

ESRC Seminar Markets in Policing Possible Follow-on Funding Workshop

Thursday 11 January 2018

Venue: Boardroom, Liberty Building, Leeds

Time: From 10.30am-3.30pm – including working lunch

Aims:

The aim of the workshop was to explore the opportunities, appetite and possible themes for a collaborative international research programme, network or project loosely around the theme/question of 'private policing as a public good?'

The seminar adopted an open format to discuss two central themes that had been raised across the seminars in the Markets in Policing series:

1. Key research themes (raised across the seminar series), as well as specific questions, approaches and methods.
2. Possible funding sources for an international follow on project on with an eye to either: (i) possible European Funding (ERC or Horizon 2020) or (ii) Global Challenge Research Funds - thinking more globally about the issues raised in the last seminar.

Some questions circulated in advance helped structure discussions:

- What role does private security play in the provision of security as a public good?
- How do the most vulnerable populations benefit from private security?
- What does the public good mean in different contexts?

The workshop explored a number of themes and issues concerning the organisational, cultural and moral limits of markets, as well as benefits and implications, notably for poor and vulnerable communities of private security, the interface between public policing and private security and the regulation of private sector involvement in policing.

Participants:

Adam White - Sheffield
Philip Stenning - Griffith
Marleen Easton – Ghent
Ronald van Steden – VU Amsterdam
Yarin Eski – VU Amsterdam
Conor O'Reilly - Leeds
Stuart Lister – Leeds
Anna Barker - Leeds
David Churchill – Leeds
Adam Crawford - Leeds

Unable to Attend but interested

Tessa Diphorn – Utrecht
Jenny Fleming – Southampton
Mette Volquartz - Copenhagen
Nick Fyfe – Dundee
Ian Loader – Oxford
Martin Gill - Perpetuity
David Wall – Leeds

Notes of Discussion

After introductions, we began by reviewing the seminar series briefly its aims and developments. Notes from the final conference were circulated in advance.

Funding

By way of background we began with a brief overview of some possible funding sources to underpin the development of a network and/or research programme.

Europe:

- Horizon 2020 and the '[Security](#)' call – but this is often quite restrictive in terms of the calls and questions.
- European Research Council – funds more blue sky research – very competitive.
- [Open Research Area](#) – funding that combines UK (ESRC); France (ANR), Germany (DFG), and the Netherlands (NWO) in a common process (need at least two participating countries) fund is provided by domestic funder. Open call (5th call announced in 2017 – closes on 31 Jan 2018) but highly competitive. There may be another call in 1-2 years.

Internationally:

Beyond Europe security questions and funding:

- [Global Challenges Research Fund](#) GCRF UK based, research linked to international development and the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) and targeted at supporting research with beneficiaries in low-to-middle income countries on the OECD/DAC list [ODA](#). There has been funding for network development – the next round will open in 29 January 2018 through the [British Academy](#) for fund up to £25k.
- [Open Society Foundation](#) also provides grants.

Research Ambitions and Themes

Policing and urban imaginaries: policing markets and surveillance, Brazil and Portugal

Philip on Policing in the broader sense: integrated/civil/civic/social policing and fostering of resilience after the harms have been inflicted.

- Ontology of policing
- There are more private companies occupied with policing, based on what the local communities
- Southern Criminology/3rd World Criminology of Policing

Adam W.: 1) austerity as overarching theme in policing and 2) Napoleonic Code and civil responsibility, and markets of policing

- Concern: too broad

Ronald: non-commercial private policing

Marleen: public policing still rather significant in Belgium, private policing and communal policing don't have to mutually exclude each other. Theory and empirical integration because of different types of academics.

Adam C. suggested that a useful starting point might be for everyone present to set out their broad areas of interest that pertain to the seminar theme and where they would like to see future developments of research as a way of identifying what we share research-wise? What is it that leads to and comes from security/policing?

1. Adam C.: security from below and its changing nature and practices, security narrative, everyday security
2. Adam W.: Commodify security labour? UNODC and mapping security regulatory frameworks
3. Yarin: origins of security, linguistics of security, taboos and perversions of policing
4. Marleen: 1) security networks and comparative event security, 2) resilience of public and private security agents and mutually influential (global network); and 3) transnational security networks, private security roles in ports
5. Ronald: non-commercial private policing, volunteers, and corporate security, ppp's in specific areas and domains, what is security and care.
6. Anna: spaces and parks, neighbourhoods, public space and how groups are regulated to go into public spaces, barriers of trust
7. Conor: pluralisation, markets, data justice in Mexico, vulnerable populations, self-surveillance of citizens, branding of and by public policing, developing countries copying developed countries policing, security consumption, gathering intelligence. Neutrality of buying security?
8. Philip: no western policing and port policing, and policing of flows

New International Network:

The value of establishing a new research-led network to develop some of the insights from the ESRC seminar series internationally was discussed and it was agreed that this would be of real value.

Some of the possible themes to be covered might include:

1. Origins of policing across the world
2. Markets of policing across the world
3. Public policing across the world
4. Communal policing across the world
5. Political-economy of policing across the world
6. Production of policing across the world
7. Future of policing across the world

The possible title of the network was discussed and debated. The title should be inclusive but also clear of some of the key themes and direction. Suggestions included: 'Everyday policing, policing as a social practice' and 'Everyday political economies of plural policing'. It was agreed that policing is well established and plural, it has been mapped, structures, top down perspectives. However, the everyday of all these actors and the social realities of these in and following from power structures of policing

Some of the existing resources upon which the network might draw were also discussed, including: European Society of Criminology, policing group; the Sage Handbook of Global Policing.

The possibility of VU Amsterdam hosting a future event was put forward and discussed.

Agreed Actions:

1. We will develop an international network to coordinate and promote research work, understanding, knowledge exchange and collaborations around the title: '**Everyday Political Economies of Plural Policing**' - *ACTION: Adam White agreed to draft a paragraph or two outlining the broad common aims/objectives and themes for circulation/comment.*
2. We will draw together and compile people's knowledge of international researchers and networks currently working in this field as a resource and to be contacted in relation to possible events and collaborations. *ACTION: Everyone to send by email to Adam Crawford details of relevant researchers/networks with whom we might collaborate or engage.*
3. We will draw together and compile a bibliography of relevant international literature. *ACTION: Everyone to send by email to Adam Crawford details of relevant bibliography for him to compile and circulate.*
4. We will develop a means of organising the network via shared (virtual) storage space for resources and other documents. *ACTION: Marleen Easton will look into establishing and hosting network information on a 'Dropbox' or 'Google Docs'.*
5. We will organise a 'Round table'/Panel at the European Society of Criminology Conference in Sarajevo in September this year to promote the work of the network. *ACTION: Adam Crawford will liaise with the conference organisers and ESC policing working group to facilitate this.*
6. We will apply to Oñati to host a international workshop linked to the network - bid to be submitted by Jan 2019 for a workshop in 2020. *ACTION: Philip Stenning agreed to lead on developing the application and liaising with Oñati. All to help identify possible speakers (max of 30) ensuring participation from a wide range of jurisdictions (and disciplines albeit the focus of the workshop will need to have a distinct socio-legal emphasis) - linked to Action 2 (above). (For those not familiar with Oñati see the following link: <http://www.iisi.net/>)*
7. We will explore funding possibilities to support the work of the network both from European sources and internationally. *ACTION: Yarin Eski agreed to take a lead on exploring European funding (including the European Commission (H2020), European Research Council, European Science Foundation, and others). Adam Crawford agreed to take a lead on exploring the UK Global Challenges Research Fund and Open Society Foundation - other suggestions welcome. Adam and Yarin will liaise and coordinate.*

In line with Action 1 above the following aims/objectives are proposed to complement the title.

Everyday Political Economies of Plural Policing

It has become a truism that policing is no longer the exclusive domain of the police, but is rather carried out by a wide range of public, private and voluntary actors. Over the past three or so decades, our comparative understanding of 'plural policing' has moved forward considerably. An ever growing number of scholars have contributed towards the process of mapping out both the multiplicity of actors tasked with delivering policing functions on the ground and the array of regulatory structures responsible for steering these functions from above. Much less is known, however, about what happens when these policing actors and regulatory structures interact with one another on a daily basis.

To address this gap, we are pushing forward a research agenda on the 'Everyday Political Economies of Plural Policing'. At the core of this agenda are three questions. How do public, private and voluntary policing actors on the ground interpret and negotiate their way through the diversity of regulatory structures they encounter on an everyday level? What kinds of social, political and economic orders does this process bring into effect? How does this structure-agency dynamic play out within and across different parts of the globe? In seeking out answers to these questions we are interested not only in the formal characteristics of policing and regulatory institutions, but also about the mediating role of emotions, identity, culture and other less formal dimensions.