

# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

<b>From</b>	Period start date			<b>To</b>	Period end date		
	Day 1	Month January	Year 2024		Day 31	Month December	Year 2024

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name**

Conflict Research Society

**Other names charity is known by**

**Registered charity number (if any)**

306136

**Charity's principal address**

45 Ethelbert Road  
 Canterbury  
  
**Postcode** CT1 3NF

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Kristin M. Bakke	Chair	04.09.24-present	CRS Council
2	Hugh Miall	President		CRS Council
3	John Gledhill	Membership Secretary		CRS Council
4	Hilary Adams	Treasurer		CRS Council
5	Jennifer Hodge	Strategic director		CRS Council
6	Imrana Alhaj Buba	Secretary	01.10.24-present	CRS Council
7	Christine Cheng	Council Member		CRS Council
8	Kit Rickard	Council Member		CRS Council
9	Teresa Dumasy	Council Member		CRS Council
10	Valerie Sticher	Council Member		CRS Council
11	Corinne Barra	Council Member	05.09.24-present	CRS Council
12	Sebastian van Baalen	Council Member	01.10.24-present	CRS Council
13	Robert Nagel	Chair (interim)	01.01.24-03.09.24	CRS Council
14	Allard Duursma	Council Member	01.01.24-04.09.24	CRS Council
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

**Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)**

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Constitution
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, association, company)</small>	Association
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</small>	Annual election to Council by membership at AGM

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

<p>You <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;</li> <li>• the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;</li> <li>• relationship with any related parties;</li> <li>• trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.</li> </ul>
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## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the Society are to promote research, practice and the extension of knowledge in the fields of Peace and Conflict Research. By the term 'Peace and Conflict Research' is meant the investigation and study on a systematic basis of the following:

- a) The **CONDITIONS AND DYNAMICS** of cooperation and conflict at all levels, with special reference to large-scale violent conflicts, including war.
- b) The **FACTORS** within and across social systems which cause them to approach or avoid constructive or destructive conflicts. This requires a multi-disciplinary pooling of knowledge.

- c) The **PROCESS** of preventing, managing, resolving and transforming conflicts and building peace, including such specific proposals as the modification of existing social or political institutions or the creation of new ones. 'Building peace' includes research into underlying asymmetries and inequalities and their implications. It also includes research and activities related to exploration of the creative dimensions of what has been termed positive peace.
- d) The **LIKELY CONSEQUENCES** of particular policies and proposals intended to avoid, resolve or control conflicts, or to increase cooperation between groups of individuals, the steps necessary to realise such proposals, and possible obstacles in their way. This includes research into the link between theory and practice.
- e) Any other problems directly relevant to conflict and cooperative behaviour. The investigation and study is directed as far as possible towards finding factual evidence and objective criteria for testing theories and hypotheses. This includes the aim of relating quantitative and qualitative data.

To this end, the Society organizes an annual conference and occasionally other meetings. It publishes a newsletter for the benefit of members. It gives an annual Book Prize to the most outstanding book in its field every year, and awards a prize for the best piece of PhD research. It occasionally offers small travel grants to PhD researchers in its area. It promotes the exchange of news and information in the conflict research and practice field through its website, twitter feed and networking.

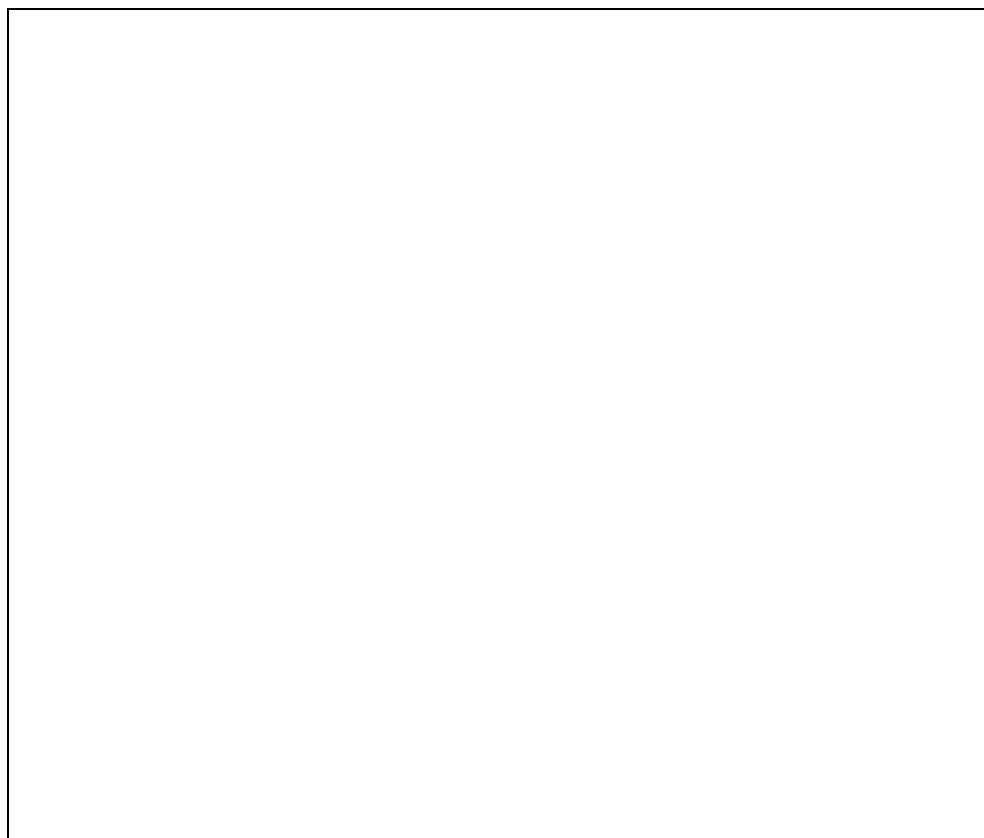
In organizing these activities the trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.



## Section D

## Achievements and performance

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

The 2024 conference, held at Edinburgh School of Law and in collaboration with PeaceRep, was a huge success, with around 235 participants, from 137 institutions and 6 continents. This was our most international and diverse CRS conference to date.

We received outstanding feedback from participants once more- with multiple people suggesting again that this was the best conference that they had attended, and certainly one of the best CRS conferences in the history of the society.

Participants were delighted by the quality of the work, and the mixture of different disciplinary approaches that together makes the discussion and atmosphere at CRS particularly special.

This year, we were also very pleased to note a high attendance rate of practitioners, making up around 20 percent of attendees.

The feedback we received indicates that the CRS conference continues to be a particularly good conference for PhDs to attend.

The conference opened with a welcome from newly elected CRS Chair, Kristin M. Bakke, followed by a Keynote address by Roger Mac Ginty and a presentation of the PA-X Tracker by Tim Epple and Niamh Henry.

As Chair, Kristin's welcome emphasised the continued commitment of the CRS to interdisciplinary, different methodologies, and the links to policy and practice, as well as the warm, friendly and welcoming ethos of the CRS. Roger Mac Ginty's keynote, titled "Peace Fragmentation: Maybe That's a Good Thing," offered provocative insights into how fragmentation within peace processes can present both challenges and opportunities for conflict resolution. Questions raised by this keynote were alluded to throughout the conference in later panels. In this slot, the PeaceRep team also launched the PA-X Tracker: Peace and Transition Process Tracker. With the mix of academics, practitioners and policymakers at the CRS, the conference offered a particularly good opportunity for launch of this innovative tool.

The conference also continued to recognise outstanding contributions to the field. Imrana Alhaji Buba was awarded the Cedric Smith Prize for the best piece of research by a PhD candidate or someone having recently passed their PhD defense, for the paper, "Civilian Protection Payment and the Escalation of Violence against Civilians in Northwestern Nigeria."

The CRS Book of the Year Prize, which honours research that is contemporary, exceptional and world-leading, went to Peer Schouten for "Roadblock Politics: The Origins of Violence in Central Africa." Despite an unfortunately timed fire alarm, attendees were happy to return to hear his outstanding keynote speech, which discussed how the use of roadblocks can explain much broader patterns of conflict and state building in Central Africa.

This year, the CRS medal for outstanding contribution to the CRS was presented to former CRS Chair, Govinda Clayton. Although Govinda was not able to attend this year's CRS, remarks by Kristin Bakke in presenting the CRS medal drew attention to the long history of dedication and commitment that Govinda has demonstrated to the CRS, and his role in transforming the CRS into a household name amongst peace and conflict scholars and practitioners in the UK, Europe, and beyond. Congratulations again to Govinda.

For the first time, PeaceRep-funded scholarships were also awarded to seven participants from countries eligible for Official Development Assistance (ODA). These scholarships, designed to foster global dialogue, diversity, and inclusivity, enabled scholars from underrepresented regions to attend and contribute to the conference. We were delighted to support the participation of these scholars and practitioners and welcomed the scholars with a lunch on Wednesday of the conference. Feedback from the scholars – for whom all disclosed this was their first visit to the UK – indicated that this opportunity was incredibly valuable in expanding their networks and that they were delighted to participate in world-leading discussions on peace and conflict research and practice at the CRS conference.

During the conference the CRS also conducted a council meeting. New Chair Kristin Bakke was warmly welcomed into her new role.

The council shared its deep gratitude to Hilary Adams, for her invaluable work as treasurer.

John Gledhill presented the membership report, which showed a record number of members.

Throughout the year the Council continued to meet online and discuss matters by email, and individual Council members and members of the Society participated in a wide range of activities which promote conflict research and practice; we heard a round-up of these activities in our Council meetings.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Society made a surplus in the current year of £2,465 which when added to the surplus brought forward of £47,383 leaves a balance to carry forward of £49,848. The Society holds £2,702.24 of restricted funds as the balance unspent of the PeaceRep ODA Scholarship grant for 2024. PeaceRep has agreed this amount can be rolled over to fund a PeaceRep ODA scholar at the 2025 CRS Conference.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F

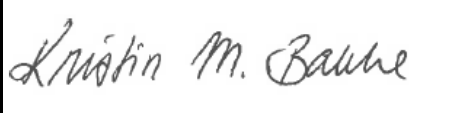
## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Prof. Kristin M. Bakke	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	

**Date** 25.03.25



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name <b>Conflict Research Society</b>	No (if any) 306136
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CC16a

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1.1.24	To	Period end date 31.12.24
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Conference fees	29,749		-	29,749	28,125
Membership	1,566		-	1,566	1,406
Grant		20,000	-	20,000	2,210
Interest	886		-	886	-
	-		-	-	-
	-		-	-	-
	-		-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>32,201</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52,201</b>	<b>31,741</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>32,201</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52,201</b>	<b>31,741</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Awards & prizes	347	-	-	347	356
Website	-	-	-	-	288
Newsletter & admin	1,690	-	-	1,690	1,300
Conference costs	29,725	17,298	-	47,023	31,682
Bank & paypal charges	676	-	-	676	726
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>32,438</b>	<b>17,298</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,736</b>	<b>34,352</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>32,438</b>	<b>17,298</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,736</b>	<b>34,352</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 237</b>	<b>2,702</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,465</b>	<b>- 2,611</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	47,383		-	47,383	49,994
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>47,146</b>	<b>2,702</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,848</b>	<b>47,383</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Lloyd bank	41,511	2,702	-
	Paypal	5,068	-	-
	Coop Bank	567	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>47,146</b>	<b>2,702</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Conflict Research Society

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 December 2024

**Charity no  
(if any)**

306136

**Set out on pages**

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2024**.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

**Date:**

16/04/2025

**Name:**

Lu Li

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Fellow Chartered and Certified Accountant

**Address:**

23 Belsize Avenue,  
London, NW3 4BL

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**