Project Title: A comparative analysis of the policing and prevention of radicalization and violent extremism in the UK and Denmark

Principal Supervisor:
- Name: Dr Clifford Stott
- School: Law
- Tel No: +44 113 3439421
- E-Mail: c.stott@leeds.ac.uk

Project Description:
The prevention of non-state political violence is a critical challenge for European societies and the security responses have often been controversial in terms of their effectiveness and their impact upon civil liberties and human rights. This studentship will be an in-depth and inter-disciplinary comparative analysis of the contexts and approaches toward the policing of ‘counter-extremism’ adopted within the UK and Denmark. The project is a collaborative partnership between the School of Law and School of Politics and International Studies at the University of Leeds, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner of West Yorkshire (OPCC) and East Jutland Police in Denmark and is funded by the ESRC White Rose Doctoral Training Centre. The project will involve a series of inter-related research activities conducted by the student during regular placements within the OPCC and East Jutland Police. The main objectives of the research will be to: delineate the challenges confronted with respect to threats of ‘radicalization’ and ‘extremism’ in West Yorkshire (UK) and Aarhus (Denmark); understand the composition, characteristics and functions of the security approaches designed to address ‘radicalization’ and violent ‘extremism’ in each local context; compare and contrast the practical measures taken by various agencies within Denmark and the UK in order to highlight similarities and differences in their approaches at the local, regional, national and international level; conduct primary research from the perspectives of inter-disciplinary theory enabling an analysis of the potential impacts of these approaches upon radicalization within their respective contexts. It is intended that such research will enable an understanding at both practical and theoretical levels of the contexts, structures, processes and policies facilitating or inhibiting effective a) interventions that prevent radicalisation and b) regional, national and international collaborations designed to prevent violent extremism.

Entry Requirements:
Minimum UK Upper Second Class Honours or equivalent

Application Process Contact:
Name: Karin Houkes
Tel No: +44 113 3435009
E-Mail: k.m.houkes@leeds.ac.uk

How to Apply for an ESRC WR DTC Studentship at Leeds:
Applicants must first submit the relevant study application form(s) and be in receipt of a Student ID Number. Applicants must then complete the University’s ESRC WR DTC Studentship Application Form (click here for application form). This should be returned to pg_scholarships@leeds.ac.uk by the relevant deadline. Details of other ESRC WR DTC Studentships at the University of Leeds can be found at: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/rsa/postgraduate_scholarships/esrc-info

UK Applicants will be eligible for a full award paying tuition fees and maintenance. EU applicants will be eligible for an award paying tuition fees only, except in exceptional circumstances, or where residency has been established for more than 3 years prior to the start of the course.

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