



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY NEWSLETTER

# TAVISTOCK TIMES

ISSUE

# 12



*Professor David Coen*  
*Head of the Department of Political Science*  
*and Director of the School of Public Policy*

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Growth and change have been the recurring themes of the Tavistock Times in recent years. Student numbers have grown from 30 students in 2001 to 380 in 2012 and full time faculty has grown from 3 to 24 in the same period. However, the school is not standing still and we have recently interviewed for six new appointments in International Relations, International Political Economy, Public Management, Political Economy, Comparative Politics and Political Theory. It is hoped that these new appointments will add much to our teaching portfolio and help us with the forthcoming Research Excellence Framework. ▶

**Professor David Coen**  
welcomes you to the  
final edition of  
**TAVISTOCK**TIMES****  
for 2011–2012

As we go to press, I am glad to confirm that we have appointed Dr James Melton from the University of Illinois and Dr Nils Metternich from Duke University. James Melton is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow in political science at the IMT Institute for Advanced Studies in Lucca, Italy. His research focuses on aspects of democracy and democratisation and he is currently working on projects related to comparative constitutional design, voter turnout and measuring democracy. His most recent book, out in 2009, was "The Endurance of National Constitutions" with Cambridge University Press. Nils Metternich is currently a Post-Doc at Duke University in the Department of Political Science and received his PhD from the University of Essex. His current research is on the strategic nature of civil conflicts and the prediction of its dynamics. He recently published a major paper on "Ethnicity, the State and the Duration of Civil Wars" in World Politics.

The success of the School of Public Policy is more than the number of students and faculty, it is also the success of alumni in their chosen careers as part of our mission statement is to train and influence the next generation of policy and decision makers. In recent Tavistock Times we have heard about recent graduates successful career trajectories, with individuals going on to international NGOs, International Organisations such as the OCED, WTO and European Commission, Trade Associations, Government Ministries and in this

issue assistance to a US Supreme Court Judge. I along with Helen Holt (h.holt@ucl.ac.uk) would love to hear more adventures and career stories to present in future issues.

Our mission statement also talks of influencing the current policy debates and I am glad to report that in addition to world class research a number of our faculty have made significant policy impact in recent months. For example, Dr Meg Russell has exerted a strong influence over constitutional reform in the UK appearing before the Joint Committee on the Draft Reform of the House of Lords Reform Bill in November 2011 and preparing a major report on House of Commons legislative process for the Rowntree Trust. Her evidence at the select committee drew on a comparative research project into other countries parliamentary systems and comparison in functioning with the House of Lords (see the Guardian 02/11/11). Professor Robert Hazell also continues to exert and influence over the Scottish referendum debate as highlighted later in this issue of the Tavistock Times.

The Department also seeks to engage with policy-makers via a series of policy events and seminars so following on from the successful talks from Jack Straw, Michael Jacobs and Martin Porter last term, we have a number of events planned for May and June 2012. **Dr Başak Çalı** and

Colm O'Cinneide (Vice-President of the European Social Charter Committee) are organising a half-day workshop marking the 50th Anniversary of the European Social Charter in collaboration with the UCL European Institute. Dr Colin Provost and Lisa Vanhala in collaboration with the UCL Environment Institute are organising an event on "Environmental Law and Regulation in the EU" on 22 May 2012. Dr Jan-Emmanuel De Neve and Tali Shorot of Cognitive Science will discuss "The Science of Happiness" on 29 May 2012 with UCL Public Policy. Dr Laura Valentini is organising an event on "Justice, Democracy and Non-Domination" on 15 June 2012. Finally, SPP and The European Institute will organise on 20 June 2012 a discussion on the Democratic Deficit and EMU with papers by Professor Majone and Dr Richard Corbett.

# SPP 60 SECOND INTERVIEW

In this sixty second interview we quiz Professor Neil Mitchell, Professor of International Relations.



*Professor Neil Mitchell  
Professor of International Relations*

What is your name?

**Neil Mitchell.**

When did you join UCL?

**September 2011.**

What are your responsibilities in the Department?

**Teaching and research.**

What do you particularly like and dislike about your job?

**I enjoy interacting with students both at postgrad and undergrad levels. I'm as interested in my research projects as at any time in my career and enjoy the writing. Bureaucratic duties are less fulfilling.**

What do you consider your greatest achievement to date?

**My recent book but I got a lot of personal satisfaction from completing the 2005 Performance Plus Dyce Half Marathon, City of Aberdeen, in 82 minutes 41 seconds and winning £20 if not the race!**

Most inspirational person that you have met whilst at UCL?

**He or she would probably be from among the very bright and highly motivated students we have at UCL, says he diplomatically.**

Favourite location in UCL?

**I spend a fair amount of time in my office if that's a measure. I like the 'non-institutional' feel to the Rubin building.**

What would your ideal afternoon/evening in London include?

**I think the National Theatre and the South Bank are hard to beat.**

What is your favourite book?

**I've a few favourites. I like almost all Elmore Leonard's books. I've read Ivanhoe more than once. As a boy it was Jim Corbett's Man-eaters of Kumaon, before that it was Gordon the Goat.**

What are your hobbies?

**Running and hill walking/running when I can. I'm picking up more injuries lately and London has less to offer in that respect than Aberdeenshire and New Mexico (I was at the universities of Aberdeen and New Mexico before joining UCL) but I'm not unappreciative of Hampstead Heath and Kite Hill. I enjoy theatre and films and I've followed Arsenal since 1967, when Frank McClintock and George Graham played.**

If you had not gone into academia what would you be doing now?

**Research and writing in some capacity I suppose.**

If you could implement one policy in the world today, what would it be?

**Debt relief is an idea whose time has come.**

# IPAS 2011/12

## Bringing SPP Students together, socially, academically and charitably!

Each year, the International and Public Affairs Society (IPAS) stages a series of social and academic events for the students of SPP. "Adding value" to life at SPP stands at the core of those events – that was the target the newly elected board in October 2011 set itself. In the previous six months IPAS has organised 14 different social, charity and fundraising as well as academic events: they ranged from Halloween, Christmas and other socials, over a departmental 5K/10K charity run, to a film screening and alumni event as well as hosting a lecture with a former EU official, who was responsible for setting up EuroParlTV or attending a training on UK politics in the Palace of Westminster. In previous years, IPAS teams have been active in holding events on a variety of topics within UCL premises. This year's board has taken a different approach: We aimed at making a meaningful impact and a memorable year for all students by going places. One of the many was the Embassy of Belgium.

In early March 2012, twenty-five SPP students were invited by HE Johan Verbeke, the Ambassador of Belgium, to a Luncheon at his residence in London. In an intimate and at the same time open environment the



Ambassador gave an elaborate analysis of major current events from a realist perspective. Calling us the generation "to which the future belongs", he reminded us that, in a world of multiple identities and rising nationalism, demographic change will be the biggest challenge for us to face. It was an enriching experience to be able to ask questions on global affairs to a key official, who has worked, inter alia, at the UN Security Council and as Chef de Cabinet of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Above all, it gave us the opportunity to delve into the practical side of public policy.

Furthermore, in January 2012 we launched our charity campaign. This year IPAS decided to introduce a new

position within IPAS to fundraise for a cause. Our campaign is to support a magnificent charity, The JAAGO Foundation; we set ourselves a target of £8000 to help build the next school for JAAGO in Chittagong, Bangladesh.

JAAGO Foundation is a youth based non-profit organisation based in Bangladesh, JAAGO works to provide international standard education to the impoverished children from families that have an average daily income below the International Indicator of Poverty (an income below 2 USD per day). This is done through a Free-of-Cost School with an international standard education curriculum. In the long-run, JAAGO Foundation intends to have a fully operational branch in every

district of Bangladesh. JAAGO wishes to give as many children as possible the opportunity to break free of the cycle of poverty. IPAS were completely inspired by the work of JAAGO and Korvi Rakshand, the founder of Bangladesh and we embarked on a journey to support JAAGO.

We organised a departmental 5k/10k run in Richmond Park where nearly 40 students ran for Education, including our lecturer Rodwan Abouharb! The event was a huge success and we managed to receive local press coverage. Furthermore we have organised an on campus bake sale with 25 students contributing by baking and many more, who helped with selling and bucket collecting around campus. This was a huge success as IPAS broke the record for raising the most amount of money in one day, £715. 57! We have also organised a charity football tournament in Regents Park and our last event will be a Charity Pub Quiz!



**We are pleased to announce the current total for JAAGO is: £9002.87!**

This is officially the largest international donation that JAAGO has ever received! The success of the campaign is a fantastic team effort by everyone in SPP and particularly the IPAS Fundraising Committee. We would like to give a special mention to Zahara Choudri for

raising nearly £4,500 and Yoni Amias for raising nearly £1,500! We have a total of 25 students fundraising for us; each and every person has been doing a fantastic job! A big thank you to everyone; thanks to Analisa Low for supporting the cake sale and allowing us to beat the UCL Union! Pras Boolaky for getting us press coverage in the Richmond Times for our departmental run and to Myong Oh for making our amazing campaign videos, allowing our campaign to be global!

We were also approached by Ohio State University, who saw these videos. They are completely inspired to run a similar campaign for JAAGO.

By organising a wide variety of events, IPAS aimed at “adding value”, not only to the students’ life and the SPP community but also by establishing a commitment in a charity project.

### Your IPAS Board

Madjar Navah – President

Zahara Choudri – Head of Charity & Fundraising

Roya Savadkouhi – Head of Academic Events

Francesa Roettger Moreda – Head of Social Events

Myong Oh – Head of Media

Dovile Janeliauskaite – Treasurer

# ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND REGULATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

**On 22 May 2012, the UCL Environment Institute will host a conference entitled Environmental Law and Regulation in the European Union.**

The purpose of the conference is to explore how environmental policies are implemented and enforced in the European Union. The conference will bring together scholars of environmental policy from Europe and the United States, including Colin Provost and Lisa Vanhala from the School of Public Policy.

The quality of environmental protection depends on how regulatory rules are designed and enforced. Many observers have long hailed the regulatory structure of the E.U. for having strong standards with flexible enforcement regimes that help firms and indeed entire countries gradually come into compliance with environmental rules. At the same time, for many years now, the United States has been criticised for having equally strong standards but accompanied by rigid and inflexible enforcement, which makes monitoring firm performance more difficult for regulators, while simultaneously inviting firms to litigate against, rather than comply with, regulations. Recently, some scholars have argued that the European Union is in fact heading down this same path of inflexible enforcement.

Why would this be the case? Another conference participant, R. Daniel Kelemen of Rutgers University, argues that it is inherent in the E.U.'s supranational structure. When conflicts

arise between either the Council or Parliament on the legislative side and the Commission on the executive side, the European Court of Justice is there to issue rulings that tend to make laws more particular and more inflexible. Additionally, as the range of legal rights available to European citizens and organised interests expands so does the ability to challenge laws before the ECJ, which in turn gives the judges the ability to continue to make rules more precise, specific and inflexible.

What are the implications of Professor Kelemen's argument? If his hypothesis is correct, it means that the ECJ will continue to be active, the scope of individual rights will continue to expand but that regulation will also become increasingly inflexible and make compliance more difficult for regulated firms. The conference aims to explore these questions and find out what the E.U.'s separation of powers means for implementation of environmental regulations, for business self-regulation, for administrative law and for the scope of legal rights in environmental policy.

In addition to Drs. Provost and Vanhala and Professor Kelemen, participating will also be UCL's own Joanne Scott from the Department of Laws, along with Matthew Potoski from the University of California at Santa Barbara, Andrew Whitford from the University of Georgia and Ellen Mastenbroek from the University of Nijmegen.



**Dr Colin Provost**  
*Lecturer in Public Policy*



**Dr Lisa Vanhala**  
*British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow/Lecturer in Human Rights*

# SPP OPEN DAY

## 14 MARCH 2012

This year's Departmental Open Day took place on Wednesday 14 March 2012 and was a great opportunity for prospective students to learn more about our Masters programmes, meet our staff and visit the School.

The venue for most of the day was the Roberts Building, with staff and students returning to the Department for drinks and nibbles in the late afternoon. The day began with a welcome from Professor David Coen, followed by a brief introduction by each of our Programme Directors. Professor Robert Hazell also presented an introduction to UCL's Constitution Unit. From outside the department, we were lucky to have presentations from Julie Rolls, UCL's International Liaison and Recruitment Manager and Patrice Ware from UCL's Careers Service.

The second half of the day featured the following series of 'Hot Topic' lectures from some of our staff:

- **Dr Basak Cali**  
'Do we need a World Court for Human Rights? Can we get one?'
- **Dr Slava Mikhaylov**  
'Energy, Environment and Public Policy: Known knowns and known unknowns'
- **Dr David Hudson**  
'Microfinance: Rise, Fall and Plateau?'
- **Dr Sarah Wolff**  
'The Arab Spring – shifting sands for an EU external action'



Feedback from the day was extremely positive with students commenting on the informative nature of the programme. The hot topic section, as in previous years, was deemed a favourite by students and was a chance for them to interact with speakers and get involved in the debate. Comments from prospective students included; "Much better than your main rival's Open Day – it makes me really excited to think that I am coming to study here in September. I loved the friendliness of all the team and found everyone very approachable"

The day ended with a brief tour of UCL before heading back to the School of Public Policy where staff and students were on hand to answer questions from prospective students.

We would very much like to thank all the staff and student ambassadors who were involved in making the day such a success.

For the benefit of those unable to attend, most of the day was filmed and is now available to watch online at:

[www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/spp-news/230312](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/spp-news/230312)

# NEWS FROM THE CONSTITUTION UNIT

**The Constitution Unit is the largest research centre within the School of Public Policy. It is the UK's leading centre for the study of constitutional reform and has a long track record of conducting high-quality research and influencing policy debates through publications and events.**

Professor Robert Hazell, Dr Meg Russell and Dr Ben Worthy all teach courses within SPP and act as supervisors for students' dissertations. They are currently leading research projects on coalition government, parliament and freedom of information. The Unit recruits interns to assist in its research projects, including SPP graduates. SPP students are welcome to attend the Unit's monthly seminars (see below).

Full details of the Constitution Unit's activities can be found at: [www.ucl.ac.uk/constitution-unit](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/constitution-unit)

The Constitution Unit

## Ensuring the Scottish independence referendum is 'lawful, fair and decisive'

The Constitution Unit produced a book entitled 'Scottish Independence: A Practical Guide' (Edinburgh University Press) ten years ago, which remains the most detailed study of the legal and political obstacles that Scotland has to overcome to achieve independence. However, when the question was posed then, the debate was theoretical. The SNP's election victories in 2007 and 2011 have now ensured that there will be, in some form, a referendum on independence and the issue is now very much a live one.

One of the biggest challenges to the process of arranging a referendum will be legality – there is active academic debate regarding whether the Scottish Government even has the power to legislate to hold a referendum. Even if the UK government were to acquiesce, third parties are likely to bring forth legal challenges which could go all the way to the Supreme Court. In any event, such a referendum would be advisory as there would still need to be a process of negotiation between Scotland and the rump of the UK with regards to the National Debt, North Sea oil and potential Scottish EU membership.

Professor Robert Hazell, director and founder of the Constitution Unit, originally argued that the UK should stay completely out of the independence referendum but now feels that the UK has no choice but to offer to facilitate it to ensure that it is lawful, fair and decisive—objectives which both governments have articulated. The UK government have made just such an offer. They will either legislate for the referendum at Westminster or extend the powers of the Scottish Parliament to hold it.

The wording of the question on the ballot paper is the subject of dispute. Salmond's latest proposed question, 'Do you agree that Scotland should become an independent country?' is not as simple and straightforward as it may appear. Firstly, it invites agreement; secondly, it is not clear that everyone understands what is meant by 'independence'. The Constitution Unit's proposed question spoke of Scotland becoming a 'sovereign state, separate from the UK', but the SNP were strongly opposed to the word 'separate', which they see as being used only by opponents of independence. If the UK Electoral Commission is put in charge of the referendum, as seems likely, they will advise on the intelligibility of the question. However, neither the Scottish Government or the UK Parliament are obliged to follow the Commission's advice, though the UK Government could withdraw its support if the Scottish Executive fails to accept its findings.

The most difficult issue however will centre upon whether the ballot paper is single issue or multi-option, with a question on the adoption of 'Devo Max'. The difficulty of having a multi-option ballot paper is that it risks overcomplicating the debate and confusing the voters. It could also produce an unclear result – what if both Independence and Devo Max are more popular than the status quo but by differing percentages? Because of this uncertainty, the type of voting system used on the ballot paper, should it be a multi-option question, will be key. The one regarded as fairest by electoral experts, the Condorcet system which would have a third question pitting Devo Max against independence, is unlikely to be chosen as it is unpalatable to Salmond. Before reaching this stage however, the concept of 'Devo Max' is going to have to be defined better by all parties concerned and presented to the Scottish public in such a manner that they understand fully what they are voting for. Currently the accepted definition is that it will include all powers save defence and foreign affairs but again, this would require quite in depth negotiation between Edinburgh and London.

The Constitution Unit is left to consider whether a second referendum could be the best option to produce a decisive result after the dust has settled on an initial multi-option referendum. What is clear is that every stage of the proposed referendum is going to be met with intense debate.

As part of its public seminar series, The Constitution Unit held an event on The Referendum on Scottish Independence: The Law and the Politics on 12 March 2012 at SPP, covering the points outlined above as well as others.

Video footage of the event can be found at:

[www.ucl.ac.uk/constitution-unit/events/public-seminars/201112/scottish-independence](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/constitution-unit/events/public-seminars/201112/scottish-independence)

# FRAGMENTED CHALLENGERS TO THE STATE REGULATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

**Dr Kristin M. Bakke, Lecturer in Political Science, writes:**

Much scholarship on opposition movements fighting the state assumes that these actors are relatively unitary, bound by shared identities and interests of the groups they claim to represent. So, models of civil war and contentious politics often treat, for example, the Chechens' struggle against the Russian state, the Tamils' struggle against the Sri Lankan government and the Québécois' struggle against the Canadian federal government in Ottawa as if these groups speak with one voice. Yet the unity of groups is seldom something we can take for granted in politics, especially in (or after) violent conflicts. In Libya, the ongoing struggles among the various factions that last year formed the opposition to Gaddafi's rule is a telling example of how tenuous the unity of armed groups can be. In Syria, the various factions that make up the opposition to President Assad are currently trying to form a united front—a "national pact"—to stand stronger against the regime. These current examples are not unique. Indeed, in a similar fashion, we can think of the internecine fighting

between various Chechen factions, a Tamil population divided among a number of organisations and the number of different parties competing with one another to represent Québec's sovereignty movement.

In the last few years, a growing body of research has begun to argue that if we are to explain the patterns and likelihood of violence in struggles against the state, we have to depart from the assumption that we can model these as conflicts between unitary actors. Rather, we have to examine the inner workings and often fragmented nature of armed groups and opposition movements. For the most part, research in this vein has been driven by careful case studies of specific conflicts, as it requires fine-grained information about who fights whom—information that is hard to collect across a large number of cases. Building on such works, with my co-authors Kathleen Cunningham (University of Maryland) and Lee Seymour (Leiden University), I hope to drive this promising research agenda



***Dr Kristin M Bakke***  
*Lecturer in Political Science*  
*Department of Political Science*

forward in two forthcoming articles, in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution and Perspectives on Politics*.

In our JCR piece, we provide and test a theoretical framework for

understanding how within-group dynamics shape violence and in our PoP piece, we provide a conceptual discussion of the different forms that group fragmentation can take. Focusing on self-determination groups (i.e. groups that seek autonomy or independence for a certain ethnic population), we argue that the various organisations that make up any one group find themselves in a dual contest: first against the state they challenge and second, with the other organisations in the group. These two contests involve different stakes. In particular, we argue that the second contest pits different organisations of the same group against one another in a struggle over political relevance. If we were to consider only the first struggle, which models of armed conflicts typically do, it is hard to explain why groups fighting the state would resort to killing members of its own group. If, in contrast, we also consider the second struggle, we can better explain such dynamics, given that the various organisations compete with one another over political relevance, even dominance.

In order to examine this “dual contest” framework, we have collected a unique dataset. For a random sample of all self-determination movements from 1960 to 2008, our dataset includes information about the number of organisations representing each group, whether each organisation employs violence, what kind of violence they employ and who the targets of violence are. This is the first dataset of its kind and it allows us to make general claims about the effects of fragmentation. Our findings reveal that factional competition is an important and often dominant influence in the dynamics of self-determination conflicts. A greater number of organisations in a self-determination group increases the probability that any one organisation will turn to violence. Moreover, as more organisations take part in the struggle in the name of the group, violence against the group’s own members, including civilians, increases, as organisations direct their violence against the potential support base of their rivals.

These findings have implications for how we, as scholars, explain violence. In a related fashion, my SPP colleague Neil Mitchell and his co-authors (Sabine Carey from the University of Mannheim and Christopher Butler at the University of New Mexico) have shown that it also matters for the dynamics of violence whether the state is fragmented in the sense that it has delegated violence to militias. Beyond the scholarly implications, research on fragmentation has policy implications. The research my co-authors and I have conducted suggests, for example, that civilians in war-zones may have as much reason to fear the organisations that represent them as they do the state. If, as we find, violence in self-determination struggles is driven by dynamics within the challenging groups (as well as between the challenger and the state), conflict prevention and peace-building initiatives should be directed not only towards “repairing” the relationship between these groups and the states they’re opposing but also towards relationships internal to the groups.

# BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

**Laura Valentini**

***Justice in a Globalized World: A Normative Framework***  
(Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011 UK/2012 USA).

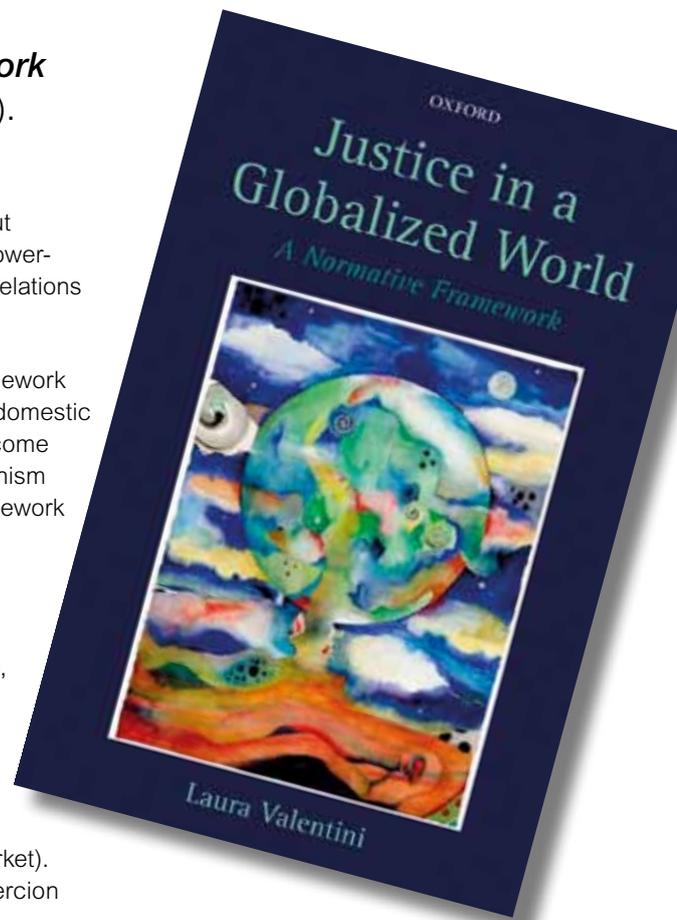
Dr Laura Valentini's first book, *Justice in a Globalized World*, has just been published by Oxford University Press. Laura, who is currently Lecturer in Political Philosophy, was a doctoral candidate at SPP, where she wrote the first draft of the book in the form of her PhD thesis.

The book grapples with the debate on global justice, specifically with how to steer a middle course between the two dominant outlooks within it: cosmopolitanism and statism. The former holds that principles of egalitarian socio-economic justice should extend globally. The latter, by contrast, holds that egalitarian justice only applies domestically and that international political morality demands no more than mutual respect and assistance between states.

Parts 1 and 2 of the book offer (methodological) critiques of both cosmopolitanism and statism. With respect to cosmopolitanism, the book argues that, although the charge of excessive idealism often levelled against it misfires, critics are right to point out that its defence of global equality stands on shaky grounds. With respect to statism, the book suggests that this outlook on international morality is unduly status quo biased, not because of its rejection of equality between

individuals at the global level but because of its neglect of the power-imbalances characterising the relations between existing states.

Part 3 sets out a normative framework for thinking about justice (both domestic and global) which aims to overcome the difficulties with cosmopolitanism and statism. Central to this framework is the claim that the function of principles of justice is to justify coercion, i.e. to place limits on how persons' freedom may be legitimately restricted. Coercion, in turn, may be interactional (perpetrated by individuals or group agents – e.g. states) or systemic (perpetrated by systems of rules/norms – e.g. the rules governing the market). The book argues that, since coercion exists both domestically and internationally, principles of justice should also apply to the international realm. However, since the types of coercion which characterise the global realm differ from domestic coercion, the content of principles of international justice need not be identical to that of principles of domestic justice. Specifically, the book concludes that global justice demands more than statist assistance but less than cosmopolitan equality.



# FORTHCOMING POLITICAL THEORY WORKSHOPS

Dr Valentini has arranged the forthcoming political theory workshops in the Department of Political Science:

## **'Justice, Democracy and Non-domination'**

A 1-day workshop

Organiser: **Laura Valentini**

When/Where: **15 June 2012, SPP Council Room**

**Theme:** Much contemporary political philosophy, especially within liberal egalitarian quarters, is preoccupied with defending the idea of distributive justice. From this broadly Rawls-inspired perspective, distributive justice – especially of an egalitarian kind – is the most important virtue of social institutions. A separate but related tradition in political philosophy, republicanism, holds that the primary virtue of social institution is a different one: freedom understood as non-domination. From a republican perspective, morally justified social arrangements are not those which implement distributive equality but those which honour the freedom of their members and secure them against arbitrary power, typically via democratic decision-making procedures. The aim of this workshop is to bring these two traditions of thought closer to one another, by examining the inter-connections between the notions of justice, democracy and (non)-domination. The workshop will address questions such as 'Is some form of distributive – egalitarian – justice necessary for non-domination?'; 'What is the place of democracy in an overall egalitarian theory of justice?'; 'Can there be a place for the idea of justice within a broadly republican, freedom-based, approach to political morality?'

Speakers include: **Jeremy Waldron; Ian Shapiro, Cécile Laborde, Richard Bellamy and Albert Weale.**

**NB:** The workshop will have a limited number of participants. Information about registration will be circulated later this spring.

**Event will be open to current MA LPT students and SPP PhD students.**

## **'From Ideal Principles to Real Politics: Methodological Perspectives in Political Theory'**

A 2-day workshop in collaboration with the University of Rotterdam.

Organisers: **Laura Valentini (UCL); Constanze Binder (Rotterdam); Ingrid Robeyns (Rotterdam).**

When/Where: **18-19 June 2012, SPP Council Room**

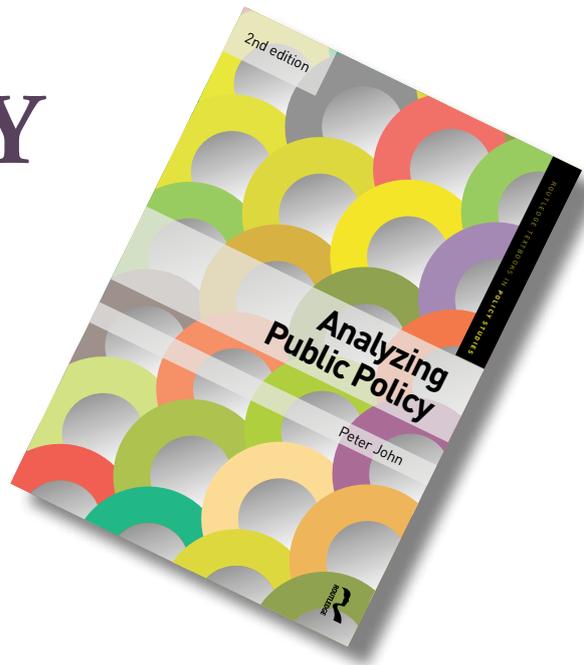
**Theme:** This workshop brings together political theorists and political scientists to debate the relationship between normative political principles and real-world politics. In recent years, political theorists have started to voice concerns about their discipline's apparent inability to help guide political action. Political theory, many have complained, is too detached or idealised. In order to be practically relevant, critics have pointed out, political theories need to be more sensitive to real-world factual constraints and must focus on the question of 'how to make the world more just', rather than of 'what a perfectly just society looks like'. These and similar considerations have given rise to a number of related debates, including the debate between ideal vs. non-ideal theory, the debate between 'realism' and 'idealism' in political theory and the debate between what Amartya Sen calls 'transcendental' (categorical) vs. 'comparative' approaches to justice. The workshop will include representatives of all the main positions within these debates. It will allow scholars of different theoretical persuasions to confront one another on fundamental questions of method in political theory, with the hope of furthering understanding in an otherwise relatively 'untidy' area of the discipline.

Participants (speakers and commentators) include: **Constanze Binder; Eva Erman; David Estlund; Anca Gheaus; Bob Goodin; Robert Jubb; Tom Porter; Ingrid Robeyns; Andrea Sangiovanni; Kai Spiekermann; Marc Stears; Zofia Stemplowska; Patrick Tomlin; Laura Valentini, and Jonathan Wolff.**

**NB:** The workshop will have a limited number of participants. Information about registration will be circulated later this Spring.

# ANALYZING PUBLIC POLICY

The second edition of Peter John's *Analyzing Public Policy* was published by Routledge on the 2nd of February 2012. SPP students who took the course *Theories and Actors of the Policy Process (TAPP)* will know this book well as it was set as one of the core readings (they had sight of a prepublication pdf) and the book will be the class text in 2012–2013.



## RESEARCH GRANT UPDATE

**Congratulations to the following members of staff who have successfully secured the following grants due to begin in 2012:**

**Dr Kristin Bakke** has been successful in securing a year's funding from the ESRC for her research project entitled: 'After The War Ends: Violence In Post-Soviet Unrecognized States'. This started on 31 March 2012.

**Professor Cecile Laborde** has been awarded a five year European Research Council grant to fund her project entitled 'Bounded Rationality in Industrial Organisation'. The grant is due to end in 2016.

**Professor Albert Weale** has been awarded an ESRC follow-on grant entitled: 'Social Values And Health Priority Setting: A User Template' this follows his 2 year ESRC grant entitled 'Social Contract Deliberative Democracy And Public Policy'. His recently award follow-on grant is due to end on 31 December 2012.

There are currently twenty active research grants within the Department. This includes those mentioned above and the three British Academy grants **Dr Lisa Vanhala** transferred with her from the University of Oxford.

# PhD PROGRAMME NEWS

## Dr Slava Mikhaylov, MPhil/PhD Programme Director reports:

### Media coverage

**Javier Sajuria** gave an interview in early February 2012 for the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) about the role of social media and eDemocracy.

The video is available to the FLACSO Youtube channel [www.youtube.com/flacsosecretaria](http://www.youtube.com/flacsosecretaria)

### Conference Presentations

**Alex Katsaitis** and **Susan Fuchs** have been accepted to present at the 2012 EPSA Annual Meeting their paper entitled "Not All Conflict is in the Council: Intra- and Inter-institutional Variation in EU Perspectives on the Eurozone Debt Crisis." The paper is the result of a one year project supported and funded by the UCL European Institute looking at EMU governance.

**Noha Aboueldahab** was accepted to present a paper at the conference "Narrating the Arab Spring" that took place in Cairo, Egypt from 18-20 February 2012. Organised by the University of Manchester and Cairo University. Her paper is titled "The Arab Spring and Justice: The emergence of the prosecution of political leaders in the Arab region."

**Javier Sajuria** has been accepted to present at the 2012 EPSA Annual Meeting the paper entitled "Is the Internet changing our conception of Democracy? An analysis of the Internet Use during protests and its effect on the perception of democracy." Javier will also present a related paper at the third meeting of the Research Programme in Internet Communication, Virtual Transformation of Social Relations and Identities in the Mediterranean, organised by the Research Institute of the Contemporary Maghreb (IRMC) and the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC), on the topic 'The Role of Online Social Movements in the Sociopolitical and Democratic Transition', Tunis, Tunisia, 12-14 April 2012. The title of Javier's paper is "Internet, Protests and Democracy: A comparative analysis from the UK and Chile".

**Dennis Schmidt** presented a paper "How Much Morality is Possible: Towards a Realisable Conception of Justice in International Relations" at the 2012 Warwick Annual Graduate Conference in Political Theory, convened at Department of Politics and International Studies and Centre for Ethics, Law and Public Affairs, University of Warwick.

**Katharina Kieslich** presented a paper "Priority Setting in Germany" at the UCL/Nuffield Trust Conference on 'How can we set priorities in health fairly?'. Further details on the conference are available here: [www.ucl.ac.uk/cpjh/psh](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/cpjh/psh)

**William Brett** attended the 7th AUGUR workshop in Rome on 14-16 March 2012. He presented a paper on building scenarios for the future of anti-system parties in Europe and the world. For more information about the AUGUR Project visit [www.augurproject.eu](http://www.augurproject.eu)

## Employment

Dr Andreea Udrea has obtained a research associate position at the European Centre for Minority Issues in Flensburg, Germany. She'll have a leading role in the cluster Politics and Civil Society, responsible for the Moldova Programme. More information on ECMI is available here: [www.ecmi.de](http://www.ecmi.de)

## Successful defense

Dr Ivo Veiga has successfully completed the PhD process for his project on "The Role of Coalitions in the Spanish and Portuguese Transition to Democracy 1974-78." The project contains some quite innovative work in network modelling of coalition formation in a transition environment, using event analysis. Ivo is now based in Lisbon.

# FUTURE EDITIONS OF TAVISTOCK**TIMES**

TAVISTOCK**TIMES** is published three times a year with the next edition due to be published in September 2012.

Ideas for future articles should be sent to:

**Helen Holt,**

**[h.holt@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:h.holt@ucl.ac.uk)**

before the end of June 2012

Contributions from past students are especially welcome keeping the Department up to date on their progress since leaving UCL.

# CLIMBING KILIMANJARO

Seema Patel, Department of Political Science Administration Assistant, reflects on her recent personal achievement:



*Seema reaching the top of Kilimanjaro*

**When I decided to take on Africa's highest mountain last year, I had no idea how tough it would be.** Always one for hot showers and hair straighteners, the idea of camping on a giant mountain was never appealing. Neither was the reality of walking for seven days straight across a terrain that would at times evolve into a bleak nothingness. Looking back over those seven days, I can only remember that it was hard, painful, awful and scary beyond belief when the altitude hit and I couldn't breathe. Yet climbing Kilimanjaro was probably the best thing I have ever done.

We started off with an entourage of thirty men which included the porters who carried our big backpacks, the porters who carried the tents, the cooks, the guys who washed the dishes, the toilet handlers, the assistant guides and the senior guides who lead. From day one it felt like we were family and we quickly learnt how to exchange 'Jambo Mambos' in Swahili.

The smiles and good spirits carried us perfectly through days one and two as we walked at a steady pace, playing word games which mainly revolved around going down the alphabet and naming things associated to a specific topic. On day three the altitude started to affect me and after the hilarious giggles along came the headaches and nausea which left my head feeling as though it was constantly in a vice. The pressure was so intense, that having to deal with it and walk on an incline up a mountain, made me forget my alphabet and insist that Volkswagen started with a W despite being told that it was VW for a reason.

By day four the terrain had got so bleak that at times it felt as though we were the only people alive on a grey moon-like foreign planet. The group had more or less dissolved into silence and as I chewed on my millionth Haribo, the altitude and sugar rush got the better of me and I cried for the first time since beginning the climb. Day four also happened to be my birthday and after an eight hour walk which tested me to my limits and brought us above the clouds to base camp, I was treated to a cake and a medley of Swahili songs from the lovely porters and guides.

At base camp we had a day to acclimatise before our bid to the top which began at 10.30pm and saw us walk through the night.

'Summit night' was the longest and most painful experience of my life. The pitch black darkness hid the reality of what we had to do to get to the top and so all that

was left to do was walk and walk and walk. The night didn't end and the cold pierced through my eleven layers and stung me to my bones for every second of that ten hour trek. Nothing could divert my mind off how cold I felt and how hard it felt and how everything ached and how badly I wanted to stop. Mid-way I started experiencing deep and sharp pains in my back and this, along with the fact that I couldn't breathe, really made me feel like I was dying. My pace had slowed to such an extent that I was resting after every five steps. By 4.30am I convinced myself that I wouldn't make it and I sat on a rock and burst into tears telling the guide that I couldn't do it and wanted to go back down. Looking back it seems so pathetic but at that moment I really felt as though Kilimanjaro had turned me upside down and punched me in the face because I felt so defeated. Luckily for me though, my guide just happened to be one of the most amazing people

I have ever met and from that point on he literally held my hand and dragged me up, not letting go once. If it wasn't for him I would never have got to the top. His positive energy, his singing, his prayers to God, his warmth, kindness, love and care all kept me going.

Getting to the top of Kilimanjaro was the best day of my life. I've never felt a happiness even close to what I felt on summit day. It was like every pain in my heart and mind had disappeared and for the first time in my life I felt like I had achieved something real. Spending time with the Tanzanian guides and porters made me see how content they were amongst rocks and how blessed we should feel for all we have. I will always remember what I felt on the mountain and I hope that some day I can go back and do it all again with exactly the same team.

## SPP CAREERS NETWORKING SESSION

**In March 2012, several former students returned to the Department to share their career experiences since leaving SPP.**

**Patrice Ware**, UCL Careers Advisor and **Dr Lisa Vanhala**, from the Department, co-chaired the session. The following former students kindly volunteered their time to attend and the Department is most grateful for their help:

**George McFarlane**, MSc Public Policy, 2010–11, Policy Advisor, Confederation of British Industry

**Sarah Parlour**, MSc Security Studies, 2009–10, Senior Analyst, Proven, Good Governance Group

**Adam Fenn**, MSc International Public Policy, 2010–11, Account Executive, Edelman – The Centre in Public Affairs

**Alexander Cookman**, MSc International Public Policy, 2010–11, Office and Finance Manager, Switchback

Highlights of this event can be viewed online at [www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/spp-news/250312](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/spp-news/250312)

### UCL Careers Service

The UCL Careers Service gives current students the opportunity to consider their career as part of their study experience. Students have the opportunity to attend career management workshops, skills sessions with employers, careers talks, events with links with former students and recruitment fairs and events.

Advice is available on choosing career options, bespoke CV writing, the skills employers seek, how to make successful applications, how to present best at interview and other selection procedures and how to make the most of your contacts and networks, which at UCL will be many and varied. Membership to the 'Gradclub' system is available to all former students after graduation and further information on this can be found at [www.ucl.ac.uk/careers/gradclub](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/careers/gradclub)

Further information on the UCL Careers Service can be found at [www.ucl.ac.uk/careers](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/careers)

# PAST STUDENTS WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Since the launch of the first Tavistock Times in the summer of 2008, we have been kindly contacted by many past students informing us of their progress since leaving the Department. A progress report follows:



**Pamela Kuemmerle**  
*MSc International Public Policy*  
2009–10

A few months after handing in my dissertation for the MSc in International Public Policy I started another adventure in India.

I spent 3 months in a village outside of Chennai working as a project design assistant for a public health non-profit organisation. Here, I helped to design and implement a women's health package for rural health clinics. My main responsibilities were to develop protocols for a comprehensive women's health exam and design communication materials to promote the programme. Thrilled about this opportunity to live in India, I made the most of it by traveling around the country whenever I could and seeing some beautiful places.

After finishing my work in India, I was lucky enough to be offered an internship with the World Health Organisation in Geneva. After a quick and quite fun, stopover in London for UCL's graduation and related festivities, I took off to Geneva.

At WHO I worked on the WHO World Conference on Social Determinants of Health. Responding to increasing concern about persisting and widening health inequities, WHO established the Commission on Social Determinants of Health (SDH) in 2005. The Social Determinants of Health are conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, including the health system, and are mostly responsible for health inequities – the unfair and avoidable differences in health status

seen within and between countries. The 2011 conference was held to build support for the implementation of action on SDH. This conference brought together member states, world leaders and stakeholders to discuss an 'All for Equity' health agenda. As a member of the Conference Secretariat, I reviewed case studies, researched progress in SDH policy and prepared press releases and media materials surrounding the conference. I was able to travel to the conference, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and take part in the delegation drafting sessions during the conference. The outcome of the conference was the Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health, adopted by 125 member states.

I cannot stress enough how important the experience of SPP was for me. Although rural India sounds and feels like a million miles away from the lecture halls of UCL, I directly applied skills learned in Research Methods to designing a survey in India, while I drew upon the experience from International Organisations and the SPP Simulation at WHO Delegation drafting session in Rio.

UCL gave me an opportunity to learn about international policy in a truly unique environment and gave me the urge to get out and explore and implement the skills I had gained. I am forever grateful to UCL and my classmates for creating this great experience.





**Jonathan Bond**

*MSc Public Policy  
2004–05*

After leaving SPP six years ago, I returned to the U.S. to begin law school, where the training I had received and the research interests I had developed in the MSc programme helped to guide my further studies and to propel me into new areas of inquiry. As a law student I continued to explore comparative analysis of judicial institutions and the interplay of law and policy formulation—areas I first encountered at SPP—which in turn led me to the study of constitutional structure and the regulatory process more broadly.

Upon graduating from law school in 2008, I had the privilege of serving as a law clerk for two exceptional jurists, first for the Hon. Jeffrey Sutton of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and then for the Hon. Antonin Scalia of the Supreme Court of the United States. The opportunity to work with and learn from each of these outstanding

judges was extraordinary and like my studies at SPP, will undoubtedly influence my career for years to come.

Since completing those clerkships I have been in private practice with a law firm in Washington, DC, where much of my work focuses on regulation and the policy process. My practice increasingly involves litigation challenging regulations or regulatory-enforcement actions, both on substantive legal grounds and based on noncompliance with procedural mandates that require regulators to consider public input and confront relevant evidence before adopting new policies or taking other action.

I feel immensely fortunate to have studied at SPP before beginning my legal career. The MSc program not only provided a foundation for further research but it also has shaped my thinking about issues that I encounter each day as a lawyer.



**Paloma Aguilar**

*MSc International Public Policy  
2010–11*

Since graduating from UCL, my days consist of a trudge through the snows of Ottawa on my way to work as a Legislative Assistant to a newly elected Member of Parliament. Despite the ruined shoes, I could not imagine myself working anywhere else.

As the only permanent staff member in our office, I have been given an unexpected amount of responsibility. My responsibilities include drafting and carrying out media plans, research of government legislation before the House of Commons and preparing background documents for committee work.

I credit the comprehensive education SPP provided for allowing me to feel at least a bit even-headed amidst the chaos in Parliament. I feel prepared

enough not only to understand the policy-making process but also to assess it with a more critical eye. It has been extremely gratifying to expand on the theory I learned in the classroom and apply it to real-world cases.

Given the tumultuous nature of federal elected politics, it is hard to say how long I will be in this job. Eventually, I would hope to work in a Minister's office – particularly with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of International Development and later in the private sector. In the end, I hope to capitalise on my interest on national Canadian politics and international affairs and find my own career niche.



**Maham Farhat**  
*MSc International Public Policy*  
 2010–11

I joined an international development consultancy called Oxford Policy Management in my first ever job, soon after handing in my dissertation in 2011.

My work at OPM involves helping clients- governments, donors, NGOs- to think about economic and social policy in a systematic manner, using sound theoretical and empirical evidence to justify policy interventions. I have so far undertaken both qualitative and quantitative research and contributed to a variety of projects. Some examples include monitoring and evaluation of a cash transfer in Kenya; a rural health project design in Pakistan; and policy recommendations on infrastructure investment in fragile countries for a bilateral donor.

The research skills that I learnt at UCL have helped me greatly in my work and I hope to develop these skills further and specialise in an area of interest. To date, I have been a little surprised by a certain disconnect between development theory, policy and practice: I believe that a greater cross-over between academia and development policy at all levels would benefit both students and policy makers greatly.

However I have the opportunity to be involved in a range of activities- field work, research and operations- which would hopefully contribute, if only a little, towards bridging this gap in international development.



**Kevin Conroy**  
*MSc Security Studies*  
 2009–10

Flying in and out of conflict zones might not be the easiest life choice but my career after UCL has been full of excitement.

In December 2010, I took on a Senior Analyst role with a strategic communications company and a year later, I am a Project Manager at an NGO with four operations in Afghanistan under my pakol. Keeping your cool and maintaining a light footprint are essential in tense, chaotic and potentially deadly situations. As well as designing questionnaires and analysing statistics, my role includes organising security for our research team; hiring, training and managing up to 250 Afghan staff; and delivering reports and presentations to high-level audiences.

After completing my studies at UCL, a few short-term research contracts and some freelance work helped demonstrate my skills and build a wide network of potential employers. This included working with various risk advisory firms, producing timely and accurate intelligence on terrorism and civil commotion in South and South East Asia for corporate security managers, commercial clients and governments using open and human intelligence sources.

These experiences were invaluable in furthering my career and opening the door to my current role and luck also played a part. However, I'm absolutely certain if it hadn't been for an MSc from UCL, especially all those methods classes, I would never have made it to the first interview.



**Julian Knott**  
*MSc International Public Policy*  
 2005–06

I completed my MSc in International Public Policy at SPP in 2006. I arrived having spent four years working in Brussels, first as an intern at the European Commission and then within an EU research consultancy firm. I was looking for a course that would help me consolidate my practical experience, reinforce my theoretical grounding, broaden my thinking around public policy and open doors to new and interesting career opportunities.

I was not disappointed. SPP provided a fantastic bridge between my early work experience and my subsequent career. The course offered a useful balance between public policy theories and their practical application. The weekly guest seminars provided a fantastic opportunity to interact with leading academics and practitioners in the field. Moreover, the experience among my fellow students, who had an extremely diverse range of professional and academic backgrounds, was another huge benefit. SPP was and remains a great network.

After completing the MSc, I stayed on at SPP for a year as a research assistant. I then took up a position with the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD), a network of over eighty EU and US consumer organisations, which

provides consumer input to economic and regulatory cooperation initiatives between the EU and US. This work touched on a variety different areas from financial services regulation, food labelling, risk assessments for new technologies, intellectual property protection and consumer privacy. The job gave me great exposure to in-depth policy analysis, political processes, lobbying and negotiations, including contact with cabinet level officials and stakeholders from business, parliaments and civil society organisations. In four and a half years at TACD, I went from Coordinator to Senior Coordinator before finally being promoted to Head of Secretariat.

I am now moving on from TACD and recently accepted a position as Public Affairs Manager at the OECD in Paris, where I will be working mainly on stakeholder relations. This will involve helping the organisation to engage with business, labour, civil society, parliamentarians as well as the public at large to ensure that their views are reflected in OECD policies.

SPP helped me to make a critical transition in my career. The MSc in International Public Policy could not have been more relevant to what I am doing today.



**Cathy Cullen**  
*MSc International Public Policy,*  
 2010–11

I started working as a researcher at the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA) in Ireland, just after I submitted my dissertation in September 2011.

The IIEA is an independent policy think-tank in Ireland that aims to provide analysis of EU and international developments to its members in order to disseminate ideas and inspire new thinking. Members of the Institute include individuals across the full spectrum of Irish industry, politics and civil society, as well as government officials and members of the diplomatic corps.

As a place to work, the IIEA is a unique forum for networking and for engaging with key players across a wide range of policy sectors. My primary research areas are 'China-EU relations' and 'digital policy'. Specifically, I design a speaker

programme around key themes within each of these sectors, alongside my personal research, which includes writing reports, briefings and blogs for the IIEA.

There's no doubt that my year at UCL has been a great asset to me in my current role, especially my grounding in research methods. My quantitative training, in particular, granted me the opportunity to work on the IIEA's 'infograph' project that looked at projections for key economic indicators across Europe in order to assess the strength of the European economy up until 2013. So, I certainly would like to take this opportunity to thank all the SPP staff for their support. To this year's SPP class, enjoy every minute of your year, it'll be over before you know it!