



THE SEGERSTEDT INSTITUTE

Call for papers

Risks, roots and responses

Nordic conference on research on violent extremism

Date of conference: April 24-26, 2017

Place: University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Research on extremism, radicalization, racism, terrorism and similar topics is expanding rapidly in Europe and across the world. This research addresses a wide range of issues such as how to map and counteract extremist groups and movements and their activities in various countries. Other lines of research operate within a preventive agenda through interventions of various kinds that seek to increase social cohesion, prevent marginalization and build resilience in communities. An overarching interest is to understand the contemporary social and political conditions that contribute to the emergence and expansion of such movements.

The Nordic Network for prevention of extremism – a Nordic co-operation on ministerial level – has declared a need for providing an overview over current and relevant Nordic, European and international research in these areas as well as assistance in identifying the most urgent needs for future research and research programmes.

[The Segerstedt Institute](#) of the University of Gothenburg is happy to invite participants to a Nordic conference for research on violent extremism and the prevention of such extremism. The aim of the conference is to present research – empirical as well as theoretical – and concrete initiatives and interventions that are currently going on in the Nordic countries as well as in other parts of the world that are of relevance for the Nordic countries and Europe in general. Contributions on the following topics are welcome:

- Case studies – historical and contemporary analyses based in empirical research about different social movements and/or individuals and the use and legitimatization of violence for changing society.
- Conceptual, theory, method and ethics – studies that illustrate, explore and critically evaluate how research on violent extremism is pursued. This section will also include research that addresses methodologies and ethical dilemmas in the academic study of violence, terrorism, youth culture, processes of marginalization and related issues.
- Preventing and explaining – i.e. how different actors in the society (including NGOs and faith based communities) work with questions that relate to the prevention of violence. This section can include more practical examples (i.e. how to do it) as well as more critical evaluations of on-going activities. A special case is also the role and function of education in preventive work.
- Research about individuals at risk, defectors, returnees (i.e. foreign fighters) – this section will focus on processes of de-affiliation and exits from movements that legitimate violence.
- Research about media (i.e. the Internet, blogs, twitter, Facebook, but also print media) and the use and promotion of violence.
- Research about security and securitization.

Format and Contributions

The conference invites papers and symposia. A symposium consists of three or four papers that are thematically related. A symposium must have a chair and a discussant. Proposals for papers and symposia will be evaluated on the basis of abstracts submitted in advance.

Each paper session will take a maximum of 30 minutes (20 minutes presentation by author(s), followed by 10 minutes discussion with the audience). A symposium will be 90 minutes, including 30 minutes for discussion and Q&A.

Submission of abstracts

Abstracts for papers should be a maximum of 250 words. Submission for a symposium must not exceed 1000 words and must contain a short introduction to the theme of the symposium as well as abstracts of individual contributions. Abstracts should be submitted in word or pdf-format and e-mailed to NCRVE@ped.gu.se

Important dates

Deadline for submitting abstracts: **November 15, 2016**

Feedback of review process: **January 30, 2017**

Deadline for registration: **March 24, 2017**

Conference fees and accommodation

The costs for the conference are covered, but participants have to cover their own costs for travel and hotels and have to make their own travel arrangements to Göteborg. All participants must be registered to participate in the conference – this is mandatory also for those who do not present papers or participate in workshops. Applications for participation must be sent to NCRVE@ped.gu.se

Conference organizers

Heads of the conference are The Segerstedt Institute of the University of Gothenburg.

Confirmed keynote speakers

Scott Atran, Professor of Anthropology, University of Michigan/Centre National de la Recherches Scientifique, Paris https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scott_Atran

Michael Kimmel, Professor of Sociology, Stony Brook University, New York (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/sociology/people/faculty/kimmel.html>)

Donatella Della Porta, Professor of Sociology, University of Florence (<http://www.sns.it/ugov/persone/donatella-dellaporta>)

Abby Peterson, Professor of Sociology, University of Gothenburg