



Bridge over Troubled Water? Culture and Politics in Europe

European Studies 20th Anniversary at Aarhus University

October 23rd 2013

On the occasion of European Studies' 20th anniversary, we would like to invite you to attend our seminar and reception. The seminar takes place in the Department of Mathematics, *Ny Munkegade 118, auditorium D4*

9.30: Welcome

9.45-10.45: Threat Perception, Security Discourse, and the Status of al-Qaida

Lars Erslev Andersen, Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for International Studies

After the US drone campaign and the death of Osama Bin Laden, the estimation in the US intelligence and policy environment was that al-Qaida was seriously weakened. Still we hear about al-Qaida threats. And reading the threat assessment from the Danish Authorities it is unchanged. How do we explain such paradoxes?

10.45-11.15: Coffee

11.15-12.15: Opportunities, Interests, Lobbying, and how to Navigate in Brussels

Lars Holte Nielsen, Director of Central Denmark EU Office, Brussels

At regional, company or individual level it is not obvious why to pay attention to the EU except as a political project. Seen from Brussels, however, the EU is a unique mix of opportunities and obstacles, something that is best not ignored. Lars Holte Nielsen will talk about interests and lobbying within the EU and how to navigate the international maze of Brussels.

12.15-13.00 Lunch break

13.00-14.00: Politics and Pop Music: Visions of Europe in the Eurovision Song Contest

Lisanne Wilken, anthropologist, dr. phil, Associate Professor, European Studies, AU

Since the late 1950s the Eurovision Song Contest has been a stage where Europe has been performed. Lisanne Wilken will discuss some of the claims to Europe and the Europeans that have been made from the Cold War attempts to include Eastern Europe over the EU's attempt to annex the song contest, to the recent reflections of just how far East Europe stretches.

14.00-14.30: Final Comments

15.00-17.00 *Reception: European Studies' 20th Anniversary: Nobel Parken, building 1461, room 516*

