

Abstracts from financed projects / NSfK Research Grants 2017

Jakob Demant et al:

Drug dealing on social media within the Nordic countries: The intermixing of local and technology mediated drug dealing practices

(research grant)

We have identified a rise in the use of social media platforms for distribution of illicit drugs that is complimenting newer forms of online drug distribution using the dark web and more traditional ones using clear web sources. Little is known on how widespread such selling is, to what extent other social media platforms are involved, or which modi operandi are used.

The study aims at generating knowledge on this development within the drug markets in the Nordic countries. The scope and number of groups, group sizes, and vendors within the public social media is unknown. This project addresses such descriptive questions in order to estimate how this form of drug dealing impacts the Nordic markets from manufacturer to end-users. Within these groups, we will extract data from the groups using webcrawling and will further recruit sellers and buyers for encrypted qualitative interviews.

The study will produce knowledge of relevance to both public debate and concrete policy. The project will produce empirically founded knowledge of the use and application of anonymization and encryption technologies by lower-level criminals, a trend that increasingly has law enforcement worried of "going dark. The project will also produce knowledge of relevance to local and national police operational strategies seeking to curtail social media drug dealing.

The research group consists of: PI, Ass.Prof. Dr. Jakob Demant, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; Dr. Prof. Atte Okasanen, University of Tampere, Finland; Dr. Prof. Karin Bergmark, University of Stockholm, Sweden; Dr., Prof. Helgi Gunnlaugsson, University of Iceland; MSc. Silje Anderdal Bakken, researcher, FHI, Norway and MSc Rasmus Munksgaard researcher, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

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Anette Bringedal Houge:

Opting out: Why young adults leave Islamist radicalization processes and the legitimacy of bystander interventions

(research grant)

'Opting out' will contribute to the ongoing public and academic conversation about preventive measures directed towards youth in radicalization processes as a response to threats of violent Islamist attacks in the Nordic countries. The research project turns the focus of most radicalization research on its head: Rather than asking what causes radicalization among some Muslim youth, 'Opting out' asks how and why young people who are already in a radicalization process opt out. In research on the relationship between radicalization and violent Islamist extremism, this interrupted radicalization process constitutes a significant, empirical knowledge gap - that criminological perspectives are well fit to address.

Based on in-depth interviews with individuals who self-identify as having been part of a radicalization process towards violent Islamist extremism, 'Opting out' will focus particularly on attempts at – and by inference also prospects for – bystander interventions. What and whose bystander interventions

are perceived as legitimate from their point of view? Whereas the empirical focus of the research project will be on Norwegian Muslim young adults – its theoretical and practical knowledge base will draw extensively on Nordic research and literature. 'Opting out' takes aim to produce findings that add to criminological research on radicalization and prevention in a Nordic context. In addition to publishing two scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals for a primarily academic readership, the findings will be disseminated at a minimum of two conferences, in OpEds and blogposts for a Nordic policy audience throughout the project period.

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Dorina Damsa:

Penal consciousness: the case of foreign nationals in Norwegian and Danish prisons

(research grant)

Accounts of a 'punitive turn' suggest that punishment is changing: the penal welfarist narrative of rehabilitation is being replaced by a new narrative favoring retributive justice, harsh imprisonment conditions, and risk management, in an increasingly populist penal field. Two Nordic countries, Norway and Denmark, appear to follow this international trend. Among other groups, foreign nationals are seen to experience the brunt of this increased punitiveness. Despite scholarly interest in the 'punitive turn' in Norway and Denmark, the penal power of the Nordic state has remained unscrutinized empirically, particularly in the area of social control, punishment, and exclusion of foreign populations.

This research project will explore empirically the interaction between penal power, in the form of penal law and practice, and those subject to it, specifically foreign nationals, within the current Norwegian and Danish context. If punishment is said to have become harsher, how do foreign nationals in Norway and Denmark understand and experience their punishment? The research will focus on male foreign nationals. This unique project will produce forefront empirical knowledge related to imprisoned foreign nationals, in terms of their understanding of punishment, experience, and new emerging prison cultures in Norway and Denmark; contribute to a better understanding of changing forms of penal power in the Nordic state, given the establishment of new wings and prisons, holding foreign nationals only, and the questions related to these new ways of administering and managing (foreign) bodies and futures; and offer a more nuanced perspective on punitiveness in the North. Results will also allow for research-informed policy on the situation of foreign nationals.

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Hanna Malik:

The Formation of Labour Exploitation - Experiences of Polish Workers in Finland, Norway, and Sweden

(research grant)

In recent years, Nordic countries have experienced an increase in the number of foreign workers. First, following the expansion of the EU in 2004, a stream of migrant workers from Eastern Europe arrived. Today, the Nordic countries are facing increasing migration from the non-EU countries. Labour migration is seen, on the one hand, as a solution to the aging population and the increasing

demand for labour (Hansen 2010). On the other, migrants are regarded as both a risk and at risk (Aradau 2004). Labour exploitation as a by-product of the growing migration has been increasingly studied in a global context and, to some extent, also in the Nordic countries. However, previous studies concentrate on the most extreme forms of exploitation, while 'routine', widely accepted forms of work discrimination that might evolve into 'criminal' exploitation as well as the factors that contribute to this phenomenon remain understudied.

This project will introduce new insights into this problematic by adding the perspective of the representatives of the first wave of labour migrants –Poles. There is a great deal of Polish workers in the Nordic countries. Many of them have been living here for a long time; nevertheless, they still occupy the low-skilled labour market and are often exposed to labour exploitation (MSW 2013). This project will analyze personal experiences of PW and their observations of the precarious labour market and the situation of other migrants, especially the 'newcomers'. In the view of recent refugee crises, this project will generate an empirically grounded basis for reform of current migration as well as criminal policies and regulations concerning labour exploitation. The results of the research will be presented in a research report, an international peer-reviewed journal and international conferences.

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Jon Gunnar Bernburg:

Community income inequality, social capital and adolescent delinquency: a comparative longitudinal study

(research grant)

- A summary description of project context and objectives: The income inequality thesis implies that income inequality may increase criminal behavior by decreasing social capital. In light of recent shifts in the distribution of income in Iceland, the aim of this study is to explore if changes in community income inequality are associated with changes in delinquent behavior among Icelandic adolescents. Moreover, we will test if social capital (namely collective efficacy) mediates this association.

- Participants. This will be done by using existing tax data on community income distribution and demographic data from the Statistics Iceland, in combination with population survey data obtained from Icelandic adolescents (15 and 16 years of age) attending public elementary schools. Comparable data from both of these sources are available for the years 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2014, covering a time period when income inequality in Iceland decreased dramatically.

- The expected final results and potential impact. Criminal behavior often has its onset during adolescence, and thus it may be suggested that a key issue for social welfare policy may be to empirically address if and how changes in the economic structure of the social environment shapes adolescent delinquency. We expect that the results will add to the understanding on how an egalitarian income distribution may reduce early onset of delinquent behavior. Moreover, by testing if a changes in social capital mediates the effect of changes in income inequality on adolescent delinquency, this study is a rare contribution to the understanding of the causal mechanism that shape crime related behavior.

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Isabel Schoultz et al:

What's law got to do with it? Labour exploitation in the Nordic context

(working group meeting)

The aim of the project is to explore and compare the ways in which the exploitation of migrant workers and trafficking for the purpose of forced labour are controlled in practice in four Nordic countries: Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland. Thus, this project examines the differences and similarities between how the Nordic states have approached labour trafficking and the exploitation of migrant workers in order to gain a richer understanding, not only of distinctive local practices and developments, but also in order to question if and how it makes sense to speak of a Nordic model against labour exploitation.

The research questions will be investigated through a review of legal cases as well as interviews with key informants. The review of legal cases can detect how police and courts distinguish between various forms of abuse and exploitation when evaluating if a specific case of labour exploitation qualifies as trafficking. The interviews with key informants will reveal perceptions and practices that illustrate governing principles, strategies and tools used to control exploitation of migrant workers and trafficking for the purpose of forced labour. By involving four Nordic countries the project will shed light on a complex problem relevant for the entire Nordic region. Findings from the project will be used to inform policy debates on how policy makers and control authorities are able to engage with crimes in the labour market.

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Per Jorgen Ystehede et al:

Penal welfarism – myths and realities?

(working group meeting)

Objective: The aim of the workshop is to scrutinize Nordic 'penal welfarism' as concretely as possible. Inviting researchers from the Nordic countries, to get varied images of the penal realities of the first part of the 1900s - esp. 1950s and 1960s.

Summary: In his famous book *The Culture of Control* (2001) David Garland postulates a paradigmatic change in the penal culture of the western world from the 1970s on. Garland's main interest is in describing and analyzing the new 'culture of control'. There has been less interest in in-depth descriptions and analyses of the realities of 'penal welfarism' in the period prior to the 1970s. Did 'penal welfarism' really differ in the Nordic countries as sharply from today's ideology and penal practices as is often supposed? And what, exactly, were the differences?

This workshop will thus examine penal welfarism in a Nordic context while Garland's is mainly looking at Britain and the US. However, his work has struck a note in the Nordic countries, where the paradigmatic shift towards a more punitive criminal justice policy is discernable, if not as marked.

Participants: 15 from 4 countries

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Elisiv Bakketeig:

The Nordic Barnahus model(s): New research agendas

(working group meeting)

Barnahus is a multi-professional measure for child victims of abuse, involving child welfare services, health care and law enforcement, even though the organizational structure differs between the Nordic countries. This project regards two working group meetings on the topic of the Nordic Barnahus model(s) – new research agendas. The aim is twofold. First to maintain and develop the Nordic research network on Barnahus research. Second to develop application/s for joint research project/s. Barnahus has been implemented in practically all Nordic countries, and autonomous regions, and is promoted by the Council of Europe and the EU, thus being a source of inspiration for both EU states and other countries reforming their work for victimized children. This warrants critical research on the merits of the model and possible pitfalls, such as the tendency towards juridification (Johansson 2011).

We have identified three main research agendas that call for joint comparative research project/s. The agendas are a) the professionalization of Barnahus and the Barnahus staff as professional agents; b) children's rights and access to justice in Barnahus; c) the diffusion and institutionalization of Barnahus as a distinct organizational field. Through two working group meetings during 2017, we aim to develop specific project plan/s and application/s for joint research project/s. The impact within and beyond the Nordic region is potentially high, due to the increasing international interest and diffusion of the model. The main participants represent three Nordic countries; Sweden, Norway and Iceland, and four institutional affiliations; the School of Social Work at Lund University; the Faculty of Law at Stockholm University; NOVA at Oslo and Akershus University College, and the Faculty of Law at the University of Iceland.

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Sara Hellqvist:

A Nordic Network Meeting for PhD Candidates in Criminology

(working group meeting)

This is as an opportunity for PhD students to advance their professional network across the Nordic countries. The core of the event is to be a dynamic forum where we discuss research of interest and exchange academic experiences and ideas. The setup for this event consists of two parts. The first is to arrange and having the meeting itself, the second part involves compiling a report on how the Nordic PhD programs in criminology are arranged. The ambition is to complement the NSfK research seminar by promoting cooperation at the PhD level. The objectives are to facilitate contact between PhD students in the Nordic countries, to create a sense of a joint student community, discuss our own research and research dilemmas, problematize current research and educational issues, exchange experiences and developing ideas. The research conducted by the Nordic PhD students are important key activities in creating and shaping what criminology looks like and should be about. Hence, being an integrated part of the NSfK activities, the founding of a network meeting for PhD students is highly relevant and serves to further advance the overall criminological research conducted in the Nordic countries.

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Ann-Karina Henriksen:
Confinement of youths in the Nordic countries
(working group meeting)

The working group aims to establish multidisciplinary collaboration across the Nordic countries in order to identify challenges and possibilities for confinement of youth in relation to both research and practice. The working group consists of 7 Nordic researchers, all currently engaged in research on confinement of young offenders and/or children and youths in protective care. The working group will meet a total of 4 times in Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland from mid 2017 to mid 2018. Each meeting includes a seminar for discussing research and practice related to confined youths (open to national researchers) and field trips to secure institutions. While similarities across the Nordic countries are evident in terms of welfare policies and low crime rates, significant differences in the organisational setup also result in different outcomes for youths who are confined. The collaboration will result in increased sharing of knowledge, collaboration on journal articles, and identification of future research collaboration. The social impact of the working group will be recommendations drawn from a Nordic context, which can be introduced to national policy makers and institutions for the confinement of children and youths.

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Agneta Mallén:
Cybercrime victimization in the Nordic countries
(working group meeting)

Cybercrime is a crime category on the rise both in a Nordic and in a global context. Some of the most common cybercrime categories of today are identity theft, phishing, sexual offences and different kinds of fraud. Cybercrimes are becoming more aggressive and confrontational: Malware, particularly ransomware, remains a key threat for private citizens and businesses both in terms of quantity and impact. Also cybercrime victimization has increased remarkably during a ten-year period.

As cybercrime victimization has yet not been a topic for systematic studies in a downright Nordic context, the aim of this working group is to conduct a standardized comparative study of Internet use and cybercrime victimization in the Nordic countries. A working group meeting will be held in order to prepare a research plan and research grant applications on the topic. The long-term aim is a full-blown Nordic research project with participants from all Nordic countries. In the research project, we want to analyze Nordic features in cybercrime victimization, salient cybercrime categories in a Nordic context and also characteristics for Nordic cybercrime victims and perpetrators. The results of this project have impact on both social policy, crime policy and also on how to prevent cybercrime in the future.

The working group consists of Anni Lietonen (Finland) from HEUNI, Jónas Orri Jónasson (Iceland) from the Reykjavik Metropolitan Police and Helgi Gunnlaugsson (Iceland) from University of Iceland. Project leader is Agneta Mallén (Sweden) from Lund University, e-mail agneta.mallen@soc.lu.se.

May-Len Skilbrei:

Rethinking Rape in the Nordic Countries

(book publishing support)

Rape and other forms of sexual violence are currently high on public agendas throughout the Nordic region, and legislative changes are debated or already on the way. This is also the case in Europe at large, and there are important reasons to consider the extent of rape and discourse on sexual violence in the Nordic countries as linked to broader developments, but there are also more particular Nordic developments to do with penal cultures, welfare state retraction, gender equality and public-private partnerships.

We propose to edit an English language book that will systematically present research into the scope of rape in the Nordic region, the legislative genealogies and current developments, how rape law is policed and prosecuted, as well as perpetrator and victim constructions in the policy process, public debates and personal accounts. The contributions will come from various disciplines, and will contribute to questions about the phenomenon and construction of the discourse on rape, and developments in law relevant to several disciplines, in particular criminology, sociology and law. The aim of the book is to provide a broad presentation of relevant insights to the situation in the Nordic countries.

The final result will be an edited book in English to be published by an international publishing house. The book will be about 110.000 words, which equals 13-15 chapters. The book will consist of chapters that taken together present the Nordic cases to an international audience. The collaboration on the book, particularly established through the working seminar, will strengthen and include more scholars into Nordic cooperation on gender and violence.

The participants so far are the three editors. Other participants will join as their submitted abstracts are accepted. Marie Heinskou: mbh@soc.ku.dk, May-Len Skilbrei: m.l.skilbrei@jus.uio.no , Kari Stefansen: Kari.Stefansen@nova.hioa.no

Lars Højsgaard Andersen:

Register Data and its Potential for Criminological Knowledge - A Nordic Research Network

(working group meeting)

The meeting, which is set to be held in Leiden in May 2017, brings together researchers from the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands to discuss and push the frontier of criminological research that uses registry data as its main data source. Researchers from several institutions in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and the Netherlands will participate, and the meeting aims to embrace both senior and junior researchers from all mentioned countries. As few countries throughout the world have as good and accessible registry data as the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands, it makes sense for researchers from these countries to join forces in their pursuit of new and groundbreaking research ideas. And, indeed, comparing results from the Scandinavian countries with those from a less similar context, the Netherlands, will shed new light on the criminological evidence which grows out of our region.

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Lars Højsgaard Andersen by email: lha@rff.dk .

Timo Harrikari:

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK – A TRANSFORMATIVE LABORATORY OF HUMAN GOVERNANCE?

(working group meeting)

The governance of crime has changed greatly during the past several decades. The resulting change has transformed the status of social work as a form of governing crime. The proposed project examines changes in probation work rationalities, mentalities and technologies from the 1960s to the present by examining them within a wide framework of governance theory. The project investigates how the following aspects of probation work have changed: 1) the conditions of probation work; 2) its institutional self-understanding; 3) its working methods; and 4) its objectives. The working hypothesis of the project is that, a tremendous change took place in CJSW and in the governance of crime in Finland in the 1990s. The recession of the 1990s was a culmination of long-term cultural change and a turning point in the criminal justice social work (CJSW). In effect, it provided a kind of a prism that reflected historical lines and redirected them. This question is about not only change in social work but also a broad change in society, in which the Finnish probation organizations appeared as experimental laboratories of human governance.

The results will not only shed light on a marginal field of Finnish social work but also strengthen the debate between social work and the criminal justice system. Moreover, the empirical results of the project will be applicable in the development of professional practices in CJSW and producing knowledge for the Criminal Sanctions Agency and National Probation Foundation. In relation to international scientific communities, the project aims to promote theoretical debates, especially regarding the conceptual development of governance theory.

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Annemette Nyborg Lauritsen:

Kriminalitet, frihedberøvelse og kontrol i Nordiske ø-samfund: Færøerne, Åland, Island og Grønland

(working group meeting)

De fire nordiske ø-samfund har store forskelle både kulturelt og historisk i forhold til, hvorledes, der er opnået selvstyre/selvstændighed og i hvilken grad. Samtidig har de på nogle områder flere træk til fælles med hinanden end med de øvrige nordiske lande: Hårde livsvilkår, der er meget afhængig af naturen. Småsamfund, med en stærk synlighed og afhængighed af hinanden, og hvor hverdagslivet er underlagt stærke traditioner. Og i forskellige grader kampen for selvstyre og selvstændighed. Forhold, der kan spille ind på konflikthåndtering, syn på lovbrud og indflydelse på egen retspolitik.

Arbejdsgruppen har holdt to møder på henholdsvis Færøerne (2015) og Åland (2016), og ønsker i 2017 at afholde møde i Island. Udfordringer af almen nordisk kriminologisk karakter, som gruppen har afdækket og fortsat arbejder videre med er:

1. Teoretiske og strukturelle udfordringer i forhold til det komparative studie, som udspringer af forskellige grader og varianter af selvstyre/selvstændighed i hvert enkelt ø-samfund.
2. Udfordringer i at finde selvstændige statistiske oplysninger om især kriminalitet og straf i de respektive områder, der indgår.
3. Afsoning på afstand – sammenligning af fangebefolkninger.

Gruppen håber på at kunne afslutte med for det første et videnskabeligt seminar i Grønland, 2018 i forbindelse med åbningen af den nye lukkede anstalt. Og for det andet publicering eller et særnummer i et nordisk kriminologisk tidsskrift. Deltagerne repræsenterer Åland, Færøerne, Island, Grønland og Danmark. Følgende institutioner er repræsenteret: Grønlands Universitet, Islands Universitet, Aarhus Universitet, Lund Universitet og Kriminalforsorgen på Færøerne.
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Martti Lehti:

Working Group Meeting on Nordic Homicide Data Cooperation
(working group meeting)

Forskningen av kvantitativa förändringar i våld är ett växande forskningsområde vars resultat är betydelsefulla också för dagens samhällspolitik. Det finns dock internationellt litet jämförbart lämpligt material, men det som finns är ytterst värdefullt. Norden har en utmärkt möjlighet att befinna sig i främsta ledet inom denna forskning på grund av unika källmaterial. Dessutom finns det i Norden en lång tradition inom kvantitativ våldsforskning. De material som producerats finns hos enskilda forskare och institutioner. De rättsliga och praktiska frågor som gäller bruket har knappast alls blivit utredda, materialen har till stor del inte konverterats till en form som möjliggör kvantitativa analyser och dessutom har de producerats med olika klassificeringar. De möjligheter materialen erbjuder har hittills utnyttjats endast i liten utsträckning.

Syftet med workshopen är att tillämpa erfarenheter från European Homicide Monitor-projektet för att kartlägga befintliga material i Norden som lämpar sig för forskning i brott mot liv, ta reda på vilka frågor som ansluter sig till bruket av dem och konvertering till en form som möjliggör statistisk bearbetning och utreda möjligheter för sambruk av historiska och moderna material om våldsbrott. Avsikten är att befrämja förutsättningarna för att det i framtiden inom nordisk våldsforskning ska produceras mer jämförbar, longitudinell och transnationell data. Samtidigt kommer man att evaluera möjligheter för att förädla den här kunskapen till ny forskning och gemensamma forskningsprojekt. Finland representeras av forskare från Helsingfors och Jyväskylä universiteten. Internationella gäster är kriminologer och historieforskare från Danmark, Estland, Island, Norge och Sverige. Workshoppens ansvariga ledare är professor Janne Kivivuori, Institutet för kriminologi och rättspolitik,

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