette Genevaz (Institut français des relations internationales), *Central/Local States Dynamics in China's Management of the South China Sea Disputes*

Tuesday 14 June

Mr Santiago Posada, *Military Aviation: The Transformation of the Colombian National Army*

Violent Non-State Actors Seminars

Wednesday 14 October

Jamie Shea (NATO), *New Security Threats arising from Violent Non-state Actors*

Wednesday 28 October

Kai Htang Lashi (Kachin National Organisation), *A Kachin perspective on insurgency, conflict, and elections in Burma*

Wednesday 11 November

Elizabeth Joyce (Chief of Section, United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee), *UN's Response to the Threat of Terrorism and the Problem of Foreign Terrorist Fighters*

Wednesday 25 November

Rob Wainwright (Director of EUROPOL), *Europol's Response to the Jihadist Threat*

Wednesday 27 January

Benny Wenda (West Papuan Independence Leader), *West Papua: The Secret War in Asia*

Wednesday 3 February

Lord John Alderdice (former leader of Alliance Party), *Talking Your Way Out of Trouble*

Wednesday 17 February

Stathis Kalyvas (Yale University), *Revolutionary Rebels and the "Marxist Paradox"*

Wednesday 2 March

Joaquin Villalobos (former Salvadoran politician and guerrilla leader), *Why Guerrillas Negotiate: Lessons learned from the Salvadorian Civil War*

Wednesday 27 April

Dr Annette Idler (CCW), Mr. Chris Rush (Geneva Call), Dr. Fabio Oliva (UNSSC), *Launch Event of the CCW-United Nations System Staff College Initiative on Analysing and Understanding Violent Non-State Groups*

Monday 9 May

Eric Rosand (formerly of US State Department), *Preventing Violent Extremism*

Wednesday 25 May

Alvaro de Soto (former Special Coordinator for Middle East Peace Process), *Perils and Tribulations of Peacemaking Today*

Wednesday 8 June

Ingrid Betancourt, *Reconciliation: Utopia or Necessity in a Peace Process. The Colombian Experience.*

Collaborations

CCW has built on its existing partnerships and forged new links with other academic departments and institutions. The following list illustrates the most significant developments in 2014-15. These links and the nurturing of our relationships with academics at Oxford, nationally and around the world, are crucial to facilitate our programme of study days and conferences.

Oxford War and Peace Network

2015-16 saw the official launch of the Oxford War and Peace Network website. Recognising the breadth and depth of contemporary Oxford scholarship on war and peace and that the issues scholars are grappling with do not – and cannot – fall within the domain of any single academic discipline, the Changing Character of War Programme initiated a confederation of groups and departments engaged in the study of war and peace. The range of groups and institutions now represented on the War and Peace at Oxford website is a reflection of the scale and diversity of the intellectual and policy challenges faced in today's world: eleven departments and twenty-five centres, programmes, and other groups are affiliated to the network. The War and Peace at Oxford Network opens up some of the many and varied ways in which historians, political scientists, economists, theologians, anthropologists, geographers, area studies specialists, psychologists, evolutionary theorists, and lawyers at Oxford are bringing their diverse approaches and perspectives to bear on the immense challenges of war, peace, conflict and security in the 21st century. We are privileged to be part of this network and to work with colleagues from such a variety of disciplines.

Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), The Johns Hopkins University

CCW has enjoyed firm links with SAIS for a number of years via a Memorandum of Understanding which covers staff and student exchanges, joint research activity, joint funding efforts and shared teaching. In 2015-16, Jacob Stoil, Dr Johnson's doctoral student was able to participate in a student exchange, and Dr Johnson once again taught on a staff ride organised by the Merrill Center.

The US Army War College: Center for Strategic Leadership and Strategic Studies Institute

The US Army has sent a number of students to Oxford since 2004 and they take up courses offered by CCW staff, are supervised by them, and they attend CCW events. In addition, Professor Antulio Echevarria of the The United States Army War College is a long standing associate of the programme and provides the link with strategic studies at Carlisle, PA. In recognition of these long-standing links, the College sent a delegation to conference in honour of Professor Sir Hew Strachan in All Souls College in September 2015.

The US Navy

Every year, the US Navy sends a senior officer to St Antony's College, Oxford to work alongside the Royal Navy's Hudson Fellow. The officers are also Research Fellows of the CCW Programme, and contribute with papers, team seminars and discussions. CCW members also have strong links with the US Navy through the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey and the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and greatly benefitted from Professor Donald Stoker's participation in the Programme during his sabbatical from Monterey in 2016.

The Royal Military College of Canada

Although the Royal Military College of Canada was unable to send a Visiting Fellow in 2015-16, close ties remained and we look forward to welcoming Professor Doug Delaney in Michaelmas Term 2016.

Turkish Army Staff College

Following the visits of a number of VRFs from the Turkish Army since 2004, a Memorandum of Understanding was established between CCW and TAF. This MOU enables officers and academics in the Turkish defence establishment to take part in exchanges with CCW. As a result of this agreement, a delegation of Turkish officers visited CCW in May 2015 and a CCW panel was included in the ICMSS Conference in Ankara in March 2016.

The Academy of Military Science, Beijing and National Defense University, Beijing

Through Chevening Scholarships organised by the British Council and the Foreign Office, it has been possible to have between two and four officer-academics of the PLA visit CCW as VRFs. These exchanges resulted in an invitation for CCW to address the AMS during its conference on Sun Tzu (2014) and Chinese academics attended a conference on the China-Japan War in Oxford in April 2015.

Norwegian Defence University College

Through individual members of CCW, there have been a number of links with Norway for some time and we were particularly grateful to the Norwegian Air Force for providing funding for Professor Sir Hew Strachan's valedictory lecture in September 2015.

With the support of former Visiting Fellow, Professor Janne Matlary, steps were taken in 2016 to begin to draw up a Memorandum of Understanding with the Norwegian Defence University College. It is hoped this will be developed in the coming academic year, particularly as CCW focuses more research on Russia and Eastern Europe.

Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation

The Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation has become a strong link for CCW, not just through a funding relationship but also in our shared interests in the changed security situation in Eastern and northern Europe. Dr Rob Johnson assisted in the organisation of the Engelsberg International Conference on War (June 2015) which was held in Sweden and Dr Mattias Hesserus will be joining us more frequently as the relationship with the Foundation develops in 2016-17.

Netherlands Defence Academy

An informal relationship has existed with the Netherlands Defence Academy over a number of years. In 2016, this was formalised at a special drinks reception following the Annual Lecture on 24 May 2016 when Air Commodore Professor Dr Frans Osinga attended in person to sign an MOU to build connections through exchanges of personnel, visiting fellowships and lectures. It was also agreed that Dr Johnson would deliver a lecture at Breda in 2016-17.

United Nations Systems Staff College (UNSSC)

In September 2015 there was an exchange of letters between CCW and the UNSSC to formalise a collaborative project entitled “Analyzing and Understanding Non-State Armed Groups in the Field – Building UN Capacity”. The project was officially launched at a special meeting of the Violent Non-State Actors Seminar Series on Wednesday 27 April 2016, attended by Dr Fabio Oliva of the UNSSC and Mr Chris Rush of Geneva Call.

Escuela de Ingenieros Militares (Bogotá, Colombia)

Dr Idler’s research and connections in Colombia resulted in a framework of agreement with the Escuela de Ingenieros Militares (Bogotá, Colombia). This agreement is to facilitate academic visits and research collaboration. Several members of the Colombian armed forces attended the Executive Leadership Course in June 2016 and as a result of the agreement, in July 2016, Dr Idler was able to secure funding for her research project “Towards Sustainable Peace in Colombia and the World: A Critical Perspective on Army Transformation”.

Research Publications

Robert Johnson, Programme Director

Ongoing and Future Projects

Dr Rob Johnson built on the themes which have characterised some of the CCW research to date, specifically the changing character and enduring nature of war, unconventional and proxy warfare, and strategies of security, intelligence and defence. The intention is to advance these themes, and two new ones, namely future war and the civilians in war, through three routes.

1. 2016-2020 Future Armed Conflict and its Consequences

This work extends recent research and has attracted the attention already of the United Kingdom and United States armed forces. Utilising past examples of planning for future war, and conceptions of the future, the research highlights the assumptions and consequences of war planning, and the extent to which unconventional thinking and practice were considered, utilised and assessed. It is intended that this work will become the platform to bid for new funding and to develop the CCW programme over the next five years. Several lectures and workshops on the subject are now lined up, and the United States Strategic Studies journal, *Parameters*, and the Australian Army have commissioned articles on its findings to date.

2. 2015-2020 Future Urbanised Warfare

Dr Johnson has prepared two reports for NATO and given lectures on the consequences of urban warfare, linking past, present and future. This area of study is likely to continue as a vehicle for other forms of future conflict analysis.

3. 2016-2020 The Making of Strategy in a Changing Geo-Strategic Environment

Dr Johnson is focussed on the consequences of a changing geo-strategic environment and how we understand the future by an examination of the past and other intellectual tools of insight, estimation and analysis.

4. 2017-2019 Comparative Studies of Violent Non-State Actors

As part of the AHRC funded project on the armed actors of Africa, Dr Johnson will examine comparatively various groups of North Africa, East Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia. This is also part of ongoing work into the conflicts in Syria and the role of ideologies and experiences of violence.

Publications Completed in Academic Year 2015-16

The Great War and the Middle East: A Strategic Study (Oxford University Press, 2016)

This volume, which commenced in 2012 and was completed this year, is designed to highlight, on the anniversary of the Arab Revolt, the connection between strategy and operations for the British Empire, France and Ottoman Turkey, and the consequences of interaction, 'friction' and insurrection between 1914 and 1923. It was an archival-based research project, and one which made use of fresh Turkish materials alongside better known British and Commonwealth sources. To complement the work, CCW staged a major conference in conjunction with the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst on the Middle East at War (a

comparison of the First World War and contemporary concerns) in April 2016. This will produce another edited volume with Routledge in 2017-18. The research has offered the opportunity to reflect not only on the First World War, but also more broadly on the drivers and consequences of conflict in the Middle East in the present.

True to Their Salt: Partnered and Local Forces in American, British and French Service, 1750-2050

A volume is now in preparation following research that began in 2010. It is due for publication in April 2017.

'Modernity and War', chapter in Ax:Johnson volume edited by Alexander Linklater, (ed), *War* (forthcoming, Stockholm: Ax:Johnson, 2016) published as 'Det omoderna kriget' in *Axxess* (September 2015): 41-44

Edited Volume, with Metin Gurcan, *Gallipoli: The Turkish Perspective* ((Ashgate, 2016) including a chapter on the British operational history of the campaign.

'Command of the Army, Charles Gwynn and Imperial Policing: The British Doctrinal Approach to Internal Security in Palestine 1919-29', *The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, 43, 4, (September 2015): 570-589

Stabilisation Conference for the British Army, December 2015 leading to: 'Future Stabilization Strategy and the Changing Upstream Environment' in *Defence Studies* 2017(1), special edition (Anderson, Clack & Johnson, eds).

'Doing More with Less: The Army Patrols Upstream', with Dr Timothy Clack, *British Army Review*, (2016)

"'I Shall Die Arms in Hand, Wearing the Warriors' Clothes'": Mobilisation and Initial Operations of the Indian Army in France and Flanders, 1914-1915', *British Journal of Military History*, II, 3, (2016): 1-16.

'Sideshowes to Strategic Victory: Defeating Germany, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire in South East Europe, Asia and Africa in 1918' in Peter Liddle, (ed), *Britain and Victory in the Great War* (London: Pen and Sword, 2017)

'The Indian Army and the Mesopotamia Campaign, 1914-1918' in Peter Liddle, (ed), *The Widening War* (London: Pen and Sword, 2015)

'The Mesopotamia Campaign, 1914-1918' in Peter Wilson, (ed), *British Army Campaign Guide to the Forgotten Fronts of The First World War* (London, 2015)

'The Iraq Revolt, 1920' in Peter Wilson, (ed), *British Army Campaign Guide to the Forgotten Fronts of The First World War* (London, 2015)

'Transformation of War: The Collision of States and Sub-State Polities', *Transformations of Warfare in the Contemporary World* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2016).

'Counter-Revolution or People's War? The Mujahideen Insurgency', German publisher and title to be confirmed (Helmut-Schmidt Univeristaet, due 2016)

Annette Idler, Director of Studies

Ongoing and Future Projects

Dr Annette Idler's research focuses on the role of violent non-state groups in armed conflict and on how particular environments, especially marginalized spaces such as borderlands, but also urban spaces, shape the world's contemporary security landscape. She is also working on a project on the Global War on Drugs.

Violent Non-state Groups in Borderlands

Dr Annette Idler is finalising a book manuscript on the interactions among multiple violent non-state groups and their impact on civilian security in Colombia's borderlands. This is based on one year of extensive fieldwork in and on Colombia's war-torn borderlands including 433 interviews.

In a journal article project, she builds on that research to explore to what extent the findings from the Andean case are relevant to other war-torn borderland regions. The cases planned to be explored are the Afghan-Pakistani borderlands, the Kenyan-Somali borderlands, the African Great Lakes border region as well as the Golden Triangle. Dr Annette Idler is also working together with colleagues at LSE and the University of Western Ontario, Canada, to coordinate a special journal issue on Violence in War-torn Borderlands.

In the context of the AHRC funded project, Dr Idler will also do comparative work on how violent non-state groups and other conflict actors change over time and how this is contextualised in wider changes in the world's security landscape.

Government and International Organisations' Responses to Violent Non-state Groups

As a second, related research theme Dr Annette Idler examines the effect that the policies of international organisations and of governments have on these security dynamics in fragile border regions. Dr Idler has written policy reports and op-eds on the Colombian government's recent peace deal with the rebel group FARC, and has successfully completed a Knowledge Exchange Fellowship, in collaboration with UN Colombia and the UN System Staff College on how to tackle security threats in a post-conflict strategy. This theme will be expanded to examine other groups such as Al-Shabaab, ISIS and Hezbollah. It will lead to the publication of journal articles as well as policy reports.

As part of the FCO funded project "From Conflict Actors to Architects of Peace" Dr Idler is working on the blurring of lines between armed conflict and organised crime and how security and defence actors respond to it, especially during volatile transitions periods as in Colombia after the peace deal with the FARC.

Local Communities and Armed Groups

This research is carried out together with a Global South partner, FLACSO University in Ecuador, and examines how communities in the midst of war succeed in or fail to negotiate rules of behavior with and for armed groups including rebel and paramilitary groups as well as state forces. It draws on fieldwork that Annette Idler and the project partners carried out in such war-torn communities.

The War on Drugs: A Perspective from the Global South

Dr Annette Idler directs a project (budget: > 53,000 USD) on the global war on drugs, co-sponsored by the One Earth Foundation, The Social Science Research Council and the Ralph Bunche Institute, in partnership with the academic journal *Global Governance*. She is the c-editor of a volume that looks at the security and human rights impacts of the War on drugs in vulnerable regions and puts forward policy

proposals on how to change the international drug control regime. The project includes ten top scholars and practitioners as contributors.

Publications

Completed in Academic Year 2015-16

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

'How Peace Takes Shape Locally: The Experience of Civil Resistance in Samaniego, Colombia', *Peace and Change*, 2016, 41 (2), 129-166 (with Cécile Mouly and Belén Garrido).

'Peace Territories in Colombia: Comparing Civil Resistance in Two War-Torn Communities', *Journal of Peacebuilding and Development*, 2015, 10(3), 1-15 (with Cécile Mouly and Belén Garrido).

'Zones of Peace in Colombia's Borderlands', *International Journal of Peace Studies*, Summer 2015, 20 (1), 51-63. (with Cécile Mouly and Belén Garrido)

'Behavioral Patterns among (Violent) Non-State Actors: A Study of Complementary Governance', *Stability*, 2015, 4(1):2, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5334/sta.er>. (with James Forest)

'Power Unpacked: Domination, Empowerment and Participation in Local Guatemalan Peace Forums', *Journal of Peace, Conflict and Development*, Issue 21, 2015. (with Lenin Miranda and Cécile Mouly)

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

'El Carácter Cambiante de la Guerra: El Mapa Actual de los Retos a la Seguridad' (Translation: The Changing Character of War: The Current Map of Security Threats), *Transformación Militar. Revista de Difusión y Análisis*, 2016, 1, 18-23.

'When Peace Implies Engaging the Terrorist. Peacebuilding in Colombia by Talking to the Enemy?', in Tellidis Y. and Toros H. eds., "The Nexus between Terrorism Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies" (Abingdon: Routledge), 2015. (with Borja Paladini)

Policy Briefs and Reports

'Securing Peace in the Borderlands: A Post-Agreement Strategy for Colombia', DPIR, University of Oxford, August 2016.

'Poor Peacebuilding Risks Power Vacuums in Colombia', Oxford Analytica, April 2016.

'Stability Indexes can be Deceptive Tools', Oxford Analytica, October 2015.

Opinion Pieces, Academic and Policy Blog Posts

'La verdadera prueba para la paz en Colombia empieza después del proceso de desmovilización. ¿Por qué?', OpenDemocracy and democraciaAbierta, September 2016 (also available in English).

'Why the real tests for Colombia's peace begins after the demobilization process', Washington Post, September 2016.

'A momentous peace deal with the FARC – so what next for Colombia?' The Conversation, August 2016.

'How Nonviolent Resistance Works: Factors for Successful Peacebuilding in Samaniego, Colombia', Political Violence @ a Glance, July 2016 (with Cécile Mouly and Belén Garrido)

‘What will the peace process mean for Colombia’s border regions? The government will have to start governing’, *Washington Post*, June 2016

‘La línea entre la paz y la guerra está en las fronteras’, *Silla Vacía*, April 2016

‘Megateo, the armed groups and the future of Colombia’s Catatumbo’, *OpenDemocracy*, October 2015 (also available in Spanish and Portuguese).

‘¿Qué significa la muerte de ‘Megateo’ para la gente del Catatumbo?’, *Semana*, October 2015.

‘Colombia’s Deal with the FARC could bring peace – or create a power vacuum’, *The Conversation*, October 2015.

‘A Humanitarian and Diplomatic Crisis is Unfolding on the Colombia-Venezuela Border’, *The Conversation*, September 2015.

‘The Colombia-Venezuela border crisis: the civilian backdrop’, *OpenDemocracy*, September 2015.

‘La población civil, víctima de la crisis fronteriza entre Colombia y Venezuela, *democraciaAbierta*’, September 2015.

‘El Índice Global de Paz 2015: ¿cómo vamos en Colombia?’, *Razon Publica*, August 2015.

Work in Progress

- Book manuscript under review
- Edited volume under review
- Journal article under review
- Book chapter for Handbook on Organised Crime forthcoming
- Book Review for Journal of Latin American Studies forthcoming

Smith Richardson Fellow, Dr Lukas Milevski

Publications Completed in Academic Year 2015-16

The Evolution of Modern Grand Strategic Thought (Oxford University Press, 2016)

“Can Diplomacy Counter the Weight of Strategy?” (*Border Crossing*, April 2016)

“The Nature of Strategy Versus the Character of War” (paper presented at the 2015 International Society of Military Sciences (ISMS) conference in Helsinki and published in the strategy journal *Comparative Strategy* in December 2016)

“Little Green Men in the Baltic States are an Article 5 Event” (*Baltic Bulletin*, January 2016)

“The Strategic Implications for the Baltic States of the NATO Warsaw Summit” (*Baltic Bulletin*, August 2016)

“The Suitability of Grand Strategy for Today”(presented at US Naval War College in March 2016 and currently under consideration for publication at the American military journal *Naval War College Review*)

“Making Sense of Strategy’s Relational Nature” (*New Strategist*, April 2016)

“Problems of Strategy in Wars of Honor” (*Infinity Journal*, forthcoming)

“Grand Strategy is Attrition” (under consideration at the *Journal of Strategic Studies*)

“Respecting Strategic Agency: Strategy, Defense Planning, and the Categorization of War” (under consideration at the US military journal *Joint Force Quarterly*)

“NATO’s Defense Policy Dilemma in the Baltic States” (presented at ISMS in Warsaw, October 2016 and currently under consideration at the US foreign policy and strategy journal *Orbis*)

Financial Summary 2015-2016

Income (£)	361,406
Expenditure (£)	
Staff costs	125,962
Other costs	200,025
Total Expenditure	325,987
Reserves at Year End (£)	154,919