

### **CORE** CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON GENDER EQUALITY



## **NORDICORE:** Nordic Centre for Research on Gender Equality in Research and Innovation

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## «Blockages» to women's advancement in science

- Coincidences children & productivity
- Segregation across disciplines and fields
- Differences in access to informal networks
- Gender biased evaluation procedures and research funding
- Gender differences in motivation and self-confidence
- Self-limiting gender stereotypes





## Gender equality challenges studied in a Nordic context

- Assessment of grant proposals (Wenneras and Wold, 1997)
- Productivity puzzle (Kyvik & Teigen 1996)
- Gender bias and «non-events» (Husu 2001)
- Reallocation of research funding (Sandstrøm et al. 2010)
- Gendered conceptions (Powell 2016, Lund 2015)
- Consequences of research and political trends or shifts (Nielsen 2015)



## Nordic gender equality challenges in academia – complex and multifaceted

### **Crucial gaps in existing knowledge:**

- Consequences of general welfare-state policies and equality measures for career opportunities
- Consequences of cultural norms maintaining or changing gender imbalances in career advancement



## **Pillars of NORDICORE**

- I. Assess impact of equality policies
- II. Identify barriers and ways to overcome barriers
- III. Understand gender equality in research within the larger labour market context
- IV. Engaging stakeholders at all stages
- V. Knowledge exchange
- VI. Research ambitions comprise of six work-packages





## WP 1: Evaluation of gender equality policy

Principal Investigator: **Charlotte Silander** Senior Lecturer Department of Education, Linnaeus University

## **Evaluation of gender equality policies**

To what extent is there a correlation between the gender equality and diversity policies and the composition of the work staff over time?

#### Data and Method

- Data-base of institutional gender equality and policies – and match with register data on gender balance in top research positions
- Mapping of policies through survey to HR and chief executive officers







## WP 2: Gender equality from below

Principal Investigator: **Vivian Anette Lagesen** Professor Science and Technology Studies, NTNU

## **Gender equality from below**

Develop equality measures at *department level* and aims at changing the *culture* in research communities.

#### Data and method

 Departement management and researchs directors understanding of challenges







# WP 3: Research careers, gender and family dynamics

Principal investigator: **Guðbjörg Linda Rafnsdóttir** Prof. of Sociology University of Iceland

## **Research careers, gender and family dynamics**

Do Nordic family-friendly policies contribute to a greater acceptance of lagged careers – with increasing negative consequences for gender balance as expectations to academic careers intensifies?

### Data and method

- Longitudinal register data
- In-depth interviews







# WP 4: Gendered patterns of competence and hireability

Principal Investigator: Arnfinn H. Midtbøen Senior Research Fellow Institute for Social Research, Oslo

## **Gendered patterns of competence and hireability**

Can gender inequality be explained by systematic differences in the perception of women's and men's competence and hireability? Is there a gendered child penalty for academic promotions and research grants?

### Data and method

Survey experiment







# WP 5: Evaluative cultures and practices in recruitment.

Principal Investigator: **Mathias Wullum Nielsen** Postdoctoral Fellow Stanford University/Institute for Social Research, Oslo

## **Evaluative cultures and practices in recruitment**

How are meritocratic ideals played out?

- How do academic gatekeepers think about scientific excellence?
- How do evaluative practices vary across organizational contexts?
- What do we learn by studying recruitment through a gender lens?

### Data and method

- Multi-method approach
- Follow all stages from vacancy to the final hiring decision is made.







## WP 6: Labour markets and policy contexts: comparing across sectors

Principal Investigator: Liza Reisel Research Director Institute for Social Research, Oslo

## Labour markets and policy contexts: comparing across sectors

- Comparative reflections about the potential for change.
- Explore Nordic variation in the institutionalization of research and innovation and the progress towards gender equality.
- Gender equality cultures in context of Nordic variations in the institutionalization of gender equality policies.





## Nordic comparisons per work-packages

	Norway	Sweden	Iceland	Finland	Denmark
WP 1	X	X		X	
WP 2	X				
WP 3	X	X	X		
WP 4	X				X
WP 5	X	X	X		
WP 6	X	X	X	X	X



## **Communication and dissemination**

- Workshops, seminars and discussion forums with relevant stakeholders
- Facilitate user-involvement
- From practice to research and from research to practice



## **Concluding remark**

- Nordic comparison
- Stake-holder engagement beyond the "ususal suspects"
- Contribute to solve the paradox



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