

## **About the Conflict Research Programme**

The CRP is a £6.6 million, 4 year research grant from DFID, lead by Professor Mary Kaldor from the Department of International Development, LSE and Professor Alex DeWaal from the Fletcher School, Tufts University. The CRP will address three central research questions in an effort to identify how the risk and impact of violent conflict can be more effectively reduced through development and governance interventions: (a) how the dynamics of a turbulent and globally integrated political marketplace drives violence, making armed conflicts intractable, mutable and vulnerable to moral populist agendas including extremism; (b) how people attempt to construct public authority from below in such situations; and (c) how these dynamics help to explain the success or failure of development and governance interventions.

The CRP will research case studies in Africa and the Middle East in which state authority is contested and statebuilding projects are failing. At LSE, the programme is directed by Professor Mary Kaldor with this post being hosted by the Middle East Centre and managed by Professor Toby Dodge. The Middle East component of the research involves dedicated research teams working on Iraq and Syria as well as research examining conflict drivers that span the whole of the region.