



Civilsamhällets betydelse för immigranter i Norden – med fokus på inklusion i glesbygd

Nordisk konferens om INKLUSION – Hur stärker vi samverkan med civilsamhället i Norden
25. September – Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre.

Anna Karlsdottir, Senior Research Fellow, Hjördis Rut Sigurjónsdóttir, och Tim Heleniak, Nordregio

Civil society involvement in integration of refugees and immigrants

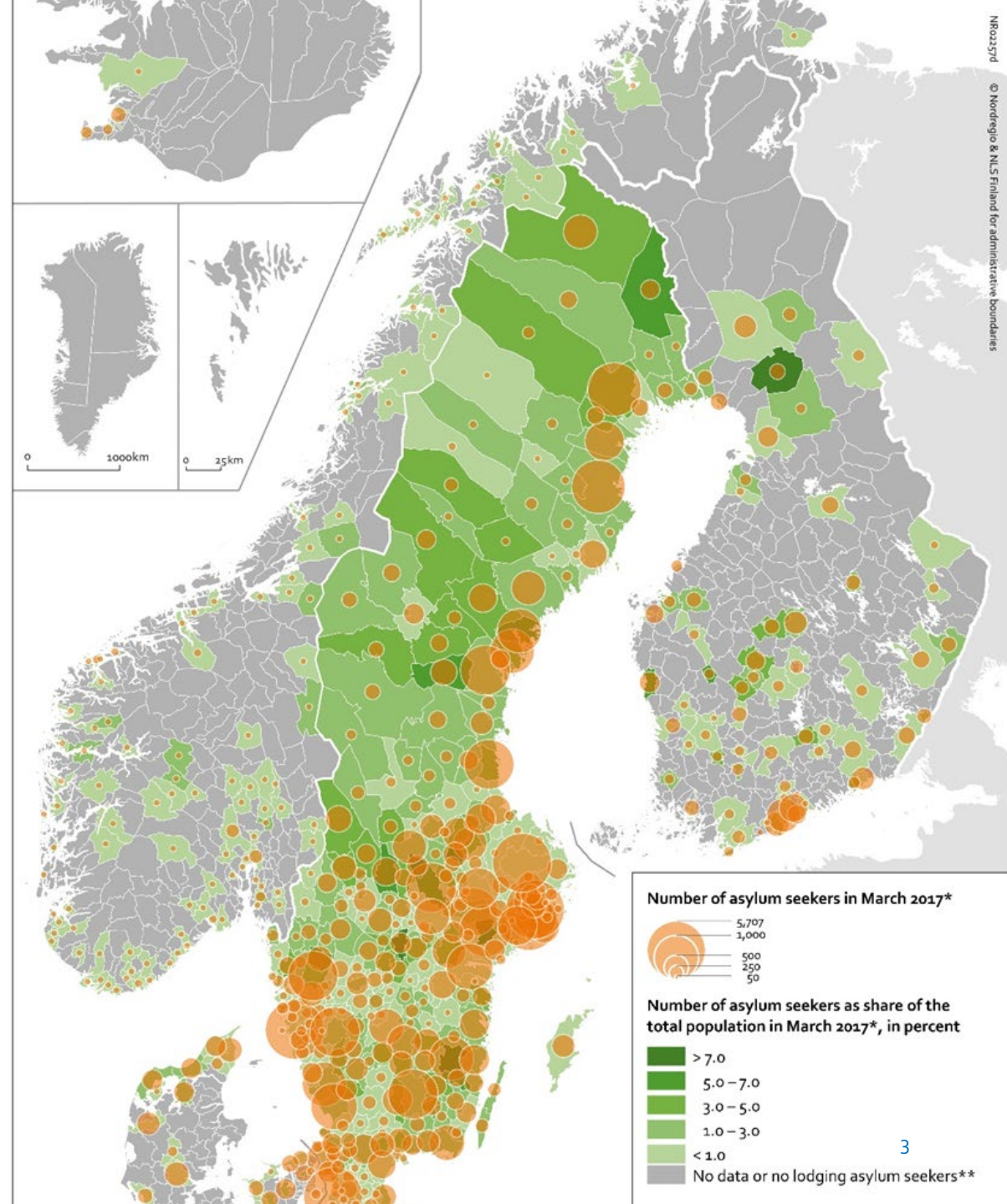
Are the ways in which civil society engages different in rural areas and smaller communities around the Nordic region than urban areas and large cities?

Seen through the lens of:

- ❖ pop-up activism and mentorship programs
- ❖ religious communities and aid organisations
- ❖ sport organisations and clubs



partnerships and forms of coordination between civil society organisations and municipalities and regions



Tillhörshorhåll bygger på subjektiv känsla


- The voluntary organisations contribute with gathering people into a stakeholder community. To connect around what we have in common, instead of through what divides us is



Hur agerar Föreningskulturen I Nordens glesbygd och små kommuner?

- voluntary organisations with embedded knowledge to the local area and information about the labour market, the housing possibilities etc. help immigrants navigate in the new society and community.
- Civil samhällsorganisationerne kan vara olika i storstäderna och landsbygdsområden
- Det lokale kunnskap om hur saker funkar här är viktig inom CSOerne.
- Någon måsta bera ansvaret för att deras integrations arbete funkerar.





THE VALUABLE ASSET OF CIVIL SOCIETY
ORGANIZATIONS IN INTEGRATION CAN GET LOST
OR PART OF IT WHEN NO ONE HAS THE
RESPONSIBILITY TO ARRANGE IT

The tradition of association life (föreningsliv) in many areas in the Nordic countries is strong and their activities and offers do not always reach out to new inhabitants. However, these common forums, i.e. the local choir, or the golf buddies, or the book-circle, women's knitting clubs, or course participation offered at the public adult education centre are crucial social gatherings that serve the role of securing social cohesion in communities around the Nordics. The newly arrived are often unfamiliar with the association culture that exist and may be unaware of looking for information about existing options. Also, if the information's are received other obstacles can be in the way, such as costs, access to equipment and material as well as transportations (Bäfvenberg, 2015:12).

Vardagsintegrering

„deltakelse og felleskap Det er de små, nære fellesskapene som er de viktigste for å leve gode liv Det er særlig viktig at barn og unge med innvandrerbakgrunn kan delta i aktiviteter og på sosiale arenaer på lik linje med andre barn Frivillige organisasjoner, idretten og kulturlivet er sentrale aktører vi vil samarbeide med for å lykkes med hverdagsintegreringen“

(kunnskapsdepartementet, 2018)



Pop-up aktivisme och volontörer

- Till exempel Venligboerne sprungen ur det danska initiativ och derifrån till folkrörelse – 45 lokala grupper över hela DK
- Frivillighet Norge med "Knekk inkluderingskoden" www.inkluderingskoden.no
Menneskebiblioteket som et interaktivt bibliotek var du kan låna et menneske...inspirerat från DK stop volden Icount i Finland Fishing in Joensuu
- Social media dreven – behovs dreven voluntarism
- Speciale mediatorer



Mentor programmer

- Har existeret länge i Norden
 - Till exempel
 - Stöd familier eller personer der ledsager nyanlända in i livet i det nya land och alt derimellem
 - KVINFO netverket
 - Punkalaiden och viktigheten av en integrations koordinator
- “The experience show that the civil society can play an important role in immigrants Integration but when no one has the responsibility to arrange it, then these responsibilities seems to fall through the cracks” (Local official Ísafjörður)

Religiöse samfunn (Kyrkor och församlingar) och folkehjelp organisationer

- Rauði kross Íslands
 - Norsk Folkehjelp (till exempel kvinner kan initiative – hjelpe kvinner med økt selvtillit – ta ordet i forsamlinger, på foreldremøter og i bostadsforeningen)
 - Dansk Røde kors
 - Finsk røde kors
 - Svenska kyrkan
 - Stiftelsnes Kirkens bymisjon ofl.
- Hjalparstofnun kirkjunnar
 - compassion, but also political statements, led CSO activists to engage in the accommodation of refugees. As opposed to the bureaucratic and rational response from authorities



Idrottsföreningar

- Participating in sport does not require language skills to the same extent as many other interactions.
- *"...in helping both host societies and new arrivals in a community to come together to build new social connections. Common interests and values can be shared through sport, bringing people together to promote intercultural dialogue, overcome differences and reduce intolerance."* (Council of Europe, n.d.)
- Goda exempel från Hettering och Karlefors (SE), till Hej Främling i Östersund (SE) till Åland, till Punkalaiden (FI), till Reykjanesbaer (IS), till Frederikshavn (DK) ofl.

Samverkan mellan kommuner och civil samhällsorganisationerne Norge

“Når kommunens oppgaver med integrering øker vil et godt samspill mellom kommunen og det frivillige organisasjoner være avgjørende for hvordan vi som samfunn tar i bruk mulighetene og løser oppgavene. Når organisasjoner som LIN (likestilling, inkludering, nettverk) får jobbe godt over mange år gir det resultater” (Slotterøy Johnsen, 2019).

“A call for broader arrangements with not too many defined requirements will help. Otherwise the voluntary organisations lose the freedom to find good solutions, i.e. when language and economy are thresholds to participate in the voluntary organisations. This is important particularly for work with children and youth” (Øvstegård in frivillig Norge, 2019).

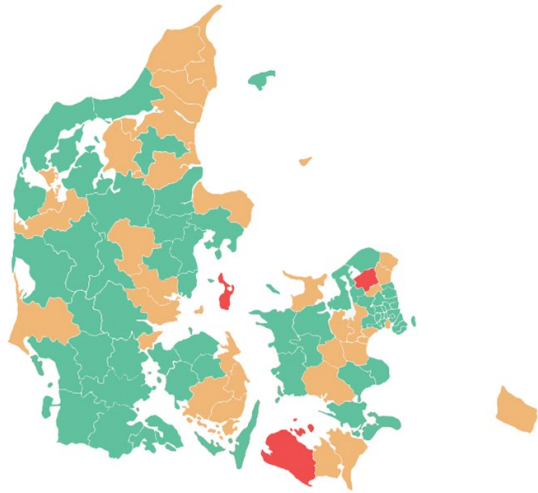
Samverkan mellan kommuner och civil samhälls organisationerne – Sverige

According to a review conducted by the Swedish National Audit Office in 2014, civil society organisations were seldomly providers of integration services In Sweden. However, civil society actors were found to have a growing role as a complement to public services. In recent years, the Swedish government has shown ambition to involve the civil society in the integrations work and speed up the integration process (European Commission – Sweden, 2016).

“Vi tror att samverkan med civilsamhället är en strategisk överlevnadsfråga i (X) och små kommuner som inte har ekonomiska muskler att utföra allt, framförallt välfärdsarbete som kommer att krävas i en framtid som inte ligger långt borta.”

(Hemström, 2018)

Samverkan Danmark



Kilde: Røde Kors og Dansk Flygtningehjælp

*„ De frivillige er der 24/7,
hvad enten det er lørdag
formiddag eller søndag
eftermiddag. Det skaber jo
en helt anden integration.“*

More than **7100** refugees have been visited by volunteer friends in the project. **95 out of 98** municipalities across Denmark are part of the project (see map later). **91** percent of the municipalities report that refugees with volunteer friend strengthens his/her network in the society. **86% of the municipalities** experience that the volunteer friend supports mainly with practical help to plan an everyday with work and family. **85% of the municipalities** estimate that refugees with a volunteer friend gain better insight into the Danish culture here included a democracy understanding. **79% of the municipalities** experience that refugees with a volunteer friend gain increased feeling of belonging in the society by i.e. being active in associations (föreningsliv) and by participating in parental meetings at the children’s school

Vad är annorlunda i mindre orter och glesbygd än i storstäderna?

Närheten och informelle nettverk lättare att mobilisera

- “civil society actors in smaller communities have a less formal organisational forms than civil society actors in larger municipalities” (MUCF, 2016)
- Refugees that had started living in asylum centres experienced it easier to get in touch with locals in smaller communities (Djuve et.al., 2017)
 - “Having children is a factor that has a positive impact on integration of immigrants. The parents go with their children and participate in their activities and get in touch with Norwegian parents and employees in schools and kindergarten”
- Man behöver inte på samma sätt som i VIDA formalisera civilsamhälls engagemang med regler för hur man agerar! Man agerar
- Man träffar personer som delar ett gemensamt intresse utan att skulle vara registrerat i en database ved länsstyrelsen (tröskel för tillit)



“Hoppet för demokratin ligger i civilsamhället” (kristina Sivertsen)

- Time may be a factor in degree of social integration.
- Att kunna navigera i vardagen stödjar en självtro och är mer troligt at folk upplever att deras liv gir mening.
- Everyday integration in NGOs is also about providing immigrants a communion where they can contribute on equal basis with others. By participating in democratic processes in organisations, we meet different opinions and a space for freedom of expression, disagreements and finding good solutions Democratic understanding is a basic value important to maintain among the public, both towards each other and to authorities.

**Tack.
Kiitos
Kærar þakkir
mange tak**

