About the Crime Research Centre

The Crime Research Centre brings people together from a variety of disciplines, focused on research into ‘crime’ broadly conceived. This includes experts from law, sociology, criminology, politics, psychology, international development, and beyond. The Centre provides a forum for researchers to share ideas and develop collaborations, as well as a platform for influencing external debate and reform.

Sussex has a long history and reputation for excellence in criminal law and criminal justice research. The Crime Research Group was extremely active in this area for a number of years. In August 2016 CRC was awarded the status of University Research Centre. This has reflected a significant expansion of research expertise in areas such as criminal law/evidence, criminology, new forms of criminality, corruption and socio-legal research, to name a few.

The focus of the Centre is outward-looking. Centre members have developed sustained relationships with academics, policymakers, NGOs, and other stakeholders at a local, national, and international level. Members of the Centre have a history of engagement and knowledge exchange with, for example, the Home Office, Ministry of Justice, National Crime Agency, Cabinet Office, as well as national and international charities.
We are looking for new Centre Directors. Please contact the present directors if you are interested in taking on this role.

To apply for membership of Crime Research Centre please contact Prof. Hans Crombag at H.Crombag@sussex.ac.uk

Meet our new members

**Dr Simon Flacks**  
Senior Lecturer (Law)  
School of Law, Politics and Sociology

I completed a PhD at the University of Vienna, Austria, which involved social research into adolescent drug treatment in England, and analysis of UK drug law and policy. I graduated in 2013 and continue to undertake research in the areas of youth justice, criminology, drug use/policy, human rights and discrimination.

**Dr Simone Santorso**  
Lecturer in Criminology (Sociology)  
School of Law, Politics and Sociology

I joined the University of Sussex as a lecturer in 2022. Previously, I worked as a research associate for Victim Support in London in 2010, before completing my PhD in Sociology of the Cultural Phenomena and Normative Process at the University of Urbino (Italy). Since 2014, I’ve worked at the University of Padua (Italy) as an assistant lecturer and the University of Hall as a lecturer.

**Dr Richard Glover**  
Senior Lecturer in Law  
School of Law, Politics and Sociology

I am a qualified solicitor and previously practised in criminal law before joining University of Wolverhampton. I have recently joined University of Sussex. I am interested in a broad range of criminal justice issues but, in particular, evidence law and public order law.

**Dr Dee Ruane**  
Lecturer in Sociology and Criminology  
School of Law, Politics and Sociology

I am a Lecturer in Sociology and Criminology at LPS with research interests including drug policy and its enforcement, harm reduction, psychedelic culture, festival and electronic dance music subcultures and scenes, and the use of ethnographic and digital-sociological methods. I hold a PhD from the University of Kent (2017), an ethnographic mixed-methods study of volunteer drug harm reduction projects in the UK, the US and Portugal, and an MA in Social Research from Goldsmiths, University of London (2017).
Dr Suraj Lakhani co-authored an article titled, “Press F to pay respects”: an empirical exploration of the mechanics of gamification in relation to the Christchurch attack. The article has been published in Terrorism and Political Violence journal at pp. 1-18.

Dr Stravros Demetriou and Dr Neil Partington co-authored an article titled: Criminalising hate: the need for rationalisation and reform in the recent edition of Criminal Law Review.

Dr Paul McGuinness authored an article titled: Hauntological cinema: Resisting epistemic erasure and temporal slippage with Sorry to Bother You in Volume 70 Issue 1 of Sociological Review.

Prof. Hans Crombag and Prof. J.J. Child co-authored an article titled: Loss of control in the appeal courts in Volume 72 Issue 2 of Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly.

Dr Sabrina Gilani recently authored an article titled: The ethics of capital punishment and a law of affective enchantment in the Social and Legal Studies journal.

Dr Qingxiu Bu published an article titled: The viability of deferred prosecution agreements (DPAs) in the UK: the impact on global anti-bribery compliance in the European Business Organization Law Review journal in year 2022.

Dr Lucy Welsh and Dr Amy Clarke recently co-authored an article titled: United by cuts: exploring the symmetry between how lawyers and expert witnesses experience funding cuts. The article has been published in Volume 3 Issue 3 of Amicus Curiae.


Dr Shahrzad Fouladvand had a fantastic academic year having published two academic pieces. The first is titled: Comparing Transnational Legal Orders: Criminalisation, Labour Law and Forced Labour which is co-authored with Dr Tony Ward and is published in Vol. 8 Issue 3 of Journal of International and Comparative Law. Dr Fouladvand also contributed a chapter titled: Najib Razak and 1MDB in Malaysia: Fraud and Corruption in an edited publication: Understanding Corruption: How Corruption Works in Practice.
Credit goes to Dr Hannah Mason-Bish for contributing a chapter titled: "A feminist theoretical exploration of misogyny and hate crime" in an edited book *Misogyny as Hate Crime* which is published by Routledge.

Dr Alexa Neale has authored a chapter titled, From ‘forensic narratives’ to ‘narratives of forensics’: telling stories about the murder of Gay Gibson in an edited book *Critiquing Violent Crime in the Media*, published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Dr Lucy Welsh authored a book titled: *Access to justice in magistrates’ courts: a study of defendant marginalisation* which is published by Hart Publishing.


PhD student Ritabrata Roy has recently published a research blog titled: Mob on the Loose: A Dishonourable Interplay of Honour and Lynching in the *LapSe of Reason* forum of University of Sussex: [https://lawpoliticsandsociology.wordpress.com/2022/02/08/mob-on-the-loose-a-dishonourable-interplay-of-honour-and-lynching/](https://lawpoliticsandsociology.wordpress.com/2022/02/08/mob-on-the-loose-a-dishonourable-interplay-of-honour-and-lynching/).
- Doctoral students, Ritabrata Roy (Law Politics and Sociology) and Sandhya Kerketta (Gender Studies) are collaborating on a qualitative research project on Access to justice by victims of domestic violence in New Delhi, India. The project is conducted under a Delhi-based private research organisation, The Dialogue Box under its flagship Institute for Human Rights Research from July 2022-September 2022. Throughout the six months long self-funded project, the researchers are going to conduct semi-structured interviews with 50 survivors and other social actors across New Delhi. More information is available in www.thedialoguebox.com.

At Sussex we are committed to producing a wide range of critical research on various inter-disciplinary issues concerning crime, gender, culture and society under the supervision of highly acclaimed supervisors. Following are the examples of some of such on-going research conducted by some of our PGR community:

Sandhya Kerketta is a first year Doctoral Student in Gender Studies (Humanities). Her research looks into Domestic Violence among Chota Nagpur tribal communities in India and the experiences and perception of an Adivasi Woman.

If you want to apply for PhD studies at University of Sussex, please visit https://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/phd/apply
Keble College, University of Oxford will be hosting a conference on Crime, Justice and the Human Condition: Beyond the cris(es) – reframing and reimagining justice between 13–14 September 2022. The registration link for the event is: https://howardleague.org/crime-justice-and-the-human-condition-call-for-papers/

The European Society of Criminology is organising its 22nd Annual Conference from 21 to 24 September 2022 in Malaga, Spain. The Society aims to bring together in Europe persons actively engaged in research, teaching and/or practice in the field of Criminology. Several CRC members will present their work at this conference. More details can be found at: https://esc-eurocrim.org/

The Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference will be held in-person at King’s College London, Tuesday 6th – Friday 9th September. Details regarding the conference can be found at https://www.slsconference.com/

The Crime Research Centre will be hosting Prof. Sharyn Roach Anleu at our seminar event on 12th October 2022. Discussing her research on the judiciary, the provisional title for the seminar is Investigating emotion in judicial work. Sharyn Roach Anleu is Matthew Flinders Distinguished Professor at Flinders University (Adelaide, Australia), a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and a former President of The Australian Sociological Association. Her most recent books are Judging and Emotion: A Socio-Legal Analysis, with Kathy Mack (2021) and Judges, Judging and Humour, co-edited with Jessica Milner Davis (2019).

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