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Introduction

The Centre for Civil Society (CCS) is a leading, international organisation for research, analysis, debate and learning about civil society. It is based within the Department of Social Policy at the London School of Economics. Established initially as the Centre for Voluntary Organisation, the Centre has for over 20 years pioneered the study of the voluntary sector in the UK, development NGOs and civil society organisations throughout the world. The CCS is distinguished by its interdisciplinary, comparative and reflective approach to understanding whether and how civil society contributes to processes of social, political and policy change and continuity. Its core staff, research associates and visiting fellows cover a range of disciplines, including social policy, anthropology, political science, development studies, law, sociology, international relations and economics.

Director’s Report

As Director of the CCS, I am delighted to present the annual report of the Centre’s activities over 2006-2007. It has yet again been a busy, exciting and productive year for the Centre with numerous conferences, workshops and roundtables, covering a range of themes and country contexts.

Dr Babken Babajanian was awarded a prestigious two year post-doctoral fellowship to undertake research on community-based social welfare provision and its implications for the design of poverty reduction policies in the Caucasus and Central Asia by the Economic Social Research Council (ESRC) Non-Governmental Public Action (NGPA) programme. He has already started the fieldwork and we look forward to reporting on his progress and findings over the next two years.

Now into its third year, the £5.24 million ESRC NGPA programme has completed the commissioning process for the programme and awarded an additional four large research projects and six post-doctoral fellowships. These new awards have enriched the programme, extending its comparative and thematic reach. The new projects cover topics such as faith, conflict and violence, organising around HIV/AIDS, the role of madrassas in Pakistan, new churches in South Africa and the impact of violence on NGO workers in Nepal. The programme held two workshops during the year, with special guest presentations by Dr David Mosse of SOAS on research ethics and Dr Stephen Hopgood of SOAS on Amnesty International. We officially launched the NGPA Programme at the Royal Society of Arts and were honoured to have Matthew Taylor, the new Chief Executive of the RSA, to open the launch and Duncan Green, Head of Research at Oxfam GB as keynote speaker.

We were delighted to welcome Professor Neera Chandhoke, of the Centre for Development Studies, University of Delhi as the first International Visiting Fellow under the ESRC NGPA programme. During her visit Professor Chandhoke gave numerous seminars around the country on her research and has written two NGPA papers on the themes of civil society and democratisation, and civil society and violence. We were also pleased to welcome Dr Monica Banerjee of the National Foundation of India, who joined us for three months to carry out research on strengthening civil society for constructive
work in northeast India, and Professor Thomas Boje from Roskilde University, Denmark, who is working on citizenship, social welfare, gender and the labour market.

The intellectual life of the Centre has been further enriched with the arrival of five new PHD researchers – Georgina Blanco-Mancilla, Markus Ketola, Jennifer Klot, Susan Liautaud, Melody Mohebi and Christopher Pallas. Their research on civil society issues in Iran, France, Liberia, Turkey and Mexico and on its relation to the World Bank add enormously to the comparative reach of the Centre and we look forward to seeing their work unfold over the next few years.

The Centre has continued to run a lively series of seminars and public debates. These have included themes such as ‘NGOs: a disaster for disasters?’ with panelists from Médecins Sans Frontières and the British Red Cross, and Diversity, Equality and Empowerment: NGOs – Making a Difference organised jointly with the LSE Gender Institute and with speakers from VSO, YMCA and the NIA Project. Our seminar series has covered a wide range of topics such as the over-reaction against Islamic charities since 9/11, the failure of civil society aid in Uzbekistan, civil society, security and aid in the context of Afghanistan, Amnesty International, challenges of reform in Turkmenistan, and civil society and violence. Researchers at the Centre have also been active in presenting seminar and conference papers in the UK and internationally.

We are pleased to welcome to the Centre for Civil Society in the autumn, Dr Ben Jones, as lecturer and Dr John Gibson as research officer. Dr Jones has conducted research into burial societies and religious organisations in Uganda and is currently completing work on diaspora-community relations in Nigeria. Dr Gibson’s research interests lie in global modes of civil society advocacy and alter-globalist activism in protest and social forum spaces. We hope you enjoy reading the report. If you would like to know more about the work of the Centre or how you might support the Centre’s activities, please do contact us.

Professor Jude Howell, Director CCS

The Centre’s Intellectual Agenda

Original Mission

The origins of the Centre for Civil Society can be traced back over twenty years. In 1978 Dr David Billis and Dr Margaret Harris founded the Centre for Voluntary Organisation (CVO), the first of its kind in the UK, to carry out research on the emerging UK voluntary sector. The Centre was originally established at Brunel University as the Programme of Research and Training into Voluntary Action (PORTVAC) and was opened as the CVO at the LSE in October 1987. Based in the Department of Social Policy, the CVO pioneered an MSc in Voluntary Sector Organisation. With the appointment of Dr David Lewis in 1995 and the subsequent establishment of an MSc in NGO Management, the Centre took on a Southern dimension and extended its scope to developmental NGOs in the North and South.

In December 1998 a new director was appointed, namely, Dr Helmut Anheier, who extended the scope of the Centre’s work to continental Europe and the USA. In February 2000 the Centre was relaunched as the Centre for Civil Society (CCS). The mission of the Centre at this time was to ‘become the European academic Centre of excellence for the study of civil society, social economy, non-profit or third-sector organisations and philanthropy’. Its specific research objectives were to: first, improve understanding of civil society and social economy institutions; second, inform policy-making at local, regional, national and international levels; third, educate voluntary sector, social economy and non-profit managers, foster leadership and effectiveness; and fourth, monitor major developments affecting both civil society and the social economy.

Following the departure of Dr Anheier in October 2002, an interim committee was formed to manage the affairs of the Centre and Dr David Lewis was appointed as the Acting Director. A new director was appointed through a process of international recruitment to take over from October 2003 and three new academic staff were appointed to teach on the two related MSc programmes, and to contribute to the intellectual life and research profile of the Centre and the Department.
2. In what ways do civil societies create and/or reproduce differences and with what effects?

The concern here is with civil society as a site of power relations and contestation. Whilst much of contemporary literature on civil society has focussed on the relationship between civil society and the state, this part of the Centre’s work examines critically how civil society is fractured by uneven power relations. These power imbalances affect not only relations between different parts of civil society but also how actors within civil society engage with the state. Gender, faith, race, migration and class are some of the key differences of interest here. By looking at civil society from the point of view of difference and power relations, other related issues are brought under scrutiny, such as the distribution of rights, the use of violence, and conflict and reconciliation.

3. What are the institutional arrangements governing civil society-state relations and their effects?

This covers a range of issues such as the particular legal and regulatory frameworks operating and/or being developed in different country contexts; the processes of self-regulation by civil society actors; the institutional arrangements through which civil society actors can influence government policy; the politics of interventions by international donor agencies and international financial institutions to promote civil society in Southern contexts; the changing relationship between Northern and Southern NGOs, and between global, national and local civil society actors; the institutional arrangements negotiated between the state and civil society organisations for the delivery of services in both the North and South, and the implications thereof for the political role of civil society, the effectiveness of social policy, and the reduction of poverty and social exclusion.

4. What are the factors affecting citizen engagement in public policy?

This question is centrally concerned with the idea of participatory democracy. It involves examining the nature of citizenship, the relationship between citizen and the state, the institutional avenues for influencing public issues and policies, and the possibilities for public participation in different state formations.
Achievements over the past year

The main achievements of the Centre over the past year include:

- theoretical and empirical research on civil society in diverse contexts, leading to publications in academic journals, books, working papers, and conference presentations;
- successful launch of the ESRC Non-Governmental Public Action (NGPA) programme at the Royal Society of Arts building in London and continued expansion of this programme through the commissioning of new research projects and post-doctoral scholarships on the themes of legitimacy and accountability; violence, exclusion and non-governmental public action; and impacts and conceptions of different faith-based non-governmental public action.
- the continued development of an intellectually coherent and challenging seminar and public lectures series;
- an international workshop on civil society, security and aid post-9/11 with papers covering a range of contexts including Afghanistan, Kenya, Spain, UK and USA;
- the continued expansion of the international profile of the Centre through the visiting fellowship programme; through increased links with international donor agencies, relevant government bodies, non-governmental organisations and global civil society organisations; and through an expanded focus in postgraduate teaching and research on the South, global civil society, Central Asia and the Transcaucasus;
- ongoing policy and advisory work for non-governmental agencies, government departments and practitioners.

Research Projects 2006-07

(Listed in alphabetical order according to researcher)

Community-Based Welfare Provision in the Caucasus and Central Asia

Dr Babken Babajanian has been developing a research programme to address the issue of community-based provision of social welfare and its implications for designing anti-poverty policies within the political, social and institutional context of the Caucasus (Armenia) and Central Asia (Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan). The research will examine how community based formal and informal institutions mediate access to important public infrastructure and services, resources and opportunities and
will draw implications for broader poverty reduction strategies. Babken was awarded an ESRC post doctoral fellowship under the Non-Governmental Public Action programme in order to undertake this research. Babken presented a Conference Paper entitled Promoting Community Participation in the Caucasus and Central Asia: Donor Projects and Local Realities at a conference at SOAS on Governance, Market Reforms and Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus in November 2006. CASC Social Network – The Central Asia and South East Caucasus Social Development Network was established by Babken in August 2006.

**Global Civil Society and Economic and Social Rights (March 2005-)**

Global civil society has played an important role in boosting the political significance of economic and social rights in recent years, but there is little theorisation of this development as of yet. Dr Marlies Glasius is pursuing research in this area with funding from the Rockefeller Foundation. Her research project explores the relationship between global civil society and economic and social rights, focusing on three main themes. Firstly, it discusses how civil society actors including academics and a few small NGOs and free-lance activists put economic and social rights on the international agenda, most specifically the agenda of the UN human rights institutions and UN specialised agencies. Secondly, it focuses on how non-governmental organisations which had not previously worked with these rights, including mainstream human rights organisations, development organisations and trade unions, have come to incorporate them in their mandate, and how they use these rights in their work in practice. Thirdly, it considers whether economic and social rights are an appropriate paradigm for social policy in a globalised world. This research resulted in a chapter in Global Civil Society 2006/7.

**Dr Babken Babajanian**

Dr Babken Babajanian was awarded a Visiting Fellow position at the American University of Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan for conducting research on local governance and community-based welfare provision in Kyrgyzstan, July-August 2007.

**Local Social Forums as a New Political Arena (2003- )**

Inspired by the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre hundreds of local social forums have begun to emerge across the world. Dr Marlies Glasius has been researching these developments through web-research and participatory observation. She explores the attempts of these local forums to develop new forms of democratic decision-making, as well as the political positions they project. The research is funded by the Rockefeller Foundation and the findings have been in various book chapters and journal articles including Global Civil Society 2007/8.


Professor Jude Howell was appointed in 2004 through a process of competitive selection as Director of a new £5.24 million ESRC research programme on Non-Governmental Public Action extending over five years. The programme comprises 15 small grants of up to £45,000, 17 large grants of up to £300,000 and five two-year postdoctoral fellowships covering research in over 40 countries.

Projects include research on trade unions, development NGOs, advocacy networks, policy-making processes, co-operatives, governance issues and the effects of non-governmental public action of the Global War on Terror. The programme involves researchers from a number of UK institutions (including the LSE) and differs in that respect from an ESRC Centre.

The programme will provide a well-funded platform for the development of theory on non-governmental public action, for engagement with policy-makers and practitioners and for innovative work that spans the gap in research on the links between ‘the North’ and ‘the South’ and transcends the boundaries of intellectual fields such as social policy, development studies and politics. It will generate a range of publications aimed at academic, policy-making and practitioner audiences.

The programme was launched at the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) in March 2007.

Guest speakers at the launch were Duncan Green, Head of Research at Oxfam GB and Matthew Taylor, the new Chief Executive of Oxfam GB.

Labor Organising in China explores the effects of economic reform on organising around labour issues in China. It is a collaborative project carried out by Professor Jude Howell, Professors Feng Tongqing, Shi Xiu Yin and Zhao Wei. It examines both the changes within the All-China Federation of Trade Unions and the emergence of autonomous, non-governmental initiatives to address labour issues. Fieldwork has been carried out in ailing state enterprises and in foreign-invested companies. The last stage of the research has looked at the emergence of competitive elections for trade union positions as part of an effort to enhance the legitimacy and effectiveness of the official trade union.

The findings of this latter research have been published as in the IDS Working Paper series.

The Global War Against Terrorism, Non-governmental Public Action and Development (2005-)

Professor Jude Howell and Dr Jeremy Lind are currently researching the effects of the global war against terrorism on non-governmental public action and development. The global war against terrorism poses new challenges for non-governmental public actors in the North and South. For international development agencies (bilateral, multi-lateral and non-governmental) it raises issues around how to engage effectively with civil society. This research seeks to describe, analyse and theorise the effects of the global war on terrorism on non-governmental public action around poverty reduction and social justice in aid-recipient countries.

It proposes first, that the global war against terrorism makes it harder for non-governmental actors in developing countries to address sensitive issues around poverty

Gender and Civil Society (2002-)

This project was brought to the Centre by Professor Jude Howell and emanates out of a larger Ford Foundation funded project on civil society and governance at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex. The research examines the interconnections between gender and civil society and draws attention to the failure of both feminist theorists and civil society theorists to explore these links. The research led first to a co-edited issue on gender and civil society in the International Journal of Feminist Politics 2003 and then to an edited book on Gender and Civil Society published in 2005 by Routledge. A book launch was held at the LSE in March 2005 and the paperback edition became available in March 2007. Since then Jude has continued to explore these ideas. Two specialised seminars, organised through the Global Civil Society Yearbook have provided a stimulating forum for developing these themes and contributed to the publication of a chapter on ‘Gender and Civil society’ in the 2005/2006 issue of the Global Civil Society Yearbook.

Theoretical work in this area continues to be developed with the forthcoming publication of an article in the Journal of Social Politics.

Gender and Rural Governance in China (2002-)

This research project explores the effects of village elections in China on female political participation in village committees. The research is a collaboration between Professor Jude Howell and Du Jie, Women’s Research Institute, All-China Women’s Federation and was funded by the Ford Foundation, Beijing. The research has involved fieldwork in three provinces of China, namely, Hunan, Shandong and Liaoning. The project considers the factors facilitating or hindering women’s participation in politics, including political aspects such as Party membership and promotion procedures and the role of civil society organisations. A policy workshop was held in Beijing in the summer of 2004 to report on the findings of the research and to develop proposals for legislative and policy change aimed at increasing the participation of women in rural politics. The findings of the research were published as an article entitled ‘Women’s political participation in China: in whose interests elections?’ in the Journal of Contemporary China in November 2006, in an edited collection on female political participation in Asia by Kazuki Iwanaga and as an article, ‘Village elections in China: plus ça change, plus c’est le même – pour les femmes’
This research project is designed and led by Dr Armine Ishkanian. It explores the development of civil society and democracy in the former Soviet states since 1991 with a particular focus on Armenia. The project was funded by the US based International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) and the University of California Berkeley. Based on ethnographic research with local NGOs, international NGOs, donors and government officials engaged in civil society promotion and democracy building, the project examines how civil society is locally understood, the development of NGOs, and how the work of local organisations is affected by their relations with donor agencies, international NGOs, and government officials. The project uses Armenia as a case study, but contextualises the research within the larger democracy promotion programmes that were implemented throughout the former Soviet Union. It examines the challenges of civil society promotion and democracy building in the post-Soviet context and also draws lessons for democracy building in general as it is implemented in other regions (eg, Middle East, Central/South Asia, etc). A roundtable was organised at CCS in May 2006 to examine the growing backlash against civil society in the wake of the War on Terror. Publications resulting from this research include Ishkanian, A., (March 2008) Democracy-Building and Civil Society in Post-Soviet Armenia (Routledge) and Ishkanian, A. (2007) ‘Democracy Promotion and Civil Society’ in Global Civil Society Yearbook 2007/08 (SAGE). Armine is currently developing a research proposal to further explore the relationship between civil society and democracy promotion. In 2007 she was selected to participate in the Woodrow Wilson Center's Kennan Institute Workshop titled ‘International Development Assistance in the Post-Soviet Space’. The workshop consists of two roundtable meetings and will result in a peer-reviewed edited volume.

**Civil Society Participation in Poverty Reduction and Human Development (2003-)**

Dr Armine Ishkanian has examined the growing poverty in post-Soviet countries following independence and carried out research on civil society participation in the PRSP process. PRSPs are now being implemented in over fifty countries throughout the world. Civil society participation is one of the key components and requirements of the PRSP. This project examines how international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the IMF define ‘civil society participation’, how they discuss the role of participation in poverty reduction, and whether civil society participation has an impact on the design, implementation, and monitoring of poverty reduction policies. The field research for this project, by Armine, has been completed and resulted in an article published in the Journal of International Development (2006). Armine also guest-edited a special issue of the Central Asian Survey which examines social policies addressing health, education, the environment, and poverty in Central Asia and the Caucasus (December 2006). In addition to editing the special issue, she wrote an article titled ‘Social policy and development in Central Asia and the Caucasus’ in that same issue.

**Global Civil Society and Poverty Reduction (2006-)**

In order to connect the regional studies on post-Soviet states with a more global perspective Dr Armine Ishkanian is beginning a new research project which will examine the impact of global anti-poverty campaigns, such as Make Poverty History, and their impact on policy making. The project will focus on the role of civil society organisations in the global North and South. Armine has been invited to write a chapter on this subject for the Global Civil Society Yearbook 2008-09 edition.
Gender Issues in Post-Socialist Contexts (2000-)  
This is an area of research in which Dr Armine Ishkanian has been involved in for many years. Different phases of the research have been funded by IREX, the US National Research Council, and the University of California. The research examines the changing gender roles and relations in the former Soviet states in Central Asia and the Caucasus, the diversity and continuity of cultural models and ideas, and gender and civil society. This research has resulted in a number of publications including book chapters as well as articles on in journals such as Armenian Forum, Perspectives on Global Development and Technology and Diaspora a Journal of Transnational Affairs. Armine’s research on gender and civil society in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe continues. She was involved in the planning of the CINEFOGO conference on Gender, Citizenship and Participation held at LSE in March 2006. Selected papers from the conference, including her contribution titled ‘En-gendering Civil Society and Democracy-Building: the Anti-Domestic Violence Campaign in Armenia’, will be published in a special issue of the journal, Social Politics (December 2007) which will be co-edited by Professor Jane Lewis and Armine. In 2007 she also contributed a chapter titled ‘Gender Mainstreaming in the Context of Europe, Central Asia and the CIS: Regional Challenges’ to the UNDP Gender Mainstreaming in Practice: A Toolkit (UNDP: Bratislava).

ESRC NGPA Project on Leadership (2005-2007)  
Dr David Lewis has received an ESRC research grant to undertake this project which studies the boundary between civil society and government through the motivations and experiences of those who cross over at different points in their careers. He has conducted over sixty work life history interviews with individuals who have crossed over in three countries (UK, Bangladesh and Philippines), and is currently engaged in data analysis. The project is now due to be completed by September 2007.

Between the State and ‘Western Union’: Migration, Transnational Flow and Paradoxes of Citizenship in Nigeria (2005-)  
Dr Ebenezer Obadare’s Visiting Fellowship at the Centre between February 2005-August 2006 provided him with the opportunity to gather both secondary and primary data for the above study. The primary aim of the study, which is financially supported by the MacArthur Foundation, is to explore the linkage between transnational migration and citizenship by examining the civic implications of financial remittances for societies where it is becoming a leading and increasingly important source of private economic provisioning for a significant proportion of the population. Ebenezer conducted this research with Dr Adewale Adebanwi of the Department of Social Anthropology, Cambridge University. Their research team comprised research assistants who, using various techniques of data collection (FGDs, structured interviews, questionnaires) gathered data in the country’s three ethno-regional zones: West, North and East. In Northern Nigeria for example, data gathering was carried out in five major cities: Zaria, Kaduna, Kano, Abuja and Jos, while in the West, Ekiti, Lagos, Ondo, Ogun, Osun and Oyo states. The quantitative data thus gathered is being analysed using SPSS. Through this the researchers hope to be able to tabulate data on respondents’ socio-economic characteristics, including occupation, age, location, relationship to senders, sources of remittances, frequency of receipts, and purpose for which remittances are used.
Policy and Advisory Work

Centre staff and associates regularly provide advice to non-governmental organisations, international agencies, and government departments. This can take various forms such as being hired for a short period to carry out a particular assignment leading to policy recommendations, serving on advisory bodies or steering groups, acting as trustees, providing advice upon request, receiving international delegations, and media work.

Professor Jude Howell has provided advice to a range of organisations such as The Gates Foundation on the funding of civil society organisations, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on governance and civil society issues in China, to CIVICUS, to the Department for International Development (DFID), to the Carnegie UK Trust on civil society in the UK and Ireland, and to the All-China Women’s Federation, DFID and British Council partnership agreement on poor girl adolescents in China. She provided advice to the International Select Committee of the House of Commons on governance and civil society issues in China. She also participated in the civil society session of the UK-China Human Rights Dialogue.

Both Jude and Dr Jeremy Lind are working with Christian Aid to examine the effects of counter-terrorism measures post-911 on partner organisations.

Below are details of specific policy and advisory projects that Centre staff and associates have been engaged in over the last year:

Scoping Study on Civil Society in the UK and Ireland for the Carnegie Trust UK (2005-2006)

The CCS has carried out a scoping study on the concept of civil society and its application in the UK and Ireland as a basis for a more extensive examination of the issues by the Carnegie Trust UK. The study set out the issues over a broad canvas and identified key gaps in knowledge for further research. In exploring the idea of civil society the Centre referred not only to formal types of organisation such as trade unions, faith groups, cooperatives, mutual, community groups and voluntary sector organisations and their relationships to government and business, but also to more informal types of association beyond the family sphere. The report was written by Dr Siobhan Daly, lecturer at the University of Northumbria, a research associate at the Centre (and a former member of the CCS research staff), with Professor Jude Howell, drawing on a wide range of contributions from experts within and outside the CCS.

The report was formally launched at the CIVICUS World Assembly in summer 2006.

The Executive Summary is available to download from the CCS website. Copies of the full report ‘For the Common Good? The Changing Role of Civil Society in the UK and Ireland’ are available from the Carnegie Trust UK. Contact: admin@carnegie-youth.org.uk

ACWF/DFID Partnership Agreement (2003-07)

Professor Jude Howell is currently providing inputs on research processes and institutional design on a three year project on poor adolescent girls in China. The project is a partnership between the All-China Women’s Federation and the Department for International Development, China. Jude was involved in the original design of the partnership agreement, which was the first of its kind in China. The project seeks to identify the needs of poor adolescent girls in China’s rural areas, to design training materials aimed at enhancing their employment skills and their life skills through non-formal education, and to raise awareness amongst the general public, parents, teachers and government officials about the particular needs of poor adolescent girls in China.

In 2005 she visited a county under Sheyang City, China to discuss the processes of project evaluation being used and progress on the project.

‘Reality Check’: Listening to Poor People’s Realities on primary healthcare and primary education (2006–)

Dr David Lewis was engaged by Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (SIDA) as an adviser on the ‘Reality Check’ project.

Dr Jeremy Lind wrote a report for Christian Aid on ‘Civil society and the war on terror: preliminary analysis of pressures and responses in Sudan, Uganda and Kenya’.

Dr Jeremy Lind gave a presentation with Professor Jude Howell to the British and Irish Afghanistan Agencies Group on ‘Civil society with guns is not civil society: civil society, security and aid in Afghanistan’.
Events

Public Lectures

NGOs: a disaster for disasters? in October 2006

Public lecture and discussion by Gorik Ooms, general director of Médecins Sans Frontières Belgium, Dr Mark Pelling, reader in human geography at King’s College London, and Sir Nicholas Young, chief executive of the British Red Cross chaired by Professor Jude Howell, LSE.

This lecture explored the role of NGOs in humanitarian disasters. While recent evaluations of relief efforts have praised some of the interventions and the good intentions of aid agencies, they have also drawn attention to the negative effects of competing NGO initiatives, inappropriate aid, and the lack of coordination amongst NGOs. Are NGOs actually a disaster for humanitarian disasters? What are the alternatives? And what lessons can be learnt from past experience?

Diversity, Equality and Empowerment: NGOs – Making a Difference in February 2007

Speakers: Judith Brodie, Angela Sarkis and Marianna Tortell
Chair: Professor Jude Howell

This panel discussion will explore the issue of gender equality, diversity and NGOs. Is there anything distinctive about the way NGOs approach this issue? Are NGOs more diverse in terms of gender, ethnicity and class compared to businesses or state agencies? What differences are there amongst NGOs in the extent to which they place gender issues on the agenda? And, with more women taking up senior positions in NGOs, what do they bring, as women, to these issues?

Seminars

The Centre organises a lunch-time seminar series during the Michaelmas and Lent terms as a way of stimulating exchange of ideas and disseminating research findings on topics related to civil society. These seminars attract small but committed audiences of between 10 and 25 attendees both from within the LSE and from other research institutes and non-governmental bodies in London. The programme for 2007-06 was as follows

**Michaelmas Term 2006**

**Speaker:** Jonathan Benthall, honorary research fellow in the Department of Anthropology, University College London
**Topic:** The over-reaction against Islamic charities since 9/11

**Speaker:** Dr Claire Mercer, Lecturer in Geography at the University of Leicester.
**Topic:** Homework: the geographies of moral co-responsibility among African home associations in Britain

**Speaker:** Stephen Hopgood, Lecturer in International Politics at the School of Oriental and African Studies
**Topic:** Sacredness and profanity in global civil society: Amnesty International and the politics of moral authority

**Speakers:** Jude Howell and Jeremy Lind, Centre for Civil Society, LSE
**Topic:** Civil Society, Security And Aid: Reflections On Afghanistan

**Speaker:** Daniel Stevens, Westminster International University in Tashkent
**Topic:** The failure of civil society aid to Uzbekistan – can theory point the way forward?

**Lent Term 2007**

**Speaker:** Nir ‘Tsuk, director of the Global Fellowship Programme at ‘Ashoka – Innovators for the Public.’
**Topic:** The world is not enough: social entrepreneurship and the role of Ashoka
Summer Term 2007

Speaker: Prof Neera Chandhoke, University of Delhi
Topic: Interrogating the concept of civil society: the Indian context

Speaker: Dr Masooda Bano, ESRC Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Department of International Development, Oxford
Topic: Understanding madrassas: causes and consequences of rising religiosity in Pakistan

Speaker: Dr Victoria Clement, Assistant Professor of History at Western Carolina University
Topic: Can stability co-exist with reform? Turkmenistant’s new challenges

Speaker: Prof Neera Chandhoke, University of Delhi
Topic: Is violence a constitutive feature of civil society?

Conferences and Workshops
ESRC NGPA Workshops and Panels

NGPA Induction Workshop, November 2006
The Non-Governmental Public Action (NGPA) Programme held an induction workshop and a research and ethics workshop at Goodenough College on the 2nd and 3rd of November. In July 2006 the programme commissioned the final round of grantees, who are addressing the specific themes of accountability and legitimacy in NGPA, the security dimensions of NGPA, and religion and NGPA. The new grantees attended a tailored induction workshop to present their research proposals. These covered a diversity of subjects such as AIDS activism in Tanzania, Maoist insurgency in Nepal and faith-based public action in Sri Lanka. The variety and quality of presentations highlighted the importance of non-governmental public action, and the diverse range of people and groups the NGPA programme is interacting with.

NGPA Annual Workshop
Goodenough College, 21 and 22 March 2007
Contact Jane Schiemann at i.j.schiemann@lse.ac.uk for more information.

Aid, Security and Civil Society in the Post-911 Context Workshop,
28-29 June, 2007
The Centre for Civil Society (CCS) at the London School of Economics organised an international workshop from 28-29 June, 2007 to examine the effects of new security legislation and antiterrorism measures and practices on civil societies across both northern and southern political contexts and to critically assess the responses of non-governmental actors to political pressures and legislative threats that have arisen.

Launches

NGPA Launch Event, 21 March, 2007
Why are so many Pakistani children being educated at religious Madrassas and what, if anything, are these schools contributing to the development process in Pakistan? Do musical events like Make Poverty History or Rock Against Racism have any long-term political impact? And how has international aid and development been affected by the so-called war on terror?

These seemingly unrelated questions are at the heart of the Non-Governmental Public Action research programme (NGPA), launched by Duncan Green, Oxfam UK, on 21 March at the Royal Society of Arts.

NGPA committee member Richard Graham (Comic Relief) at the NGPA Launch.
Visiting Fellows Scheme

Following a review of the purpose and processes for the Visiting Fellow Scheme in 2003 the Centre has continued to attract a steady stream of visiting fellows from all parts of the globe with research interests closely aligned to those of Centre researchers. All visiting fellows have come with funding either from their own universities or from donor agencies such as the British Council, MacArthur Foundation and European Union. The Centre places considerable emphasis on visiting fellows being well integrated into Centre activities and ensuring that their visit is rewarding and mutually beneficial.

Brief details of visiting fellows and short term visitors to CCS during the academic year 2006-07 are as follows:

**Visiting fellows and short term visitors to CCS (2006-07)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Research Area</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Monica Banerjee</td>
<td>New Delhi, India</td>
<td>Research relating to strengthening civil society for constructive work in northeast India where South Asia meets South East Asia.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>National Foundation for India</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sept – Dec 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor Thomas Boje</td>
<td>Roskilde University, Denmark</td>
<td>Research on citizenship, social welfare, gender and the labour market.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>March – April 2007</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor Neera Chandhoke</td>
<td>Department of Political Science, University of Delhi</td>
<td>Neera came to CCS as an international visiting fellow with the ESRC Non-Governmental Public Action Programme located in CCS. During the fellowship her research focused on civil society in relation to democracy and violence</td>
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Postgraduate Teaching and Research Supervision

Current PhD students at the Centre

Georgina Blanco-Mancilla  Collective Action and Service Delivery in Mexico City
Georgina Blanco-Mancilla’s research seeks to analyse the factors that may enable or hinder the proper implementation of new health policies from the providers’ perspective and to look at the involvement of societal actors in the reform or policy process. She explores this through a case-study of Mexico.

Du Jie  The politics of engendering policy: Case studies from China
Drawing upon feminist gender frameworks of analysis, this research will use case studies on the advocacies of women’s organizations to examine gender related politics in the process of policy change in China. Contact: J.Du1@lse.ac.uk

Markus Ketola  Politics of civil society: the impact of EU pre-accession policies on Turkish advocacy NGOs
As the pre-accession negotiations between Turkey and the European Union (EU) have commenced, Turkish Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the EU representatives have embarked on developing a closer relationship. By focusing on the ways in which NGOs engage in EU policy towards civil society in Turkey, the research aims to better understand the opportunities and shortcomings of ‘civil society strengthening’ as a strategy to develop democracy from outside. The research focuses on the interaction between EU and NGOs: the interests and objectives behind the negotiations these actors engage in as a result of the EU involvement in Turkish civil society. By looking at the process through which EU representatives and NGOs forge relationships, hopes to dig deeper to the analysis of why these relationships shape out in a specific way. Contact: m.ketola@lse.ac.uk
Susan Liautaud  Accountability in French Non-profit Organisations: A Question of Trust? The purpose of the research is to investigate the reasons for recently increasing interest in accountability in the associative sector in France. The analysis will consider the application of the trust theoretical framework (Hansmann et al.), as well as the related voluntary and regulatory accountability practices, that underlie the comparatively successful US and UK nonprofit sectors to the French context. The focus of the study will be a pioneering French accountability certification organization called the Comité de la Charte (CC) and a specific set of voluntary accountability mechanisms (VAMs).

Melody Mohebi  Public Intellectuals and Civil Society: The role of public intellectuals in developing Iranian civil society, 1997-2005 As tensions in Iran mount, it becomes increasingly important for policy makers in countries with a vested interest in Iranian and regional politics to have an accurate understanding of the current situation of Iranian society, the problems it faces and domestic actions directed towards reform. The aim of this thesis is to examine the eight years of what is commonly referred to as a failed reform agenda from the lens of civil society activists and observers. The main research question seeks to explore the extent to which the popular-status attained by certain intellectuals leads them to play an influential role in the development of civil society and the conditions that affect this role. Iran, during the presidency of Mohammad Khatami, a cleric and intellectual himself, is used as a case study to empirically investigate the question.

Christopher Pallas  Power to the People? Global Civil Society and Democratization Theory in the Context of the World Bank Political theorists believe that civil society has played a key role in the democratization of numerous national governments over the past 25 years. They speculate that this pattern will be replicated in the international arena as global civil society enables citizens to exert direct control over multilateral institutions (such as the World Bank and IMF) leading to improved stakeholder representation and greater accountability. However, this theory has yet to be empirically tested, and its critics warn that excessive influence from international NGOs may actually diminish developing country influence in global governance decisions. Using two case studies of civil society lobbying of the World Bank, this thesis will examine who global civil society is, how civil society had achieved influence at the Bank, and whether civil society involvement in Washington policy processes reforms stakeholder representation in a way that increases the impact and equality of stakeholder voices. Contact: c.l.pallas@lse.ac.uk

PhD students supervised in the Department or elsewhere in the School but with a current or previous association with the Centre

Nandita Dogra  Visual Images, NGOs and Social Policy-fundraising and advocacy strategies of UK international development NGOs The research examines the visual images of UK based NGOs used for fundraising and advocacy in the light of various ‘ways of seeing’ rooted in discourses of colonialism, orientalism and development. It also considers the implications of visual images for the management, policies and discourses of NGOs.

Paola Grenier  ‘Individual action for common good’?: the tension between individual and community in social entrepreneurship Paola’s research seeks to explore and understand how tensions between individual social entrepreneurs and communities are played out in different non-profit organisational fields.

Nisrine Mansour  The influence of the political and religious institutions on women’s identities and collective action: The case of Shiite and Maronite personal status codes in Beirut’s southern suburb In the Lebanese case, tension lies between perceived liberal social environment and the existence of a pre-independence discriminating religious personal status code. Women organizations or individuals have not been able to voice personal status issues and achieve legal amendments. The
research seeks explanations by comparing the discourses of women groups with those of individual women experiencing these problems. It also looks at bargaining between state, religious, civil society and family institutions as a possible answer for generating these discourses and maintaining the personal status order. By doing this, it questions the homogenised ‘women’ category and invites a critical analysis of the role of women groups in addressing women’s issues.

Jonathan Roberts
Trust and pre-school: to what extent and in what ways do parents trust childcare providers? In different ways both trust and pre-school provision have become significant policy issues. This study uses a multi-disciplinary approach to investigate to what extent and why parents / carers trust childcare providers; it seeks to understand social and other contexts which push parents towards certain solutions to trust problems. Special, but not exclusive, reference is given to different organisational forms, including the theoretical trust advantages of nonprofit or voluntary organisations. Contact: j.j.g.roberts@lse.ac.uk

MSc degrees
Associated with the Centre over many years is the MSc in NGOs and Development (formerly called the MSc in Management of Non-Governmental Organisations) attracting students from home and overseas. These students are normally well-qualified graduates with experience of working with civil society organisations.

The MSc in NGOs and Development is intended for people who are making, or who have the potential to make, a significant contribution as analysts, policy-makers, researchers or practitioners working in or with NGOs worldwide. Graduates of the MSc have gone on to work for NGOs, inter-governmental organisations (e.g., United Nations), government ministries, as well as in the private sector.

The 2006-077 students studying for the MSc in NGOs and Development came from the following countries:
Botswana, Brazil, France, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Jordan, Macau, Norway, Pakistan, Spain, Sri Lanka, the US and Venezuela.
publications on the third sector in general, and the mixed economy of social care in the UK.

Research relating to housing policy and practice, urban poverty and social policy, the management of urban change and the role of civil society, informal institutions and politics in urban social development.

Research focusing on the role of non-governmental organisations in rural development, NGOs and development management, and the relationship between anthropology and development.

Involved with various research projects looking at the implications of expanding discussions of civil society within the international policy circles, management of non-governmental organisations, and policy interventions developed by these actors in specific issue areas.

Dr Sunil Kumar
Lecturer in Social Policy, Planning and Participation in Developing Countries and Research Associate at the Centre for Civil Society.

Dr David Lewis
Reader in Social Policy, and course tutor for the MSc in Social Policy and Planning in Developing Countries.

Dr Hakan Seckinelgin
Lecturer in International Social Policy in the Department of Social Policy and Research Associate at the Centre for Civil Society.

Dr Babken Babajanian
Postdoctoral Fellow, ESRC Non-Governmental Public Action Programme (based within Department of Social Policy)

Professor Nicholas Deakin
Former Visiting Professor, Centre for Civil Society and Department of Social Policy

Dr Marlies Glasius
Research Fellow – Dr Glasius’s research concerns both the theory and practice of global civil society and its relationship to international law, particularly human rights law. Her present research focuses on economic and social rights, human security, and social foraMs. Previous work concentrated on the influence of global civil society on the International Criminal Court.

Dr Jeremy Kendall
Research interests include the third sector in a comparative perspective; the political economy of the third sector; and the mixed economy of social care in the UK. He is the author and editor of a range of

Occasional Research Assistants 2005-06

Markus Ketola, Georgina Blanco Mancilla, Nisrine Mansour, Melody Mohebi, Christopher Pallas
Publications

Individual Staff Publications

Babken Babajanian

Journal articles


Reports, papers, reviews, conference presentations


Gave a paper on Citizenship and Informal Networks in Post-Soviet Armenia, Association for the Study Nationalities World Convention, Columbia University, NYC, 14 April 2007.


Presentation on Citizenship and Informal Networks in Post-Soviet Armenia, Association for the Study Nationalities World Convention, Columbia University, NYC, 14 April 2007.


Neera Chandhoke

Reports, papers, reviews and presentations


Marlies Glasius

Journal articles


Book chapters


Reports, papers, reviews, conference presentations


Jude Howell

Journal Articles


Book chapters


Reports, papers, reviews, conference presentations


‘New Democratic Trends in China? Reforming the All-China Federation of Trade Unions’, IDS.
Armine Ishkanian

Journal articles


Guest editor of the special issue of the Central Asian Survey on ‘Social Policy in Central Asia and the Caucasus’, Volume 25, Number 4, 2006

‘From Inclusion to Exclusion: Armenian NGOs Participation in the PPS’, Journal of International Development, Volume 18, Number 5, 2006


Book chapters


David Lewis

Sole Author

Journal Articles

‘Issues and priorities in non-governmental organisation research’. Journal of Health Management, Volume 8, Issue 2, pp 181-193

Books


Book Chapters


‘Non-governmental organisations and international politics’. In Governments of the World, ed. Neal Tate, Farmington Hills, Macmillan Reference

Reports, papers, reviews, conference presentations

‘Crossing the boundaries between third sector and state: reflections from an ongoing life-work history research project’. Conference Working Papers Series, International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR), Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore USA

‘Anthropology and development: knowledge, history, power and practice’. Keynote paper presented to conference on Anthropology in Practice: Theory, Method and Ethnography in Swedish Development Cooperation, Department of Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology, Uppsala University, 30 November - 2 December 2006

‘Home or away?: Narratives of choice-making in the life-work histories of agency personnel in the UK within domestic ‘voluntary sector’ and international ‘non-governmental’ agencies’. Association of Social Anthropologists (ASA) Diamond Jubilee Conference on Cosmopolitanism and Anthropology, University of Keele, 10-13 April 2007

‘Crossing between third sector and state: Comparative analysis of life-work histories of ‘boundary crossers’ in UK, Philippines, and Bangladesh’. Invited lecture at Yale Program on Nonprofit Organisations (PONPO), Yale University, USA, 24 April 2007

‘Community and development: beyond the parallel worlds’, Keynote speech to panel debate on ‘How does the East End of London fit into a globalized world?’, Atlee Youth and Community Centre (AYCC), London, 2 May 2007


‘Elusive spaces and organisational forms: a partial recovery of the history of the ‘third sector’ idea’. Opening paper for the ESRC seminar series on Rethinking Economies, University of Manchester, 15 December 2006

‘Challenges and issues for research on religious NGOs and development’. Workshop on Religious NGOs and the International Aid System, European Science Foundation, University of Oslo, Norway, 9-11 November 2006


Co-author

Journal Articles


Books

With Mosse, David (eds.), Development Brokers and Translators: The Ethnography of Aid and Agencies, Bloomfield, Kumarian Books

Book chapters

With Siddiqi, Shameem, ‘Social capital from sericulture?’ In Social Capital and the World Bank, pp 239-257, edited by A. Bebbington, M. Woolcock and S. Guggenheim, Bloomfield, Kumarian Books


Jeremy Lind

Articles in journals


With Siri Eriksen, ‘The impacts of conflict on household coping strategies: evidence from
with Jude Howell, Armine Ishkanian, Ebenezer Obadare, Hakan Seckinelgin, and Marlies Glasius, 2007

Hakan Seckinelgin

Journal articles


‘Civil society between the state and society: Turkish women with Muslim headscarves?’, Critical Social Policy, 2006, Volume 26, Issue 4, p 748

Books


Civil Society Working Papers

www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CCS/publications/cswp/civil_society_wp.htm

The Civil Society Working Paper (CSWP) series provides a vehicle for disseminating the recent and ongoing research efforts of researchers based at, or linked to, the Centre for Civil Society (CCS). It aims to reflect ... social enterprises – as part of wider civil society. Papers published during the academic year 2006-07 are listed below.

Editor: Professor Jude Howell

• ‘The Backlash against Civil Society in the Wake of the Long War on Terror’, Civil Society Working Paper 26
  – Jude Howell, Armine Ishkanian, Ebenezer Obadare, Hakan Seckinelgin, and Marlies Glasius
  This paper was also widely disseminated in CIVICUS and in the UN site for civil society and NGOs.

• ‘In Search of a Good Society: Introduction to Altruism Theories and Their Links with Civil Society’, Civil Society Working Paper 25
  – Anne Birgitta Yeung

• ‘The GSM Boycott: Civil Society, Big Business and the State in Nigeria’, Civil Society Working Paper 23
  – Ebenezer Obadare

Voluntary Sector Working Papers

www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CCS/publications/vswp/Voluntary_Sector_Working_Papers.htm

This new series follows the former CVO (Centre for Voluntary Organisation) working paper series and disseminates research undertaken by students on the MSc in Voluntary Sector Organisation. The purpose of the working papers is to contribute to, and inform discussion


Reports, papers, reviews and conference presentations

Co-chair of roundtable discussion on Civil society and the securitisation of aid in Kenya, organized by CCS and the Legal Resources Foundation (Kenya), Nairobi, January 2007

Co-chair of roundtable discussion on Civil society and the securitisation of aid in India, organized by CCS with the Voluntary Action Network India, New Delhi, November 2006


With Siri Eriksen The urgent need to increase adaptive capacities: evidence from Kenya drylands. Report from workshop organized by the University of Oslo and the African Centre for Technology Studies, Nairobi, November 2006


Presentation on Climate stress, chronic insecurity and the loss of recuperative powers in Turkana District, Kenya Presentation to policy workshop on ‘Adapting to climate change in an environment of conflict’, Nairobi, October 2006

Co-chair of roundtable discussion on Civil society and the securitisation of aid in the UK, organized by CCS at LSE, June 2006

Ebenezer Obadare

Journal articles


‘Religious NGOs, Civil Society and the Struggle for a Public Sphere in Nigeria’ African Identities, Volume 5, Issue 1, April 2007, pp. 135-153.


Book Chapters


Reports, papers, reviews, conference presentations

CCS Working Paper ‘The backlash against civil society in the wake of the long war on terror.’ Civil Society Working Paper Centre for Civil Society, London School of Economics
about, the distinctive issues faced by the voluntary sector in the UK. They are aimed at individuals who work in and with voluntary agencies, as well as academics, researchers and policy makers. The working papers are published as downloadable documents and thereby are widely accessible. In some cases the research reported in a working paper may be further developed for a refereed publication.

Series Editor: Dr Sarabajaya Kumar, Programme Director, MSc in Voluntary Sector Organisation
Editors: Dr Sarabajaya Kumar and Dr Siobhan Daly, former CCS Research Officer

The Voluntary Sector Working Papers have been made possible by a grant generously given by the Charities Aid Foundation.


Future papers in this series will address a range of topics such as national campaigning organisations, high-engagement philanthropy, the relationship between income and charitable giving, and social capital.

NGPA Working Papers
www.lse.ac.uk/collections/NGPA/publications/default.htm

The NGPA Working Paper (NGPAWP) series provides a vehicle for disseminating recent and ongoing research of researchers based at, or linked to the NGPA research programme. It aims to reflect the range and diversity of non-governmental public action, and understand the impact of public action.

Researchers on the Non-Governmental Public Action research programme work with advocacy networks, peace groups, campaigns and coalitions, trade unions, peace-building groups, rights-based groups, social movements and faith-based groups to understand the impact of non-governmental public action. They are based in universities, think-tanks, civil society organizations, projects and networks around the world gathering data, building theory, and strengthening co-operation between researchers and practitioners.

Papers published during the academic year 2006-07 are listed below.
Editor: Professor Jude Howell:
• ‘Promoting Institutional Change in Post-Soviet Armenia: Is Social Capital the ‘Missing Link’?’, NGPA Working Paper 1, Babken V. Babajanian