



UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK

NORDRESS

Nordic Centre of Excellence
On Resilience and Societal Security



Guðný Björk Eydal

Task 6.2: The Nordic welfare system

NORDRESS
Annual meeting Malmö 2018

Members



- GBE WP Leader
- Denmark: Rasmus Dahlberg
- Finland: Merja Rapeli (and Juho Saari)
- Iceland: Ingibjörg Lilja Ómarsdóttir
- Norway: Björn Hvinden
- Sweden: Carin Cuadra and Tapio Salonen



- We will focus on the following questions: Are social services included in emergency plans in the Nordic countries? What roles do and could social services play? Is there need for a better integration of the welfare and civil protection systems? **The study will build on the results of an on- going study on the role of the Nordic welfare state in times of disasters**
- Based on the results, **cases of best practices will be chosen for further studies from each participating country**. Practices and policies of the cases in question will be examined to investigate **how social services can contribute to resilience of the local communities and their inhabitants**

The Nordic Welfare Watch

- **The Nordic Welfare Watch - in response to crisis 2014-2106/2018**
- One of three projects due to Iceland's presidency in the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2014
- See <https://eng.velferdarraduneyti.is/nordicwelfarewatch/>



Nordic welfare watch in response to crisis: Aims



- Examine the role of social services in the contingency plans in the Nordic countries (2014-2016)
- Evaluate the activities of the Icelandic Welfare Watch (2014-2015)
- Map the known risks that the Nordic welfare system could face in coming years + challenges for social services (2016-2017)
- Contribute to the evaluation of if there is a need for a Nordic welfare watch (2016): Result a *Nordic welfare forum*

Main outputs in 2017-2018



- Report on *Known and Unknown Risks* future challenges for local social services: <http://stjornarradid.is/lisalib/getfile.aspx?itemid=1cf93c9d-e594-11e7-9423-005056bc530c>
- *Final report of the Nordic Welfare Watch*: <https://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1155301/FULLTEXT02.pdf>
- Article by Rapeli et al., in the special issue of *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* Guest editors: Kristian Cedervall Lauta and Adriaan Perrels, *Local social services in disaster management: Is there a Nordic Model?*
- Merja Rapeli and Rasmus Dahlgren defended their dissertations 😊
- Paper presentations, IDRIM, ESA, IFSW etc.
- + publications + projects of the members of the WP

Policy recommendations

- Svalbard gruppen



- In our report on local social service in the Nordic countries (2016) we presented clear policy recommendations
- The Svaldbard grupp (based on the Nordiska halsobredskapsavtalet from 2002) was given extended mandate to include also social services in times of crisis and we have presented our results for the committee three times



UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK



The Nordic
Welfare Watch



Félagsráðgjafafélag
Íslands

- PhD Summer Course: *Disaster social work: Resilience and crisis management in the context of welfare states* May 24-27 2017 in Skálholt and Reykjavík, Iceland
- Traditional PhD course + a day when we added stakeholders – First the PhD students got a lecture and then training in presenting for stakeholders, then 30 SW joined the final sessions of course and the students gave presentations of the projects in a World Café (Speed date workshops)



6.2 Next steps

- Changes in plans- instead of comparative study it will be a single case study
- We will conduct a research on the local social services in Árborg and how it reacted to two different crisis: The Earthquakes in May and the economic crisis in 2008
 - **Autumn 2018:** data collection, analysis and writing of articles
- Ragnheiður Hergeirsdóttir MA student UI will conduct the data collection in co-operation with the group- and this study will be her MA project
- + NWW workshop in Iceland in autumn 2018 with social services and emergency management