

DR. KATIE BENSON

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[Research Profile](#)

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

- 2012 – 2016 **PhD in Criminology**, University of Manchester
- Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council
- 2011 – 2012 **MRes in Criminology & Socio-Legal Studies**, University of Manchester (Distinction)
- Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council
 - Chair's Prize for Most Outstanding Postgraduate Criminology Dissertation
- 2006 – 2007 **MSc in Criminology**, University of Leicester (Distinction)
- Award for Best Dissertation in the Department of Criminology
- 1997 – 2001 **BSc (Hons) in Pharmacology**, University of Dundee (2:1)

EMPLOYMENT

- Jan 2018 – Present **Lecturer in Criminology**, School of Law, Lancaster University
- Feb 2016 – Dec 2017 **Research Associate**, School of Law, University of Manchester
- Sep 2011 – Mar 2017 **Research Assistant, Teaching Assistant and Guest Lecturer**, School of Law, University of Manchester
- May 2011 – Jul 2014 **Consultant**, Analysis and Intelligence Solutions; Turks and Caicos Special Investigation and Prosecution Team
- Aug 2009 – Mar 2011 **Knowledge Manager**, Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency
- Jan 2008 – Jul 2009 **Intelligence Analyst**, Operation Liberal - Derbyshire Constabulary
- May 2002 – Jan 2006 **Medical Sales Representative**, Abbott Laboratories Ltd

RESEARCH PROFILE

My research is focused around 3 overlapping themes:

1) Money laundering and anti-money laundering

My primary area of research is the role played by legal professionals in the facilitation of money laundering, and the criminal justice and regulatory responses to this. I published a monograph on this subject in April 2020, and have written a number of book chapters and conference presentations/talks in this area. I have been invited to speak on this subject to print and broadcast media; professional, regulatory and law enforcement bodies; and think tanks. I am currently developing future research and knowledge exchange plans on the anti-money laundering regulation of legal professionals; the way financial organisations' compliance departments experience anti-money laundering; and the conceptualisation, theorisation and analysis of 'money laundering'.

In 2019, I co-organised a conference on criminal proceeds, money laundering and terrorism financing, to develop a network of emerging researchers in these fields. I co-edited an edited collection resulting from this conference and will continue to develop and support this network.

2) White-collar and corporate crime

I have been involved in two projects on international and domestic bribery. One of these resulted in a report on bribery and corruption in international business which was launched by our partners, White & Case LLP, at the 35th International Conference on the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, Washington DC in 2018. Our project on domestic bribery has produced a journal article and written submission to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Bribery Act 2010 (March 2019).

I am an active member of the European Working Group on Organizational Crime (EUROC), which develops and shares research on white-collar and corporate crime across Europe and with a partner organisation in the US, of which I am also a member (American Society of Criminology Division of White-Collar Crime).

3) Illicit markets and organised crime

I have been involved in two projects on the organisation, cross-border distribution and retail of counterfeit alcohol, alongside the Food Safety Authority of Ireland and Alcohol Research UK.

My previous role as Knowledge Manager at the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency (SCDEA) involved developing the Scottish Government's Serious Organised Crime Strategy and national Organised Crime Research Plan, and research, knowledge exchange and advisory activity on organised crime policing, threat assessment, cybercrime, financial crime threats and intelligence requirements, and money laundering and human trafficking risks in the private rented sector.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Benson, K. (2020) *Lawyers and the Proceeds of Crime: The Facilitation of Money Laundering and Its Control*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Benson, K., King, C. and Walker, C. (eds.) (2020) *Assets, Crimes and the State: Innovations in 21st Century Legal Responses*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Peer-reviewed journal articles:

Lord, N., Doig, A., Levi, M., van Wingerde, K. and **Benson, K.** (2020) 'Implementing a Divergent Response? The UK approach to bribery in international and domestic contexts', *Public Money and Management*, Online First 23 Jan 2020.

Spencer, J., Lord, N., **Benson, K.** and Bellotti, E. (2018) 'C' is for Commercial Collaboration: Enterprise and Structure in the 'Middle Market' of Counterfeit Alcohol Distribution', *Crime, Law and Social Change*, 70(5): 543-560.

Bellotti, E., Spencer, J., Lord, N. and **Benson, K.** (2018) 'Counterfeit Alcohol Distribution: a Criminological Network Analysis', *European Journal of Criminology*, Online First 20 Aug 2018.

Lord, N., Spencer, J., Bellotti, E. and **Benson, K.** (2017) 'A Script Analysis of the Distribution of Counterfeit Alcohol Across Two European Jurisdictions', *Trends in Organized Crime*, 20: 252-272.

Book chapters:

Benson, K., King, C. and Walker, C. (2020) 'Dirty Money and the New Responses of the 21st Century', in K. Benson, C. King and C. Walker (eds.) *Assets, Crimes and the State: Innovations in 21st Century Legal Responses*. Abingdon: Routledge, pp. 1-19.

Benson, K. (2020) 'Occupation, Organisation and Opportunity: Theorising the Facilitation of Money Laundering as 'White-Collar Crime'', in K. Benson, C. King and C. Walker (eds.) *Assets, Crimes and the State: Innovations in 21st Century Legal Responses*. Abingdon: Routledge, pp. 111-124.

Benson, K. (2017) 'Money Laundering, Anti-Money Laundering and the Legal Profession', in C. King, C. Walker and J. Gurulé (eds.) *The Handbook of Criminal and Terrorism Financing Law*. London: Palgrave MacMillan, pp. 109-134.

Reports:

Lord, N., Jordanoska, A. and **Benson, K.** (2018) *Global White-Collar Crime Survey 2018: Anti-Bribery and Corruption*. University of Manchester/White & Case LLP (38 pages).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

The Role of the Solicitors Regulation Authority in the 'Fight' Against Money Laundering, *European Working Group on Organisational Crime (EUROC) 2nd Biennial Workshop*, Manchester, June 2019

Community Impact of Organised Crime: Research and Practice Innovations

Invited contributor to knowledge exchange event organised by Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research. Glasgow, March 2019

The Regulation of Legal Professionals in the 'Fight' Against Money Laundering, *Law and Society Association Annual Meeting*, Washington DC, May 2019

Using White-Collar Crime Theory to Understand the Role of 'Professional Enablers'

Invited to contribute to panel on 'High End Money Laundering and the Role of Professional Enablers', *Cambridge International Symposium on Economic Crime*, Cambridge, September 2017

Money Laundering, Anti-Money Laundering and the Legal Profession, *European Society of Criminology Conference*, Cardiff, September 2017

(Anti-)Bribery and Corruption in Multinational Businesses, *American Society of Criminology Conference*, Philadelphia, November 2017

Corporate Vehicles and Illicit Finance – Law, Policy and Practice

Invited attendee at Expert Group Meeting to discuss the (mis)use of corporate vehicles by those involved in serious crime, with law enforcement, regulators, prosecutors and academics from the UK and Netherlands. Manchester, July 2017

The Dynamics of Counterfeit Alcohol Distribution: Understanding the Significance of Legitimate Business Actors, Organisations and Structures, *European Society of Criminology Conference*, Münster, September 2016

The Facilitation of Money Laundering by Professionals: Challenging the Official Narrative

Invited speaker at symposium on *Comparative and International Aspects of Criminal and Terrorism Funding*, University of Tilburg, October 2015

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIP

- European Working Group on Organizational Crime (EUROC)
- American Society of Criminology Division of White-Collar Crime
- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Standing Group on Organised Crime
- European Society of Criminology (ESC)
- ESC Working Group on Qualitative Research Methods and Epistemologies

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION (2017-20)

- Invited to consult on Home Office Economic Crime Research Strategy (Jan 2020)
- Interviewed by journalist for article on money laundering and the legal profession in 'KYC360' (May 2019)
- Contributed to written submission to House of Lords Select Committee on the Bribery Act 2010 (March 2019)
- Shortlisted for lay member position on Law Society Anti-Money Laundering Task Force (Jan 2019)
- Invited to consult on Transparency International project on 'professional enablers' (Jan 2019)
- Interviewed by journalist for article on anti-money laundering in the UK in Prospect magazine (Oct 2018)
- Invited to carry out peer review for UK Home Office – report on project on financial investigation in the UK (Aug 2018)
- Invited to consult on Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) project on role of professional enablers in high-end money laundering (Jan-Feb 2018)
- Invited to produce report on UK's Anti-Money Laundering Framework for Max Planck Institute (Jan 2018; declined due to workload)
- Invited to advise the UK Bar Council's Anti-Money Laundering Working Group in relation to their anti-money laundering guidance for barristers, government consultations, and submissions to HM Treasury (2017)
- Research on money laundering and the legal profession requested by the Legal and Enforcement Department of the Solicitors Regulation Authority (2017)
- Research on money laundering and professional enablers requested by the Criminal Finance Co-ordination Manager of the Economic Crime Command, National Crime Agency (2017)
- Developed and conducted collaborative project on (anti-)bribery and corruption with White and Case LLP, London to explore the dynamics of bribery in international business and associated compliance practices (2017-18)