Hello and welcome to the first edition of the Crime, Security and Society Journal. Although for those of us involved it seems to have been a long road from initial conception to producing the first issue, I am indebted to the Advisory and Editorial Boards for their patience and guidance along the way, and I am delighted that we have finally got here. To all those involved in making it happen, my sincere thanks.

So what is the Crime, Security and Society Journal about and what is its purpose and function? It is has always been our intention for this journal to provide a welcome space for both academic researchers and professionals, working in the area of crime and security, in which to share their current findings and experiences and ideas. To facilitate this, we call for the submission of papers which are of academic interest but practical utility for practitioners including police, security personnel and policy makers. We do not wish for the CSS journal to simply provide a space for just theoretical development, as there are already several journals which fulfil this function, but provide instead a function whereby theoretical developments, empirical research, and practice issues and concerns, can be presented and debated together by academics and practitioners.

Although initially at least, published ted papers are likely to focus on what are currently considered to be the most pertinent causes of harm to society, such as threats and associated policing and security issues including; acts of terrorism, counter-terrorism, cyber enabled crime, child sexual exploitation, burglary, policing, forensic identification of crime scene stains, architectural and product design, and radicalisation (to name but few), in the longer term we hope to attract papers which tackle emerging and future crime and security issues, such as the effects of mass migration, cyber enabled crime, as the reach and scope of the journal expands.

In this first edition of Crime, Security and Society, four articles are presented that focus on the diverse topics of: forensic analysis of footwear; immigration and crime; a legal loophole by which UK legislation proscribes only Hizballah’s military ‘wing’, but not its supposed political ‘wing’; and forensic entomology.

On behalf of the writers and the Editorial Team we hope that you find this first edition of the Crime, Security and Society Journal both interesting and useful!