

Think tank traditions : policy research and the politics of ideas

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Abstract Think tank traditions is a follow up to the critically acclaimed monograph Think tanks across nations (MUP, 1998), edited by the same authors, which was widely acknowledged as a ground-breaking work in the comparative study of think tanks. The book looks at the historical role and contemporary significance of think tanks in the West, including Europe, the United States and Canada, as well as considering their activities in China, Eastern Europe and Argentina. In so doing, the book provides a broad-based and in-depth analysis of the role of think tanks in the processes of economic liberalisation and democratisation. As well as analysing think tank activities on a country-by-country basis, three new chapters focus on levels of think tank operation and activity above and beyond the nation-state, including the European Union, and, on a more general level, diplomatic relations and foreign policy. By addressing these broad and increasingly important dimensions of think tank activity, the book will have considerable appeal among students of comparative politics, public policy and international affairs.

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His research and teaching interests encompass British political ideas, British public policy, Conservative Party politics and political biography. Administrative Roles. Director, PhD Admissions. Think Tank Traditions: Policy Research and the Politics of Ideas Manchester University Press, Manchester, UK. Denham, a. and garnett, M., 2004. A 'Hollowed Out' Tradition? British Think Tanks in the Twenty First Century. In: STONE, D and DENHAM, A., eds., Think Tank Traditions: Policy Research and the Politics of Ideas Manchester University Press., 232-46. DENHAM, A., 2003. British Think Tanks in the Twenty-first Century. In Think Tank Traditions: Policy Research and the Politics of Ideas , ed. D. Stone, and A. Denham. New York: Manchester University Press. Think Tanks, "Policy Experts" and "Ideas for" Education Policy Making in Australia. The Australian Educational Researcher 43 (1): 15–33. CrossRefGoogle Scholar. McGann, J. 1995. The Competition for Dollars, Scholars, and Influence in Public Policy Research Industry . Lanham, MD: University Press of America. Google Scholar. McGann, J. 2014. 2013 Global Go to Think Tanks Rankings: The Leading Public Policy Research Organizations in the World. Diane Stone, too, promotes a looser definition in Think Tank Traditions: Policy Research and the Politics of Ideas, which holds that think tank is often used to refer to a function or practice rather than an organizational structure.²⁴ Think Tanks and Governance in the United States. 9. The only consensus in the literature on the definition of think tanks is that there is no consensus. The term is difficult to define because the broad definition encompasses other similar non-think-tank organizations, and any attempt to narrow the definition excludes organizations that are commonly accepted a

Public Policy Research, Analysis and Engagement Organizations (also known as Think Tanks) play a vital role in the political and policy arenas at the local and national level in the United States. This is an age old tension between the world of ideas and the world of policy. The origins of think tanks can be traced to America's Progressive-era traditions of corporate philanthropy, its sharp distinction between legislative and executive branches of government (which creates few barriers to entry into the policy making process), the desire to bring knowledge to bear on governmental decision making and inclination to trust the private-sector to "help government think." "Think-tanks are there unapologetically because we are not anything else. We are not politicians so we are freer to speak and say the unpopular, and we are freer to be critical of policies. We are not academics, so we are able to think about real issues here and now and respond quite quickly. We are not journalists, so we are able to do work in depth and reach conclusions in the round." [14]. In the 1990's and early 2000 a whole new wave of think tanks has been established. This might be so because many politicians, whose career was for one or the other reason stagnating or who h... Tank Traditions. Policy research and the politics of ideas, pp. 2. [7] Stone, D. (2004), pp. 2. [8] McGann, J. (2007), para.