



## RECENT POLICE RESEARCH IN DENMARK



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In Denmark the field of police research and science is in progress. Here are some examples of recent research projects – ongoing as well as projects completed:

1. *Ongoing PhD project: Targeting Policing in Organized Crime: Developing Crime Analysis in Support of Proactive Investigations into Prolific and Priority Offenders.*

Nadja Kirchhoff Hestehave is a criminologist and employed as senior consultant at the Danish National Police.

2. *Ongoing PhD study: How innovations are enabled and disabled in everyday organizational life of police in Denmark.*

In October 2011 the Danish National police initiated a three-year PhD study in cooperation with Copenhagen Business School focusing on 'innovation' – a concept that is often mentioned in Danish governmental strategies, including the police. But what does innovation actually mean in the context of policing and to everyday police work? Based on one and a half years of participation in everyday life of the Danish police and 50 in-depth interviews with cops and managers, the study explores how processes of innovating police practices are negotiated, enabled or disabled within the police culture and organization.

Ph.D. student **Mia Hartmann** has a Msc. in psychology and is presently a visiting scholar at the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts, USA.

3. *Ongoing PhD study: A study of criminal investigation as knowledge-making.*

The dissertation describes the processes surrounding the production of investigative knowledge within the Danish Police based on in-depth analyses of how investigators seek out, discover, and produce knowledge that can assist in the production of evidence for identification and prosecution.

The central question informing the dissertation is the question of how knowledge comes about, and how such processes of knowledge can be studied anthropologically. The dissertation develops a theoretical frame for the study of knowledge, which addresses the becoming of knowledge as the effect of the interaction of heterogeneous 'parts' producing knowledge as a complex 'whole'. This is done by investigating how tacit and embodied forms of knowledge (experience or 'craft knowledge') as well as more abstract forms and 'fields' (e.g., natural, medical or forensic sciences, or legal and technical procedures) contribute to and impact the creation of knowledge of a particular crime. The central point of argumentation of the dissertation is that the becoming of knowledge cannot be ascribed to one 'part'. Knowledge creation must be analyzed and theorized as a result of the complex interaction between investigator, environment, objects, technology, theory, procedure, etc. and the 'structures of possibility' individual 'parts' contribute to the workings of the 'whole'. It is this interaction and the space which arises from it that this dissertation seeks to investigate, analyze, and theorize.



**Camilla Hald** received a M.Sc. in Anthropology from the University of Copenhagen in 2002 and a Ph.D. in Anthropology and Ethnography from the University of Aarhus in 2011. She is employed as chief advisor and head of research, innovation, and partnerships at the Danish Police Knowledge and Research Centre.

**4. Ongoing PhD study: The Danish Security and Intelligence Service (PET)**

The thesis deals with two general problems regarding PET, first the legal framework of PET's activities and second the possibilities to oversee these activities. The activities of the Danish Security and Intelligence Service are in general not regulated by law, which raises the questions: what rules or standards do then apply? Can PET's activities be subject to a legal oversight? Is the current oversight system sufficient? And how can an efficient oversight with PET's activities be established? The thesis tries to answer these questions through an analysis of the legal framework of PET's activities and the legal framework of the oversight system. The purpose of this analysis is to uncover the underlying legal as well as political principles and ideas. Through a deeper understanding of underlying principles and ideas one can better answer the outlined questions.

**Emil Bock Greve** is a PhD student at the Department of Law, Aarhus University

**5. Ongoing PhD project: Denmark and Europol – between globalism, sovereignty and cybercrime (Danish: Danmark og Europol: mellem globalisering, suverænitæt og cyberkriminalitet)**

The thesis describes the development of European Police Cooperation from the signing of the Maastricht Treaty in 1992, where Europol was enshrined in the Treaty, up to the establishment of EC3, the European Cyber Crime Center as part of Europol. How the fight against terrorism and organized crime has developed to also include cybercrime as part of Europe's internal security strategy. Sexual crimes against children on the internet is a high priority within the area of cybercrime. The thesis presents a concrete operation in this field ("Operation Icarus"). Proactive investigation plays a larger and larger role when investigating sexual crimes against children on the internet. However legislation (undercover investigation) in this field differs from country to country. Finally the thesis

asks whether Denmark's legal reservation and eventual exclusion from Europol due to the new Europol regulation will affect daily police work on a practical level. The study is conducted in cooperation with the Danish National Police.

**Trine Thygesen Vendius** holds a MA in Law and a MSc in Political Science from the University of Copenhagen. She is a PhD student at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen.

**6. PhD thesis: Risking Liberty – Preventive Arrest (Danish: Risiko og Frihedsberøvelse)**

The PhD thesis is written in Danish and examines the provisions of preventive administrative arrest which have the purpose of averting a danger/risk of disturbing public order through proactive policing. The provisions are also applicable during public assemblies and other crowds. The thesis answers three research questions: By use of which indicators is a danger assessed before initiating an administrative arrest? What is the actual difference between arrest according to criminal procedure and administrative arrest? To what extent do the provisions on administrative arrest fulfill the criteria set by ECHR Article 5 and 11? In relation to questions 1 and 3, the thesis considers whether preventive provisions entail a risk discourse and if so, whether such a discourse has influenced assessments of the interventions' legality performed by the Danish courts and the European Court of Human Rights. This is done using Norman Fairclough's methods of textual discourse analysis and Ulrich Beck's theories on 'The Risk Society', especially Ericson and Haggerty's interpretations in 'Policing the Risk Society'.

**Caroline Sophia Tarrow** has an LLB and LLM from the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen and her PhD thesis is now under assessment. Tarrow has also done research on policing in Greenland and the Faroe Islands and on the Danish regulation of police powers, i.e. use of fire arms, pepper spray, gas etc. She is at the moment embarking on a new project on Police Liability and Privatization.

**7. Ongoing PhD project: The Principle of Non-refoulement in Operational Cooperation at the EU's External Borders**

The present doctoral thesis is concerned with the principle of non-refoulement in an EU-context. The objective of the present thesis





is to investigate to what extent the EU and its Member States respect the principle of non-refoulement when operational border control is performed under the coordination of the European Agency for the Management of the Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (hereinafter FRONTEX). In the context of the operations under Frontex's auspices violations of the principle of non-refoulement may engage the international responsibility of the European Union as an international organization as well as its Member States.

**Roberta Mungianu** is PhD Candidate at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen. Roberta graduated at the Facolta' di Giurisprudenza, Universita' degli Studi di Cagliari (Italy) and received a LLM in European Law at the Law School, University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom). Roberta was a visiting student at the European University Institute, Florence (Italy) from January 2012 to June 2012.

**8. Ongoing Postdoctoral study: The Police of Copenhagen 1682-1814**

The aim of the project is to examine the introduction of the first Danish police force in Copenhagen 1682-1814. Why was a chief of police appointed by the absolute king in 1682 and how did the new institution affect life in the Danish capital? Was the police a tool for social disciplining or did the population demand its services, as recent research in early modern policing has shown? The Danish Council for Independent Research finances the project.

**Jørgen Mührmann-Lund** has a PhD and is employed as an assistant professor at the Institute for Culture and Society at Aarhus University.

[http://www.univie.ac.at/policey-ak/pwp/pwp\\_15.pdf](http://www.univie.ac.at/policey-ak/pwp/pwp_15.pdf)

**9. Ongoing PhD project: Secret Service. The Making of the Intelligence Community in Denmark.**

British scholars has researched the roots of MI5 and demonstrated how the intelligence community was founded in the so called security revolution of 1909-11; how it expanded in the struggle with the Spies of the German Kaiser, and how it transformed itself in order to counter the new threat of World Revolution and communist spies. The question is how that development

took place in Denmark. We actually do not know the roots of The Danish Security and Intelligence Service (PET) prior to World War II. With a granted access to the oldest documents in the Security Service Archives, it is now possible to investigate the making of the intelligence community and political surveillance in Denmark.

**Kristian Bruhn** is historian, archivist at The Danish National Archives and PhD student at The Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen.

**10. From the eternal police to the projective police**

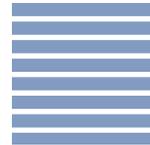
PhD Mikkel Jarle Christensen (MJC) has contributed with a historical sociology of the battles to define Danish policing from end of absolutism in the mid nineteenth century to the latest police reform of 2007. Building on extensive archival material as well as on interviews MJC situates the concrete battles between different actors in and around the Danish police in a much wider international context showing how the contest to define the scope and content of policing is in fact tied to significant transformations such as the slow establishment of democracy, industrialization and globalization.

**Mikkel Jarle Christensen** is assistant professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen from where he also holds a PhD. He has recently begun a sociological research project that will study the genesis of international prosecution as a new legal figure and institution in international criminal law with a focus on its simultaneously emergence in international criminal tribunals, the EU and the national states from the middle of the 1990s.

**11. Lars Holmberg (2013): Politiets brug af peberspray – en skandinavisk sammenligning med fokus på Danmark [Police use of pepper spray – a Scandinavian comparison with a focus on Denmark], Nordisk Tidsskrift for Kriminalvidenskab, vol 100 (1).**

This paper discusses the use of pepper spray (OC-spray) in the Scandinavian police forces with a special emphasis on Denmark. Since the spray's introduction in Denmark in 2008, the spray has been used about 1450 times annually. The use of the spray does not seem to have caused any substantial reduction in the use of other kinds of force by police, as was predicted in the trial preceding its introduction into





the force. A limited comparison with Norway suggests that the Danish police use the spray much more frequently than do the Norwegian police, possibly due to the fact that the Danish rules regarding its use are more lenient than the Norwegian.

**12. Flemming Balvig, Lars Holmberg and Maria Pi Højlund Nielsen (2011):** Verdens bedste politi. Politireform i Danmark 2007-2010. [The best police in the world – Police reform in Denmark 2007-2010] Jurist- og Økonomforbundets Forlag, Copenhagen.

The book describes the outcome of the Danish police reform of 2007, in which 54 districts were reduced to 12. Results are based on 4 waves of citizen surveys, three rounds of partner interviews, and comprehensive fieldwork in two of the twelve new districts. Main results: the reform, described as a decentralization, can also be seen as a centralization, in that local police stations were closed, and personnel and command were moved to new district headquarters. The result was, that although overall citizen satisfaction with the police was, in 2010, on the same level as before the reform in 2006, satisfaction with local police work remained at a significantly lower level after the reform. Police partners complain that the police have lost their contact with

(and knowledge about) local communities and citizens, thus reducing opportunities for crime prevention.

**Flemming Balvig** dr.jur., is Professor of Criminology at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen. His research interests include juvenile delinquency and police reform.

**Lars Holmberg**, PhD., is Associate Professor of Criminology at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen. His research interests include police reform, police use of force, and the question of police discretion.

**13. Ongoing PhD study: *Neighborhoods of Violent Crime: A Challenge to the Legitimacy of the State***

In August 2012, a three-year PhD study at the Department of Political Science, University of Southern Denmark started, focusing on structures of authority and legitimacy in disadvantages neighborhoods. By using matching cases comparisons, the study tries to map to the mechanisms through which authority and legitimacy is (re)produced in areas characterized by high level crime.

Ph.D. student **Jon Lund Elbek** has a Msc. in Political Science

