GCRF COMPASS: Comprehensive Capacity-Building in Eastern Neighbourhood and Central Asia: research integration, policy impact and community engagement

Global Challenges Conference
University of Kent

COMPASS Consortium, Kent team:
Prof. Elena Korosteleva (PI)
Dr Kornelia Jumel (PM)
Dr Eske van Gils (PDRA)
Dr Oybek Madiyev (PDRA)
+ two GCRF PhD students (from 09/2018)
COMPASS: Aims and objectives

We seek to establish ‘the hubs of excellence’ in our partner-HEIs to enable them to become the ‘nodes’ for knowledge production and transfer across the region and beyond.

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Conceptually, the project explores new approaches to ‘governance’, with a focus on resilience, community, and ‘critical infrastructures’ for reform, to understand what makes ‘governance’ more effective & sustainable

Practically, the project seeks to enhance relations with our partners in three areas:

- **Research Integration**: specialisms, thematic workshops, publications and growing joint learning provision

- **Policy Impact**: policy forums, study trips, EES, policy roundtables & policy papers

- **Community Engagement**: surveys, citizen juries & ‘dialogue with a wider society’

Our vision is to connect these hubs of excellence with the world!
Advisory Board & GCRF Officer

- **GCRF RCUK officer:** Dr Gabriela Echegoyen-Nava
- **Academic Advisors:**
  - Professor Peter Nolan, Cambridge Director, Centre of Development Studies
  - Professor Trine Flockhart, University of Southern Denmark
  - Professor David Chandler, Westminster University
  - Professor Mick Cox, LSE IDEAS
  - Professor Tatiana Romanova, St Petersburg University
  - Professor Gwendolyn Sasse, ZOIS Berlin
  - Professor Magnus Marsden, Director of Asia Centre, Sussex
- **UK/EU Policy Advisors:**
  - Laurence Broyd, FCO
  - Fionna Gibb, UK Ambassador to Belarus
  - Miriam Lexmann, IRI, Head of Europe’s branch
  - Dr Graeme Ramshaw, research, development and impact WFD
  - Dr Wolfgang Sender, KAS, Head of Belarus Office
  - Baroness Suttie. House of Lords. Westminster
- **National Impact Advisors:**
  - Lord Teverson, House of Lords, Westminster
  - Dr Nathalie Tocci (IAI), special advisor to EU HRVP

The Advisory Board’s principal responsibilities include:
- To provide expert advice and feedback on selected COMPASS activities, developments and implementation
- To assist the consortium with communication and dissemination activities, including COMPASS research and policy impact, nationally and on a pan-European level.
- Should the AB members use the name of the project for their relevant activities, they need to inform the Project’s Principal Investigator (E.Korosteleva@kent.ac.uk) and/or the Project Manager (K.Jumel@kent.ac.uk) in advance.
Key Challenges

• **Reconciling research & practice**

• **Organisational (I):** getting to know your team is crucial!

• **Organisational (II):** shaping shared priorities, KPIs and Action Plans (APs)

• **Monitoring & Evaluation:** deliverables & narratives + KPIs/APs & outputs

• **Communication:** crucial

• **Transactional**

• **Staying open to new opportunities!**