

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.

Bear in Mind:

- 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. The distinction between 'think tanks' 'campaigning organisations' and 'pressure groups' is in any case imprecise and open to discussion.

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... "Using free markets to create a richer, freer, happier world."

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. Argues that the UK will be better off outside the EU

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

Centre for Associative Economics **C**

Describes itself as... '...associative economics is about trusting to people directly as the springs of responsible economic behaviour.'

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 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.' Economists who work for them are affiliates rather than employees.

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

<http://www.cepr.org>

Centre for European Reform **F**

Describes itself as... 'an 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... '...putting social justice at the heart of British politics.'

Areas of Interest: Five 'Pathways to Poverty': - family breakdown, educational failure, worklessness and dependency, addiction and serious personal debt. Proposed solutions are arguably not politically neutral.

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

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/>

Chatham House **I, E, J**

Describes itself as... 'Chatham House, home of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, is a world-leading source of independent analysis, informed debate and influential ideas on how to build a prosperous and secure world for all.'

Areas of Interest: Energy, Environment and Resource Governance, International Economics, Regional and Security Studies. Formerly the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

<http://www.chathamhouse.org>

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.'

Areas of Interest: Innovative approaches to social problems. Crime, education, family, health, immigration, manufacturing. Includes 'traditional' education programmes for those left behind by mainstream education, and provision of material, which Civitas says is independently checked for objectivity, on the EU and family and marriage (pro-marriage).

<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.'

Areas of Interest: Economics

Board members include UKIP and Tax-payers Alliance supporters and Conservative MPs

www.cobdencentre.org

The Constitution Unit **G**

Describes itself as... 'research into constitutional change and its consequences.'

Areas of Interest: UK Constitutional reform, such as Human Rights Act; devolution; reform of the House of Lords; referendums; new voting systems; the new Supreme Court; Church and State; constitutional watchdogs; freedom of information (FOI); and parliamentary reform. Research often includes comparison with other countries. Part of University College London.

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

Counterpoint A,L

Describes itself as... ‘We give our clients and partners the tools to understand the cultural and social codes of the world we live in – and help them plan confidently for their roles in it.’

Areas of Interest: Cultural relations, far right extremism, Muslim fundamentalism, self-identity and collectivism. Part of the British Council until April 2011

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

Compass E,G

Describes itself as... ‘the home for everyone who wants to be part of a much more equal, democratic and sustainable future.’

Areas of Interest: Democracy, equality, sustainability. Left of centre, links with the Labour Party and aims to change Labour policy, but works with progressive MPs from all parties.

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

Demos G, L,

Describes itself as... ‘Britain’s leading cross-party think-tank. We have spent 20 years at the centre of the policy debate, with an overarching mission to bring politics closer to people.’

Areas of Interest: Family and Society, violence and extremism, public interest, political economy, public services and welfare. Projects across a range of political standpoints.

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

Economics Research Council C

Describes itself as... ‘one of Britain’s leading economics-based think tanks, dedicated to discuss, dispute, debate and generally seek enlightenment on economic issues of all kinds.’

Areas of Interest: Economics research and education

www.ercouncil.org

Education Policy Institute D

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... ‘The Christian political thinktank. We provide briefing, research, commentary and analysis. We examine beliefs, politics, theology, culture and society.’

Areas of Interest: Religion and society, Community and family, Life and death, Crime and justice, Ecology and environment, Race and identity, Peace and war, Sex and gender, Economy and politics, Education and culture (including media), People and power, Globalisation and development. Rooted in the Christian tradition. Standpoint of transformative theology.

<http://www.ekklesia.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: Political pressure group promoting electoral reform

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

European Council on Foreign Relations F, I

Describes itself as... 'the first pan-European think-tank... its objective is to conduct research and promote informed debate across Europe on the development of coherent and effective European values based foreign policy.'

Areas of Interest: Wider Europe, rule of law, Asia and China, Middle East and Africa

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

Fabian Society G

Describes itself as... '...Britain's oldest political think tank. Founded in 1884, the Society is at the forefront of developing political ideas and public policy on the left.'

Areas of Interest: Inequality, citizenship, public policy.

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

Foreign Policy Centre I

Describes itself as... 'a UK-based, independent, progressive foreign affairs think tank. Through events, publications and analysis, the Centre aims to develop policy ideas and inclusive partnerships that promote a fairer world....We seek to engage with all people who are interested in foreign policy, whether from political life, the media, the private sector, voluntary organisations, students or the general public. The Centre has two Co-Presidents, representing each of the UK's major political parties: Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, former Secretary of State for Justice and Education, Baroness Margaret Jay of Paddington, former leader of the House of Lords.'

Areas of Interest: Effective multilateral solutions to global problems, democracy, partnerships with the private and voluntary sectors, diplomacy, definitions of citizenship. Three co-presidents represent the three main UK political parties

<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... 'The global think tank and consultancy specialised in Corporate Vision® strategy and business model innovation.'

Areas of Interest: Business and globalisation

www.goldmercury.org

Green Alliance E

Describes itself as... 'working to ensure UK political leaders deliver ambitious solutions to global environmental issues.'

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... 'Working to strengthen parliamentary democracy in the UK and around the world.'

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.'

Areas of Interest: economic, social and environmental aspects of travel, transport and transport policy in the United Kingdom. Public education in matters relating to transport and, recommendations on possible solutions, and publishing reports. Recent examples have included road pricing, long distance travel and suburban expansion.

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

Institute for Fiscal Studies **C, L**

Describes itself as... '...the principal aim of better informing public debate on economics in order to promote the development of effective fiscal policy.'

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

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

Institute for Government **G**

Describes itself as... 'an independent working to increase government effectiveness.'

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... 'the only independent institute in Britain that specializes in researching the state of the contemporary Jewish communities in the UK and elsewhere in Europe.'

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

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

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

Describes itself as... 'aims to influence policy in the present and reinvent progressive politics in the future.'

Areas of Interest: Suggesting practical solutions to government on Combating inequality, empowering citizens, promoting social responsibility, creating a sustainable economy, revitalising democracy

<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: Europe in the World; Islam, diversity and social cohesion; security and international co-operation; media and cultural bridges

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

Institute of Economic Affairs C

Describes itself as... ‘...analysing and expounding the role of markets in solving economic and social problems..’

Areas of Interest: Free markets

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

Institute of Race Relations L

Describes itself as... ‘investigations and analyses into pressing issues of contemporary British racism.’

Areas of Interest: 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.

<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. We come up with practical ideas to improve the economy, education and health. Our vision is to help create a Wales where everyone can flourish.’

Areas of Interest: Work that leads to practical suggestions for policy work with respect to Wales

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

International Institute for Environment and Development E, G

Describes itself as... ‘We promote sustainable development to improve livelihoods and protect the environments on which these livelihoods are built. 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: 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.’

Areas of Interest: Climate change and security, conflict, defence and military analysis, nonproliferation and disarmament, transnational threats and international political risk

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

International Longevity Centre L

Describes itself as... ‘: ‘A think tank impacting policy on longevity, ageing and population change.’

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/>

Involve B

Describes itself as... 'We want to build a democracy that works for everyone – that gives people real power to effect change in their lives, communities and beyond.'

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

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

Joseph Rowntree Foundation L

Describes itself as... 'Our vision is for a prosperous UK without poverty, where everyone can thrive and contribute. Our comprehensive strategy – [We can solve poverty in the UK](#) – sets out recommendations for how this could be achieved.'

Areas of Interest: Evidence-based suggested solutions to improve the circumstances of people experiencing poverty and disadvantage, the quality of their homes and communities; and the nature of the services and support that foster their well-being and citizenship. Poverty, communities, ageing population

<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.'

Areas of Interest: Current Priorities: The Patient Experience, NHS Productivity, Future of Health and Social Care, Strengthening Leadership, Integrating Long-term care, information to improve quality.

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

Local Government Information Unit

Describes itself as... 'LGIU is a think tank and local authority membership organisation as well as a registered charity; and what we are about is pretty simple. We are all about people and the places where we live: we are about the everyday essentials that make life work – health, schools, homes, jobs, support, open spaces and the rest. And the thread that weaves through all our work is our core belief that all these essentials are best when they are designed and delivered locally.'

Areas of Interest: Include 'big society', climate, energy, families, flooding, health, and sustainability, in terms of the implications for local government.

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

Legatum Institute C, B, G

Describes itself as... 'Our work focuses on understanding, measuring, and explaining the journey from poverty to prosperity for individuals, communities, and nations.'

Areas of Interest: Promotion of 'open economies'. Prosperity, capitalism, democracy

<http://www.li.com/> (Also <http://www.legatum.com/institute>)

Independent member of a private investment group, the Legatum Group

London Councils G,L,C

Describes itself as... 'Represents London's 32 borough councils and the City of London. It is a cross-party organisation that works on behalf of all of its member authorities regardless of political persuasion.'

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/>

Mutuo C

Describes itself as..... 'the leading advocate for mutuals, promoting all types of co-operative & mutual business.'

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

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

Describes itself as..... 'aims to promote, through quantitative and qualitative research, a deeper understanding of the interaction of economic and social forces that affect people's lives, and the ways in which policies can improve them.'

Areas of Interest: Most of the issues that shape economic performance -economic modelling and macro analysis; education, training and employment; the international economy.

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

New Economics Foundation C, L, E

Describes itself as..... 'We are rooted outside the traditional boundaries of politics. We care most about people's everyday experience and we will work with communities of all kinds to help them take control. And we will offer an agenda for people to take more control over the decisions and resources that affect their lives today and a plan for how we can all begin to change the whole system tomorrow.'

Areas of Interest: Current interests include community, well-being, new economic and banking models.

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

New Local Government Network G

Describes itself as.... 'believes that local government, their partners, and the communities they lead, must undergo a profound cultural shift to embrace three core 'changemaking' values of creativity, collaboration and self-determination...We work closely with our [members](#) on practical issues of service delivery and organisational change as well as national policy.'

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

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

New Philanthropy Capital L

Describes itself as.... 'a consultancy and think tank dedicated to helping funders and charities achieve a greater impact.'

Areas of Interest: Charity analysis, charity improvement, charity funding and giving.

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

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... 'projects contribute to the understanding of how the accountability of global governance processes to people affected by them can be increased.'

Areas of Interest: World governance and global decision making. Democracy, law, federalism.

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

Open Europe F, C

Describes itself as... 'the go-to source for real-time analysis on breaking European affairs, delivered by Our Experts as they unfold. We are a non-partisan and independent policy think tank, committed to crafting and putting into action solutions to the European Union's most pressing challenges.'

Areas of Interest: EU Constitution and Politics; trade and development; institutional reform and transparency; single market and regulation; environment and energy; polling and public opinion; justice, home affairs and migration; economic reform; monetary union and the Euro.

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

Overseas Development Institute I

Describes itself as... 'A leading independent think tank on international development and humanitarian issues.'

Areas of Interest: Most aspects of international development and humanitarian issues.

<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.'

Areas of Interest: Middle East, Sustainable Security, Recording Casualties

<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.'

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. Said to be David Cameron's favourite think tank.

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

Policy Network C,F,G,L

Describes itself as... 'Provides progressive solutions to the political challenges of the 21st century.'

Areas of Interest: International, progressive. Economic, social and political challenges.

<http://www.policy-network.net/>

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

Describes itself as.... 'Our current areas of research include: 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.'

Areas of Interest: Evaluation of policy and contribution to social thinking including growth of inequality, demographic and social change, climate change and depletion of finite resources.

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: Tax, Europe, international comparisons of educational standards, employment, constitution, home affairs, healthcare.

<http://www.politeia.co.uk/index.html>

Population Matters **E, L**

Describes itself as.... 'Our vision is of a future with decent living standards for all, a healthy and biodiverse environment, and a stable and sustainable population size.'

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/>

Progress **G**

Describes itself as.... 'Labour's progressives. Progress aims to promote a radical and progressive politics... we are an independent organisation of Labour party members.'

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. Rejects Islam as a political ideology (rather than a religion). Founders are former members of Hizb ut-Tahrir.

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

Reform **L, C**

Describes itself as.... 'Works on all issues that bear on improved public service performance within affordable budgets.'

Areas of Interest: 'Value for money' in public spending

<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.'

Areas of Interest: Two main campaigns at present: 'Keep time for children', '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.

<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... framed and directed by three key programmes: Society, Prosperity and Virtue.'

Areas of Interest: Economy, welfare and public services, environment, children and families, security, civil society and social innovation.

<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... 'an independent think tank engaged in cutting edge defence and security research.'

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 promote research and to stimulate debate on the long-term challenges and opportunities that Scotland faces, with the aim of informing MSPs and others and 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... 'A charity registered in Scotland for the promotion of democratic citizenship and for constitutional education and research.'

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.selsdongroup.co.uk/index.htm>

Smith Institute L

Describes itself as.... ‘...undertakes detailed research by experienced experts on a range of policy areas from housing to the world of work, local economies to health.’

Areas of Interest: Economics and Finance; Government and Politics; sustainability and environment; business and third sector; local government, cities and regions; housing and regeneration; work and welfare; education and families; health and wellbeing; security and wellbeing; security and criminal justice; EU and international.

<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: economic and fiscal policy, designing effective regulation, reforming health and social care, improving education and skills, transforming welfare and labour markets, developing housing and transport, evolving communications and technology, building trust and civil society, human incentives and behavioural change, energy supply and the environment

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

World Economics C

Describes itself as.... ‘an organisation 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/>