

The David Davies Memorial Institute of International Studies (DDMI) was established in 1951 to commemorate the work of Lord Davies in promoting a more just world through international cooperation, law, and organisation. The Institute moved to its new institutional home in the Department of International Politics at Aberystwyth University in 2002.

The control, reduction and elimination of the most destructive weapons humanity has invented was the driving spirit that motivated Lord Davies to set up the world's first Department of International Relations in 1919, and this normative vision continues to guide the work of the institute. Its priorities have evolved with a changing global order to encompass an expanded security agenda, questions of international and global responsibility, and the status of the individual in a world of states. From its inception, the DDMI has sought to build bridges between the academic and policy-making worlds, and it provides a forum in which policy makers, officials, NGOs, academics, and the wider public can share different views and perspectives.

From the Director

I am delighted to report that the DDMI will play a role in the recently launched Climate Change Consortium of Wales. The Institute is involved in the research cluster on the Human Dimensions of Climate Change and will apply our developing theoretical work on trust and legitimacy to the challenge of climate governance. On 12 February 2010 we held the first workshop on our new project on 'The Challenges to Trust-Building in Nuclear Worlds' in the House of Commons. This project seeks to explore how far multidisciplinary approaches to trust can contribute to building trust between nuclear-armed and arming states. Our workshop was aimed at engaging government officials, NGOs, and the wider academic community in exploring this question. I am very pleased to announce that the Rt. Hon. Des Browne will deliver the DDMI's Annual Lecture. As the chair of the new Top-Level Group of UK Parliamentarians for Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, he is exceptionally well-placed to reflect on the role of political leadership in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons. I would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to all of you to join us for this occasion.



- Professor Nicholas Wheeler

DDMI 2010 Annual Lecture

The Right Honourable Des Browne, MP

"The Importance of Political Leadership in Achieving a Nuclear Weapon Free World."

28 April 2010, 6pm
Main Hall, International Politics Department
Aberystwyth University



The Right Honourable Des Browne

Ruzicka and Wheeler Publish Article in *International Affairs*

Jan Ruzicka and Nicholas Wheeler have published an article on trusting relationships and the NPT in the most recent issue of *International Affairs*. Focusing on the concept of trust, the article offers a novel perspective on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and its future prospects. The authors argue that the NPT can be reconceptualized as a series of trusting relationships between signatories. The authors show how trusting relationships have underpinned the NPT from its beginning and chart their evolution by reference to three key sets of relationships. These are, first, the relationships between the recognized nuclear weapon powers and the non-nuclear weapon states; second, those among the recognized nuclear weapon states; and third, those between the NPT signatories and the states remaining outside of the treaty. By understanding the NPT through the prism of trust, the article sheds new light on both the achievements of the treaty as well as its potential fragility. At the same time, such an analysis opens up the directions of policy crucial to strengthening the treaty at the 2010 Review Conference and beyond.

Marek Kohn Gives Seminar Entitled "Trust & Distrust in Europe"

Dr Marek Kohn, a fellow in the Centre for Applied Philosophy, Politics and Ethics at the University of Brighton, spoke in 5 November 2009 on the topic "Trust and Distrust in Yesterday's and Tomorrow's Europe." A podcast from this event is available on the DDMI website.



Dr. Kohn

Dr. Kohn examined the covert truces established by soldiers on the Western Front during the First World War, arguing that trust developed from these co-operative practices and helped to sustain them because soldiers found themselves in a crisis that threatened their survival.

In today's Europe, by contrast, he argued there is no such clear and present danger, so initiatives that could build trust between mutually suspicious nations lack real urgency. He focussed on the US proposal to place anti-missile systems in Poland and the Czech Republic to demonstrate how existential anxieties colour attitudes in nations with a history of lost or threatened independence. These complexes of mistrust may pose obstacles to such nations' acceptance of shared sovereignty and their belief in collective defence. Kohn argued that to build trust in Europe we need to address these anxieties and discover a sense of purpose in the absence of crisis.

New DDMI Research Interns

The DDMI has recently expanded its research capacity by recruiting volunteer interns. Calls for interns have gone out for projects on Responsibility to Protect; Canadian foreign policy and climate change; and South Africa, Trust, and Nuclear Weapons. The first intern, Jennifer Crutch, has started work on the nuclear trust-building project.

DDMI Disseminating Research in both Traditional and New Media

The DDMI has been active in disseminating its research and activities through a variety of media. We have been engaging with new media by regularly using vidcasting technology and establishing a growing presence on Facebook. In addition, Grant Dawson, Deputy Director, has written articles for the BBC Mid-Wales website and has written two opinion articles, one for the *Western Mail* and one for the *Ottawa Citizen*.

DDMI Joins C3W Initiative

The DDMI will play a role in the recently launched Climate Change Consortium of Wales (C3W), a multi-million pound environmental initiative. C3W links top researchers in four universities in Wales, and Aberystwyth University is taking-up the coordinating role. The aim is to establish Wales as a world-recognized centre for interdisciplinary climate research.

Much of the C3W initiative involves 'hard' science, but there is also a complementary social science component. The DDMI is involved in the Human Dimensions of Climate Change research cluster, focusing on the areas of climate governance and trust-building. This agenda was behind our symposium on climate change that, as explained in an op-ed in the *Western Mail* on 6 November 2009, attempted to take stock of the debate in anticipation of the UN Copenhagen Summit.

DDMI Hosts Climate Change Symposium



Prof. Robyn Eckersley

The DDMI organized and hosted a one-day symposium entitled "Copenhagen and Climate Change: The Stakes; The Politics." The symposium took place on 6 November 2009 in the Main Hall of the International Politics Building, Aberystwyth University.

The speakers included internationally renowned experts on environmental policy such as Sir Emyr Jones-Parry, (President of Aberystwyth University and former UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations), Professor Robyn Eckersley, and Dr. Peter Christoff of the University of Melbourne. The event closed with a roundtable discussion featuring Sir John Houghton, a former co-chair of the Scientific Assessment for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and Dr Marek Kohn, University of Brighton.



Sir John Houghton

A vidcast of the entire proceedings is available for viewing on the DDMI website, and an article with some of the key points raised has been published on the BBC Mid-Wales website.

The DDMI would like to thank the Gwendoline and Margaret Davies Charity for providing financial support as well as Aberystwyth University's Research Fund and Commercialisation and Consultancy Services, Aberystwyth University.

Special Double Issue on Kenneth Waltz in *International Relations*

A recent double-special issue, flowing from a September 2008 conference at the Department of International Politics, focuses on the pivotal contribution of Professor Kenneth Waltz to the discipline of International Relations. This double issue features articles from a diverse group of world-renowned scholars including Professors Richard Ned Lebow, Barry Buzan, Andrew Linklater, John Mearsheimer, Jean Elshtain and Ole Wæver.

International Relations was originally published by the DDMI before being acquired by SAGE in 2002. It retained since its link to the DDMI and the latter's commitment to outstanding research. A full vidcast of this conference is available on the Department of International Politics website at <http://www.aber.ac.uk/interpol/en/>

Upcoming DDMI Workshop on Dialogue in International Relations

ESRC Postdoctoral Fellow Dr Naomi Head (nmh@aber.ac.uk) will be convening a workshop in association with the DDMI entitled New Approaches to Conflict Transformation: Trust, Empathy and Dialogue. The conference will take place at the Department of International Politics at Aberystwyth University on 23-24th June 2010.

The workshop is intended to draw together scholars and practitioners from different disciplines in order to interrogate the role of dialogue, trust and empathy in International Relations. It will include Karin Fierke from St. Andrew's, Lynne Cameron from Open University and Diana Francis from the Committee for Conflict Transformation Support.

The workshop will focus on a number of topics, including the investigation of empathy and perspective taking, the role of emotions in generating conflict, the ethics of dialogue, the relationship between perceptions of justice and (dis)trust/empathy, political violence and uncertainty and its relationship to (dis)trust/empathy, and negotiating the language and practices of trust and distrust.

New Staff

The DDMI would like to welcome our new staff member to the institute.



Dr. Naomi Head
ESRC Postdoctoral Fellow

Dr Naomi Head has recently joined the DDMI as an ESRC Postdoctoral Fellow. She is currently working with Professor Nick Wheeler on her project entitled 'Conflict, Dialogue and Ethics in International Relations: From the Responsibility to Protect to a Responsibility to Discuss?'

Naomi develops the notion of communicative ethics, drawing on the critical theory of Jürgen Habermas, and applies it to decision-making processes to use force in International Relations. She is undertaking an empirical analysis of the claims to legitimacy made by NATO member states when they went to war over Kosovo in 1999, enabling an alternative reading of the intervention which contests the conventional claim of 'illegal but legitimate'. Naomi's research is concerned with deliberative dimensions to legitimacy and, therefore, builds on existing work within the DDMI in terms of legitimacy, dialogue, critical theory in International Relations and humanitarian intervention.



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<http://www.aber.ac.uk/interpol/en/research/DDMI/DavidDavies.htm>