

So, you want to work with a think tank...?

Think tanks have interns and employees whose research, and sometimes campaigning too, may have a direct impact on political issues of the day. However, finding an internship or work with them is not an easy process. The purpose of this information is to give you some ideas and starting points.

https://repository.upenn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1012&context=think_tanks describes think tanks as 'public-policy research analysis and engagement organizations that generate policy-oriented research, analysis, and advice on domestic and international issues, thereby enabling policy makers and the public to make informed decisions about public policy.'

Bear in Mind:

- Think tanks may function entirely independently, others have links with - or function as parts of - governments, private organisations, pressure groups, political parties or universities. Some think tanks are not politically neutral. This will affect the work they undertake and how they research it. A cynic might even suggest that in some cases the conclusion has been decided on before the research has been carried out! It is important to consider what your thoughts are about working in this way, whether you are clear about the political standpoint of any organisation in which you are interested, and whether your own views are sufficiently similar.
- Most think tanks are clear about their standpoint. The publications, biographies of key people involved, political party links, and any information you can gather about sources of funding, will all provide additional information about the organisation.
- Most think tanks are small organisations and will only consider academically able people, preferably with a good research track record. Only a handful advertise placements, since speculative approaches are sufficient to fill any vacancies that they have; some do not offer internships at all.
- Think tanks are well worth investigating, but there are other organisations which may have roles requiring a similar set of interests and skills. These include some roles in campaigning organisations, charities, political parties, trade unions and government at local, regional, national and international levels.

Broad Themes:

CULTURE: A

DEMOCRACY: B

ECONOMY/BUSINESS: C

EDUCATION: D

ENVIRONMENTAL, SUSTAINABILITY: E

EUROPE: F

GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNANCE: G

HEALTH: H

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOREIGN POLICY: I

MILITARY/SECURITY: J

RELIGION/RELIGIOUS: K

SOCIAL ISSUES: L

An Alphabetical List of UK Think Tanks (Comprehensive but not exhaustive):

Adam Smith Institute C

Describes itself as... 'works to promote libertarian and free market ideas through research, publishing, media commentary, and educational programmes.'

Areas of Interest: Tax, public sector. Free market, classical liberal, Thatcherite

<http://www.adamsmith.org/>

Bow Group G (A, B, C, J, H, L)

Describes itself as... 'Exists to publish the research of its members, stimulate policy debate through an events programme and to provide an intellectual home to conservatives in the United Kingdom. Although firmly housed in the Conservative family, the Bow Group does not take a corporate view and it represents all strands of conservative opinion.'

Areas of Interest: Culture, media and sport; democracy; economic; energy and transport; foreign affairs and security; health; home affairs; social

<http://www.bowgroup.org/home>

Bruges Group F

Describes itself as... 'aims to promote discussion on the European Union and to advance the education of the public on European affairs.'

Areas of Interest: Alternatives to the EU. All aspects of EU policy and their impact.

<http://www.brugesgroup.com/>

Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion L

Describes itself as... 'examines different dimensions of social disadvantage and analyses the impact of public policy.'

Areas of Interest: Organises research and seminars on the theme of social exclusion. Part of the London School of Economics

<http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/case/>

Centre for Associative Economics C

Describes itself as... 'Associative economics places human beings at the centre of all economic processes.'

Areas of Interest: Associative economics

www.associative-economics.com

Centre for Cities C

Describes itself as... 'Our main goal is to understand how and why economic growth and change takes place in Britain's cities, and to produce research that helps cities improve their performance.'

Areas of Interest: Economic performance and growth of the UK's 64 main cities.

www.centreforcities.org

Centre for the Economics of Education C,D

Describes itself as... 'seeks to undertake systematic and innovative research in the field of the economics of education by applying the latest techniques of empirical analysis. We look at a broad range of questions including why people invest in education and training, the way education systems are organized, and the impact of education and skill acquisition on economic and social outcomes. Our programme covers education at all stages of people's lives.' Part of the LSE.

<http://cee.lse.ac.uk/>

Centre for Economic Policy Research **C**

Describes itself as... 'Develops projects and obtains funding for them, administers and executes the projects, disseminates the results of the research.'

Areas of Interest: European Economics. Network of over 700 academics across the continent

<https://cepr.org/>

Centre for European Reform **F**

Describes itself as... 'an award winning independent think-tank devoted to making the EU work better, and strengthening its role in the world. We are pro-European but not uncritical.'

Areas of Interest: Meetings and seminars between government and business to discuss political, economic and social issues facing Europe.

<http://www.cer.org.uk/>

Centre for Policy Studies **G,C**

Describes itself as... 'Develops and promotes policies to limit the role of the state, to encourage enterprise and to enable the institutions of society – such as families and voluntary organizations – to flourish.'

Areas of Interest: Dissemination of free market economics. Privatisation, low-tax government, family. Founded by Margaret Thatcher and Keith Joseph in 1974

<http://www.cps.org.uk/>

Centre for Social Justice **L**

Describes itself as... 'established as an independent think-tank in 2004 to put social justice at the heart of British politics and make policy recommendations to tackle the root causes of poverty..'

Areas of Interest: Wide range of social issues. Proposed solutions are arguably not politically neutral.

<http://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/>

Chatham House **I, E, J**

Describes itself as... 'Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, is an independent policy institute based in London. Our mission is to help build a sustainably secure, prosperous and just world.'

Areas of Interest: Regional and Security Studies, Energy, Global Economics, Global Health, International Law.

<http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/>

Civitas **L,D**

Describes itself as... 'We facilitate informed public debate by providing accurate factual information on the social issues of the day, publishing informed comment and analysis, and bringing together leading protagonists in open discussion. Civitas never takes a corporate view on any of the issues tackled during the course of this work. Our current focus is on issues such as education, health, crime, social security, manufacturing, the abuse of human rights law, and the European Union.'

Has been described as 'right of centre'. Also provide supplementary schooling.

<http://civitas.org.uk/>

The Cobden Centre **C**

Describes itself as... 'Our vision is of a peaceful, open and free society based on a stable, sustainable economy in which everyone has the opportunity to participate in constantly growing real prosperity.'

Based on sound scholarship, we argue that such a society must be built on honest money. Honest money means an end to credit expansion and false booms followed by financial crises with appalling

human cost. It means an end to inflation of the money supply and hence prices. Honest money is the key to social progress in the 21st century.'

www.cobdencentre.org

The Constitution Unit **G**

Describes itself as... 'conducts timely, rigorous, independent research into constitutional change and the reform of political institutions. Our research has significant real-world impact, informing policy-makers engaged in such changes – both in the United Kingdom and around the world.'

Areas of Interest: Elections and Referendums, Parliament, Parties and Politicians, Constitutions and constitution-making, Freedom of Information, UK and Europe, Devolution, Judiciary and Human Rights, Monarchy Church and State, Government. Part of University College London.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/constitution-unit/>

Counterpoint **A,L**

Describes itself as... '...the first and only research and advisory group that specialises in decoding the social and cultural drivers of political and economic change.'

Areas of Interest: Decoding cultures, interpreting public behaviour and emotions

<http://www.counterpoint-online.org/>

Compass **E,G**

Describes itself as... 'a home for those who want to build and be a part of a Good Society; one where equality, sustainability and democracy are not mere aspirations, but a living reality. We are founded on the belief that no single issue, organisation or political party can make a Good Society a reality by themselves so we have to work together to make it happen. Compass is a place where people come together to create the visions, alliances and actions to be the change we wish to see in the world.'

Areas of Interest: Democracy, equality, sustainability. Left of centre, historic links with the Labour Party, but works with progressive MPs from all parties.

<http://www.compassonline.org.uk/>

Demos **G, L**

Describes itself as... 'interested in power: how it works, and how to distribute it more equally throughout society. We believe in trusting people with decisions about their own lives and solving problems from the bottom-up.'

Areas of Interest: Social policy, modern economy, international political change, social media analysis

<http://www.demos.co.uk/>

E3G – Third Generation Environmentalism **E**

Describes itself as... 'an independent climate change think tank operating to accelerate the global transition to a low carbon economy.'

Climate coalitions and diplomacy.

<https://www.e3g.org/>

Economics Research Council **C**

Describes itself as... 'Britain's oldest economics-based think tank, is dedicated to extending the reach of economic education, debate and leadership.'

Areas of Interest: Economics research and education

www.ercouncil.org

Education Policy Institute

Describes itself as... 'The aim of the Education Policy Institute is to raise standards in education through rigorous data analysis, research and the exchange of information and knowledge to help inform the public and hold government and decision-makers to account.'

<https://epi.org.uk/>

Ekklesia K, (B, C, D, E, G, I, L)

Describes itself as... 'Ekklesia is an independent, not-for-profit thinktank which orients its work around the changing role of beliefs, values and faith/non-faith in public life. We advocate transformative ideas and solutions to societal challenges rooted in a strong commitment to social justice, nonviolence, environmental responsibility, nonconformist styles of Christianity, and a creative exchange among those of different convictions (religious and otherwise). Ekklesia is committed to promoting -- alongside others -- new models of mutual economy, conflict transformation, social power, restorative justice, community engagement and political participation. We are also working to encourage alternative perspectives on humanitarian challenges in a globalised world, not least a positive, affirming approach to migration. Overall, we are concerned both with the policy, practice and theology of moving beyond a top-down 'church of power', and with challenging top-down, unjust models of economy and politics in society as a whole. This means that, while we are a Christian political think-tank, we are happy to work with people of many backgrounds, both 'religious' and 'non-religious', who share common values and approaches.'

Areas of Interest: Beliefs and values, equality, living economy, peace and non-violence, people and power

<http://www.ekkleisia.co.uk/>

Electoral Reform Society B

Describes itself as... 'an independent campaigning organisation working to champion the rights of voters and build a better democracy in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.'

Areas of Interest: Votes at 16, Women in Politics, Welsh Assembly, Democratic Innovations, upgrading democracy

<http://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/>

European Council on Foreign Relations F, I

Describes itself as... 'an award-winning international think-tank that aims to conduct cutting-edge independent research on European foreign and security policy and to provide a safe meeting space for decision-makers, activists and influencers to share ideas.'

Areas of Interest: Pan-European responses to European challenges, particularly foreign policy and security.

<http://www.ecfr.eu/>

Fabian Society G

Describes itself as... left-leaning think tank dedicated to new public policy and political ideas... a membership movement, active throughout Britain and open to everyone on the left... a democratically governed socialist society, an affiliate to the Labour party and one of its original founders. We don't have organisational policy views and instead embrace debate and difference. We champion and celebrate Fabianism, the belief that radical long-term goals are best advanced through empirical, practical, gradual reform.'

Areas of Interest: Inequality, collective action, human rights, sustainable development, international co-operation, citizenship, public policy.

<http://www.fabians.org.uk/>

Foreign Policy Centre I

Describes itself as... 'an outward-looking, non-partisan international affairs think tank based in the UK. Our mission is to provide an open and accessible space for the ideas, knowledge and experience of experts, academics and activists from across the world, so that their voices can be heard by a global audience of citizens and decision makers in order to find solutions to today's international challenges.'

Areas of Interest: Exporting repression, institutions in crisis, shrinking space for civil society, future of Europe

<http://fpc.org.uk/>

Forum for the Future E, C

Describes itself as... 'an independent non-profit working globally with business, government and other organisations to solve complex sustainability challenges.'

Areas of Interest: Working with partnership in business and public sector to move toward a more sustainable society.

<http://www.forumforthefuture.org/>

Gold Mercury C

Describes itself as... 'Our Mission is to provide sustainable visioning tools and frameworks in order to make good strategic decisions and improve governance in a complex world. We challenge the status quo to solve problems, advance business, society, and deliver a global sustainable future for humankind. Our mission is reflected in our corporate tagline: Sustainable Vision for a Complex World™.'

Areas of Interest: Business and globalisation

www.goldmercury.org

Green Alliance E

Describes itself as... 'working with a growing network of influential leaders in business, NGOs and politics to stimulate new thinking and dialogue on environmental policy, and increase political action and support for environmental solutions in the UK. Our projects involve in depth research and advocacy by our experts, often in partnership with other organisations and interests.'

Areas of Interest: Political leadership, sustainable economy, third sector, climate and energy, green living, designing out waste

<http://www.green-alliance.org.uk/>

Hansard Society G,

Describes itself as... 'a charity working in the UK and around the world to promote democracy and strengthen parliaments. An independent, non-partisan political research and education Society.'

Areas of Interest: Debate and research on the UK Parliament, educating people about it, using technology to increase participation.

<http://www.hansardsociety.org.uk/>

Henry Jackson Society I, J, B

Describes itself as... 'Believes that modern liberal democracies set an example to which the rest of the world should aspire.' Argues that a strong military is needed to protect and promote this.

Areas of Interest: 'Democratic Geopolitics'. Democracy and Development, Environment and Economy, Global Security and Terrorism, Transatlantic Relations and Defence.

<http://www.henryjacksonsociety.org/>

Independent Transport Commission **L**

Describes itself as... 'Britain's independent research charity committed to improving policy on transport, land use and planning... providing insight and analysis of the most pressing long-term strategic issues in the fields of transport and land use. We explore the long-term consequences of current policy, we consider new approaches and we make recommendations on the way forward.'

Areas of Interest: Current and recent research projects have focused on: Road and rail travel trends, spatial effects of high speed rail, aviation, freight and logistics, Why travel? and technology and travel.

<http://www.theitc.org.uk/>

Involve **B**

Describes itself as... 'We believe passionately in a democracy where citizens are empowered to take and influence the decisions that affect their lives.'

Areas of Interest: Citizen participation in challenging issues, public engagement in government.

<http://www.involve.org.uk/>

Institute for Fiscal Studies **C, L**

Describes itself as... 'Our goal... is to promote effective economic and social policies by understanding better their impact on individuals, families, businesses and the government's finances. Our findings are based on rigorous analysis, detailed empirical evidence and in-depth institutional knowledge. We seek to communicate them effectively, to a wide range of audiences.'

Areas of Interest: Research and publications across a wide range of policies

<http://www.ifs.org.uk/>

Institute for Government **G**

Describes itself as... 'working to make government more effective. We provide rigorous research and analysis, topical commentary and public events to explore the key challenges facing government. We offer a space for discussion and fresh thinking to help senior politicians and civil servants think differently and bring about change.'

Areas of Interest: Research and events on matters of importance to those in government, of all parties.

<http://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/>

Institute for Jewish Policy Research **K**

Describes itself as... 'only independent institute in Britain that specialises in researching the state of the contemporary Jewish communities in the UK and elsewhere in Europe. Our research aims to provide a better understanding of who Jews are and what they feel, think and do, in order to help Jewish organisations plan more efficiently and effectively for the future. Our work is deliberately policy-oriented. We collect and analyse data to ensure that Jewish community organisations have the statistics and information they need.'

Areas of Interest: Collection and analysis of data for Jewish community organisations.

<http://www.jpr.org.uk/>

Institute for New Economic Thinking at the Oxford Martin School **C**

Describes itself as... 'dedicated to the rigorous pursuit of innovative economic theories and methods that address society's most pressing concerns.'

Areas of Interest: The relationship between finance and the broader economy, Inequality and distribution, The economics of innovation, Environment and resource sustainability

<http://ineteconomics.org/>

Institute for Public Policy Research **L, B, D**

Describes itself as... 'Our mission is to open up opportunity, power and prosperity to everyone... by conducting rigorous research and generating big ideas.'

Areas of Interest: Brexit, economy, housing and infrastructure, public services and the welfare state, democracy and inclusivity

<http://www.ippr.org/>

Institute for Strategic Dialogue **J**

Describes itself as... 'a global counter-extremism organisation dedicated to powering new generations against hate and extremism.'

Areas of Interest: Soft power, via parallel work-streams of Research and Insight, Grassroots networks, communication and technology, education, policy and advisory

<http://www.strategicdialogue.org/>

Institute of Economic Affairs **C**

Describes itself as... 'UK's original free-market think-tank, analysing and expounding the role of markets... we promote... a free economy, low taxes, freedom in education, health and welfare and lower levels of regulation.'

Areas of Interest: Economic affairs

<http://www.iea.org.uk/>

Institute of Race Relations **L**

Describes itself as... 'at the cutting edge of the research and analysis that inform the struggle for racial justice in Britain, Europe and internationally. It seeks to reflect the experiences of those who suffer racial oppression and draws its perspectives from the most vulnerable in society.'

Areas of Interest: 'investigations have covered such areas as racism and the press, police racism, exclusions from school, deaths in custody, the plight of asylum seekers, anti-Muslim racism, the impact of anti-terrorist legislation and attacks on multiculturalism. The IRR also conducts research on racism in other European countries, examining the rise of racial violence and extreme-Right parties, asylum and immigration policies, human rights violations, policing and security policies and the 'integration debate'.'

<http://www.irr.org.uk/>

Institute of Welsh Affairs/Sefydliad Materion Cymreig **A, C, E, L**

Describes itself as... 'An independent think tank working to make Wales better'

Areas of Interest: Work that leads to practical suggestions for policy work with respect to Wales, including in the areas of politics, culture, economy, environment, media, health, education and business.

<http://www.iwa.org.uk>

International Institute for Environment and Development **E, G**

Describes itself as... 'Our mission is to build a fairer, more sustainable world, using evidence, action and influence in partnership with others.'

Areas of Interest: Climate change, governance, human settlements, natural resources, sustainable markets.

<http://www.iied.org/>

International Institute for Strategic Studies J

Describes itself as... 'Its mission is to promote the adoption of sound policies to further global peace and security and maintain civilised international relations. We specialise in linking local priorities to global challenges. IIED is based in London and works in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and the Pacific, with some of the world's most vulnerable people. We work with them to strengthen their voice in the decision-making arenas that affect them — from village councils to international conventions.'

Areas of Interest: All aspects of sustainable development.

<http://www.iiss.org/>

International Longevity Centre L

Describes itself as... 'focused on some of the biggest challenges facing Government and society in the context of demographic change. We ask difficult questions and present new solutions to the challenges and opportunities of ageing. We undertake research and policy analysis and create a forum for debate and action.'

Areas of Interest: Includes pensions and financial planning, health and social care, housing design, and age discrimination. Works primarily with central government, but also local government, the private sector and relevant professional and academic associations.

<http://www.ilcuk.org.uk/>

Joseph Rowntree Foundation L

Describes itself as... 'an independent organisation working to inspire social change through research, policy and practice.'

Areas of Interest: Cities, towns and neighbourhoods; housing; income and benefits; people; society; work

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/>

Jubilee Centre L

Describes itself as... 'A Christian social reform organisation that offers a biblical perspective on contemporary issues and underlying trends in society, of relevance to the general public.'

Areas of Interest: Wide range of contemporary issues, from a Christian perspective

<http://www.jubilee-centre.org/>

King's Fund L

Describes itself as... 'an independent charity working to improve health and care in England. Our vision is that the best possible health and care is available to all.'

Areas of Interest: Health and care services; leadership, systems and organisations; patients, people and society; policy, finance and performance.

<http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/>

Local Government Information Unit

Describes itself as... 'Our mission is to strengthen local democracy to put citizens in control of their own lives, communities and local services. Our team of policy experts provides practical policy advice, learning and development programmes, events and conferences, consultancy and other resources to our members and other organisations.'

Areas of Interest: 2018 themes included Local Finance Taskforce, Local Government Homelessness Commission, public trust

<https://www.lgiu.org.uk/>

Legatum Institute C, B, G

Describes itself as... 'an international think tank and educational charity which seeks to provide evidence-based solutions for those who would see free, just and flourishing societies.'

Areas of Interest: Effective government, economics of prosperity, cultural transformation, populism and political change, international development, global people movements. A vision for the UK. Prosperity, capitalism, democracy.

Independent member of private investment group, the Legatum Group.

<http://www.li.com/>

London Councils G,L,C

Describes itself as... 'We are a cross-party organisation representing London's 32 borough councils and the City of London. We develop policy and provide London-wide services.'

Areas of Interest: Children and young people; crime and public protection; culture, sport and tourism; economic development; environment; health and adult social services; housing; leadership, devolution and democracy; local government finance; planning; transport.

<http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/>

Migration Watch UK L

Describes itself as... '...an independent, voluntary, non political body which is concerned about the present scale of immigration into the UK.'

Areas of Interest: Balancing UK immigration and emigration. Reliability and objectivity of data and approach is hotly contested.

<http://www.migrationwatchuk.org/>

Mo Ibrahim Foundation G

Describes itself as.... '...one focus: the critical importance of governance and leadership for Africa.' Includes statistical analysis of the quality of government in every African country.

<http://mo.ibrahim.foundation/>

Mutuo C

Describes itself as.... 'the leading advocate for mutuals, promoting all types of co-operative & mutual business through: Public affairs and political advocacy, Policy development, Management consultancy for mutual.'

Areas of Interest: Encouraging mutual approaches to business and public policy and developing a better understanding of them. <http://www.mutuo.co.uk/>

National Institute of Social and Economic and Social Research L, C

Describes itself as.... 'Our mission is to carry out research into the economic and social forces that affect people's lives, to improve the understanding of those forces and the ways in which policy can bring about change.'

Areas of Interest: Britain and finance; Educations and labour; Employment and social policy; Exiting the EU; Macroeconomics; Trade; investment and productivity

<http://www.niesr.ac.uk>

New Economics Foundation C, L, E

Describes itself as.... 'Together we will build a new economy where people really take control.'

Areas of Interest: Current interests include community, well-being, new economic and banking models. NEF consulting - <https://www.nefconsulting.com/> - helps organisations towards a more sustainable economy.

<http://www.neweconomics.org/>.

New Local Government Network **G**

Describes itself as.... 'an elite group of around 50 organisations from the public and private sector united by a belief in innovation and creativity. NLGN forms the safe space we need to meet as peers and have the most forward thinking conversations in the sector.'

Areas of Interest: Localism, decentralisation of power from Whitehall.

<http://www.nlgn.org.uk/public/>

Nuffield Trust **L**

Describes itself as.... 'an independent health charity. We aim to improve the quality of health care in the UK by providing evidence-based research and policy analysis and informing and generating debate..'

Areas of Interest: Research and policy studies in public health services.

<http://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/>

One World Trust **G,B**

Describes itself as.... 'exists to promote global governance which is accountable and effective for all..'

Areas of Interest: Global governance, Accountability, Parliamentary oversight. Consultancy involves working directly with organisations to independently audit their accountability to beneficiaries.

<http://www.oneworldtrust.org/>

Open Europe **F, C**

Describes itself as.... 'the go-to source for real-time analysis on what comes next following the UK's EU referendum. We are a non-partisan and independent policy think tank, providing an intellectual framework for thinking about Britain's new relationship with the European Union and its role in the world.'

Areas of Interest: Britain and the EU; Eurozone and Finance; Economic Policy and trade; Foreign policy; Energy and environment; Immigration and justice; Institutions and democracy.

<http://www.openeurope.org.uk/>

Oxford Council on Good Governance **G, I**

Describes itself as.... 'The mission of the OCGG is to give actionable advice based on cutting edge research and analysis to high level policy makers in the UN as well as in the EU, Russia, China, and the US that promotes a better world order, security, justice, welfare, and progress for humanity at a global scale for the long term future by strengthening the governing institutions and the legitimacy and effectiveness of public policies.'

<http://www.ocgg.org/>

Population Matters **E, L**

Describes itself as.... 'Campaigning for environmentally sustainable populations in the UK and worldwide.'

Areas of Interest: Stabilising earth's human population at a level sustainable for the environment and resource use. Family planning and sex education.

<http://populationmatters.org/>

Overseas Development Institute **I**

Describes itself as.... 'Our mission is to inspire and inform policy and practice which lead to the reduction of poverty, the alleviation of suffering and the achievement of sustainable livelihoods in developing countries. We do this by locking together high quality applied research, practical policy advice, and policy-focused dissemination and debate. We work with partners in the public and private sectors, in both developing and developed countries.'

Areas of Interest: 30 different humanitarian and international development topics across various countries, grouped around the themes of: climate, environment and natural resources; conflict, risk and humanitarian; economics, finance and aid; government, politics and institutions; poverty, inequality and social issues; research, evidence and policy.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/>

Oxford Research Group **J**

Describes itself as.... 'an independent peace and security think-and-action-tank that promotes dialogue and common security approaches as sustainable alternatives to violent global confrontation. Through original research, wide-ranging dialogue, and practical policy recommendations we seek a shift in global priorities away from militarism, and towards security based on justice, human rights, prevention of conflict and fair distribution of the world's resources.'

Areas of Interest: Strategic peacebuilding and Sustainable Security

<http://oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk/>

Oxonia. The Oxford Institute for Economic Policy **C**

Describes itself as....'an independent and non-profit institution devoted to the analysis, discussion and dissemination of economic policy issues, with the aim of bridging the gap between academics, policy-makers, professional economists, and the public at large.'

Areas of Interest: Economic policy

www.oxonia.org

Policy Exchange **G, L**

Describes itself as.... our mission is to develop and promote new policy ideas which deliver better public services, a stronger society and a more dynamic economy. The authority and credibility of our research is our greatest asset. Our research is independent and evidence-based and we share our ideas with policy makers from all sides of the political spectrum. Our research is strictly empirical and we do not take commissions.'

Areas of Interest: Using centre-right ideas such as individual responsibility and market forces to achieve progressive ends; accountability and funding of public services; strengthening society; focus on economy.

<http://www.policyexchange.org.uk/>

Policy Studies Institute: **B,G,E,L**

Describes itself as.... 'committed to delivering insightful, high-quality research for our funders, users and wider society that has an impact on environment and sustainable development research, policy and practice.'

Areas of Interest: energy and climate change; resource use and the circular economy; mobility and transport; the role of communities and business in delivering a sustainable future; cities, innovation and sustainability transitions; public behaviours, attitudes and policy; and policy and research evaluation.

www.psi.org.uk

Politeia **G**

Describes itself as.... '...a forum for discussing economic, constitutional and social policy. It focuses on the role of the state in people's lives. Politeia aims to encourage the best policies for a free society under the rule of law, a prosperous economy based on free markets and competition, and excellent systems for education, health care and pensions.'

Areas of Interest: EU; economy; Tax and public spending; employment; pension, benefits and welfare; education and healthcare; the Constitution, The legal system. <http://www.politeia.co.uk/>

Progress G

Describes itself as.... 'a movement of centre-left Labour party members and supporters.'

Areas of Interest: Seeks to promote open debate and discussion of progressive ideas and policies.

<http://www.progressives.org.uk/>

Quilliam K, B

Describes itself as.... 'the world's first counter-extremism organisation. We have a full spectrum and values-based approach to counter-extremism which means promoting pluralism and inspiring change.'

Areas of Interest: Religious freedom, equality, human rights and democracy.

<http://www.quilliamfoundation.org/>

Reform L, C

Describes itself as.... 'a non-party think tank whose mission is to set out a better way to deliver public services and economic prosperity. Our aim is to produce research of outstanding quality on the core issues of the economy, health, education and law and order and on the right balance between government and individual.'

Areas of Interest: criminal justice, education reform, civil service, local and regional government, NHS, welfare reform

<http://www.reform.co.uk/>

Relationships Foundation L

Describes itself as.... 'We believe that a good society is built on good relationships, from family and community to public service and business. We study the effect that culture, business and government have on relationships – eg, in terms of time, finance, etc. We create new ideas for strengthening social connections and campaign on issues where relationships are being undermined. And we train and equip people to think relationally for themselves.'

Areas of Interest: Schools, marriage, family focus in policy making, Keep Sunday Special

<http://www.relationshipsfoundation.org/>

Renewable Energy Foundation E

Describes itself as.... 'promoting sustainable development for the benefit of the public by means of energy conservation and the use of renewable energy.'

Areas of Interest: Energy policy. Consultancy. Discussion within the renewable energy sector as to how far they are genuinely promoting renewable energy – critics include Dale Vince, founder of Ecotricity.

<http://www.ref.org.uk/>

Respublica L, C

Describes itself as.... 'We favour the pursuit of the common good and the development of real wealth that promotes human flourishing.'

Areas of Interest: Current priorities: Industrial strategy and social reform.

<http://www.respublica.org.uk/>

Royal Air Force Centre for Air Power Studies J

Describes itself as.... 'An RAF-sponsored think tank which engages in the study of air power.'

Areas of Interest: Encouraging and promoting the study of air power. Is the RAF's centre for strategic and conceptual thinking about air power.

<http://www.airpowerstudies.co.uk/>

Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies **J**

Describes itself as.... 'the world's oldest independent think tank on international defence and security.'

Areas of Interest: UK Defence, Terrorism, Nuclear weapons and arms control, cyber-security

<http://www.rusi.org/>

Scotland's Futures Forum **G**

Describes itself as.... '...the Scottish Parliament's futures think-tank. It works on a non-party basis to look beyond electoral horizons, promoting research and stimulating debate in the Parliament on the long-term challenges and opportunities that Scotland faces. Its work is designed to inform MSPs and others, enabling them to consider the effects of decisions taken today on Scotland's long-term future..'

Areas of Interest: Stimulating public debate about the future of Scotland across a wide range of areas.

<http://www.scotlandfutureforum.org/>

Scottish Constitutional Commission **G**

Describes itself as.... exists to promote the advancement of education, citizenship, and community development, through a better understanding of constitutional structures, processes and improvements.'

Areas of Interest: Scottish constitutional developments, participative government, clarifying relationships between Scotland and rest of UK.

<http://www.constitutionalcommission.org/>

The Selsden Group **G**

Describes itself as.... 'exists to promote the case for free market policies within the Conservative Party.'

Areas of Interest: Free market policies

<http://www.selsdengroup.co.uk/index.htm>

Smith Institute **L**

Describes itself as.... 'We aim to inform, develop and promote policies that help create a society which is productive and prosperous, but shares its wealth and power with a strong sense of social justice and fairness.'

Areas of Interest: Politics and Government, The World of Work, Economy and Local Growth, Public Services

<http://www.smith-institute.org.uk/>

Social Affairs Unit **L, C**

Describes itself as.... 'Addresses social, economic and cultural issues with an emphasis on the value of personal responsibility. We research, challenge and debate issues from welfare to warfare, always seeking to draw out the role of the individual's obligations.'

Areas of Interest: publishes books, reports, web review and magazine

<http://www.socialaffairsunit.org.uk/>

Social Market Foundation **C, L**

Describes itself as.... 'A non-partisan think tank which believes that fair markets, complemented by open public services, increase prosperity and help people to live well.'

Areas of Interest: Brexit, Cost of Living, Economy, Education, Financial Services, Productivity, Public Service Reform, social care.

<http://www.smf.co.uk/>

Stockholm Network **F, L**

Describes itself as... 'brings together more than 120 market-oriented think tanks from across Europe.'

Areas of Interest: European welfare states, pension systems, to empower individuals, consumer-driven healthcare, intellectual property rights, energy markets, globalisation, trade and competition and creating an understanding of free market ideas and institutions.

<http://www.stockholm-network.org/>

World Economics **C**

Describes itself as... 'dedicated to producing analysis, insight and data relating to questions of importance in understanding the world economy. Currently our primary research objective is to encourage and assist the development of better and faster measures of economic activity.'

Areas of Interest: World economy

www.worldeconomics.com

The University of Warwick's own Think Tank Society has details at

<http://www.warwicksu.com/societies/WarwickThinkTank/>