

William Allchorn (Ed.)

Tracking the Rise of the Radical Right Globally

CARR Yearbook 2018/2019

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Preface

This volume wouldn't have been made possible without a consortium of over sixty senior and early career fellows who have been diligently submitting blogs as part of a new academic initiative to provide serious analysis on a serious world issue. The Centre for the Analysis of the Radical Right (CARR) was officially launched in April 2018 and is chaired by a group of researchers (Professor Matthew Feldman, Professor Cynthia Miller-Idriss, Dr William Allchorn, Dr Archie Henderson and Ms Eviane Leidig) who grapple with the issue of radical right from many complementary and different geographical angles. The blogs selected to form the essays you see before you come from several hundred available at the CARR website (www.radicalrightanalysis.com) and comprise the most read articles in the year 2018. The level of uptake and readership of these articles are in no small part down to our Centre's media partners where many of these blogs were first published, including Rant Media, Fair Observer and Open Democracy. Special thanks goes to Ahmed Baba, Anna Pivovarchuk and Rosemary Bechler for their diligent work in posting these.

This Yearbook therefore pulls together the best commentary and analysis from an international consortium of expert scholars examining the ebb and flow of radical right movements from around the world. Starting with a concise analysis of the current ideological currents present within the radical right, the volume then looks at the historical precursors of the present moment—taking in historical events and movements crucial to understanding contemporary manifestations of radical right politics. It then takes the reader on an international journey into the key happenings in the year 2018—both in the Western European context of the UK, Germany, Scandinavia and Austria, but also the Americas and finally through non-Western manifestations of the radical right. This de-centred approach to radical right scholarship is increasingly important as we see the spread of the phenomena outside of the European context and into South Asia and America.

The book ends with a thematic analysis of key tactics and issues related to the radical right that continue to prey on the minds of researchers and academics. What are the challenges of radical right terrorism and counter-terrorism in the present moment, and how are radical right movements using the online space in order mobilize and attract support away from the mainstream? The penultimate two sections therefore contain articles that focus on these key challenges—noting key developments in the

fields of radical right terrorism, counter terrorism and the radical right's use of social media.

Such a survey therefore provides a unique snapshot of global developments in 2018 that shows a serious and sustained engagement with trends shaping and reshaping the politics and societal attitudes of many voters, citizens and private individuals in the contemporary moment. This collection will be useful to scholars and practitioners grappling with the phenomena as well as providing a useful introduction to students and interested members of the public alike. Given the explosion of scholarship on the radical right in recent years, such a collection provides a useful roadmap of trends that should concern us all.

Returning to the start of this preface, a dictum commonly used in military parlance—but also hijacked by the radical right—might be a useful entry point to this volume for the reader. Hailing from the Latin *praemonitus praemunitus*, the phrase ‘forewarned is forearmed’ seems relevant as ever when engaging with the radical right. Examining the radical right, both exposes the pathologies of this phenomenon but also the pathologies of our politics and society—namely the lack of integration of certain members of society into the political system and the persistence of racial prejudice. This volume therefore should provoke in us a great deal of introspection about the radical right but also how certain legitimate demands can be integrated back into formal politics and how—as a society—we can combat discrimination of all kinds. It is to these challenges that the following contributions speak.

Dr William Allchorn
Leeds, United Kingdom
January 2019