

Translating Grand Challenges into Municipal Organizing

Prevention of Terrorism, Extremism, and Radicalization in Scandinavia

Grand challenges are complex, dynamic, and global issues that provoke radical political, societal, and organizational uncertainty about how they should be addressed. Previous research shows that municipalities have intensified their policymaking and organizing in relation to grand challenges, but the rationales, processes, and mechanisms underlying their preventive initiatives and efforts are understudied.

This thesis explores and explains how the grand challenge of terrorism, extremism, and radicalization was translated into municipal organizing, a process impacted by the dynamic interaction between material, discursive, cultural, and social factors. The thesis discusses the paradoxical, unintended, and problematic consequences of municipal engagement, and offer insights that can support national policymaking and municipal organizing in relation to grand challenges in general, and terrorism, extremism, and radicalization specifically.

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