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Please find enclosed the Conference Proceedings 'Radicalization in Europe – A Post 9/11 Perspective' which we hope will be of interest to you.

On 20 August 2007 DIIS hosted a seminar gathering scholars and experts from Europe and USA to share insights into what radicalization is, why some European youth become radicalized, why and when people cross from violent talk to violent action and what can be done to prevent or counter radicalization.

The proceedings provide the reader with a selection of policy recommendations suggested during the seminar as well as suggestions for further research.

Wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year,

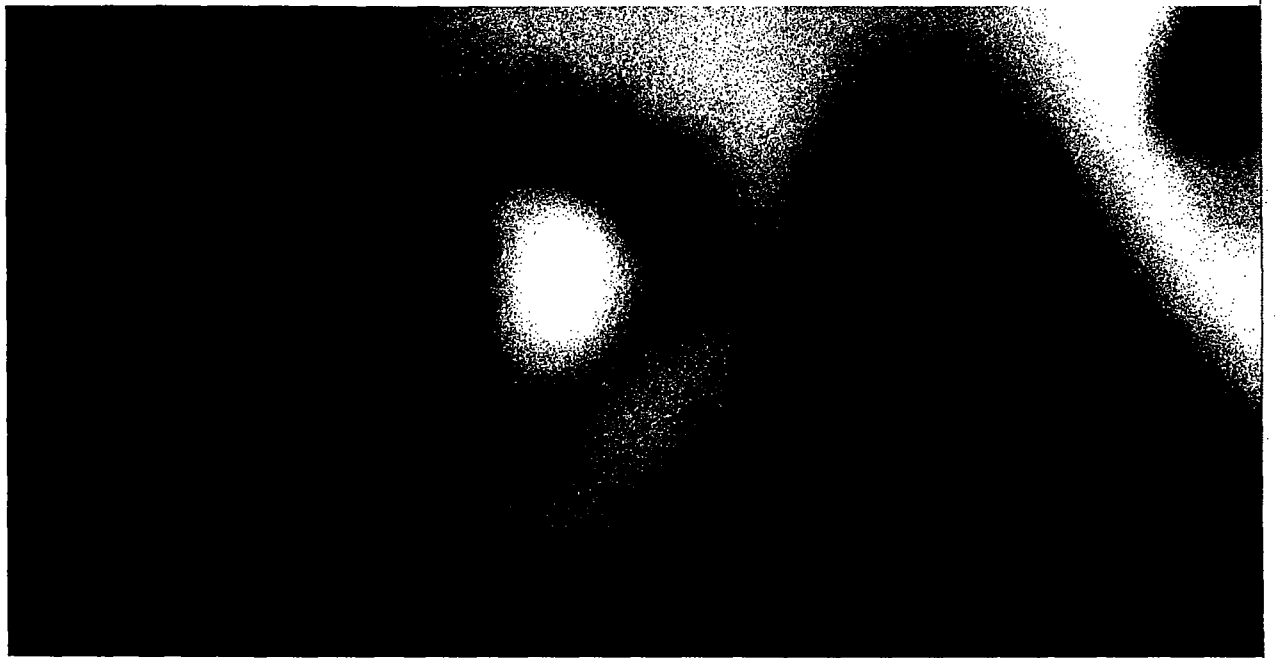
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DIIS · CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

# RADICALIZATION IN EUROPE

A POST 9/11 PERSPECTIVE



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## **CONTENTS**

Introduction · 3

Radicalization – what do we know? · 4

An Insider Perspective · 7

Home Grown Warriors - Radicalization in the Netherlands · 9

De-radicalization in the Netherlands · 11

Which remaining puzzles - and how do we study them? · 15

Conclusions · 18

Policy Recommendations · 19

Appendix – participants · 21

About DIIS and TTSRL · 22

## INTRODUCTION

Ever since the events of 11 September 2001, the threat of terrorism has increasingly been on the agenda not only in USA but also in Europe. The same has been the case with violent radicalization.

Attacks on European soil, such as Madrid in March 2004 and London in July 2005, have brought attention to a disturbing tendency; namely that some of the individuals carrying out terrorist attacks have spend the majority, and sometimes all, of their lives in Europe and have thus presumably been moulded in a European, democratic context. Their processes of radicalization must be assumed primarily to have taken place in Europe.

But what is radicalization? Why do some apparently well-integrated European youth become attracted to Islamist militancy? Why and when do people cross from violent talk to violent action? What makes others, who share the same beliefs and the same social and cultural backgrounds, refrain from violence? And where do we go from here?

On 20 August 2007, the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) hosted a one-day seminar on violent radicalization and gathered scholars and experts from Europe as well as USA to share insights into radicalization, the research of the phenomenon, and attempts at preventing or countering radicalization.

The seminar was closed to the public to allow the researchers to engage in free and open discussion. With these proceedings, the knowledge, findings and recommendations are disseminated to a wider audience.

The views expressed in the proceedings are those of the respective speakers and do not necessarily reflect the views of DIIS. The proceedings are true to the speakers and the terms referred to are used by them. Different terms may therefore be used by the speakers to explain certain concepts.