

Final report for Nordforsk, March 2011

The network has an open structure, and it has provided a platform to develop a recent interdisciplinary research area of media and migration studies. Initially, the network had some 20 academics, including professors, post docs and doctoral students from Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. Over the years of funding from Nordforsk (2007-2010) the network has grown to gather some 90 academics together in an emailing list and some 60 researchers actively take part in the activities. The network now includes also Iceland. New doctoral students have joined the network each year. All activities have been organised on the basis of open call for papers. Everyone who has been interested and eligible has been able to join the activities.

The network has been successful and the acronym Migra-Nord has become internationally known. The network has been introduced and announced in several international arenas, such as IMISCOE (International migration and social cohesion, European network) and IAMCR (International Association for Media and Communication Research).

Members of the network

Norwegian research team, Coordinator of Norwegian researchers, ass.
Professor Elisabeth Eide , University College, Oslo

Danish research team, Coordinator of Danish researchers, ass. Professor
Andreassen Rikke, Roskilde U, Denmark

Swedish research team, Coordinator for Swedish researchers, ass.
Professor Camauër Leonor, U Örebro, Sweden

Finnish research team, Coordinator for Finnish researchers, docent, post-
doctoral researcher Karina Horsti, University of Helsinki, Finland

Icelandic research team (began in 2010) PhD: Unnur Dís Skaptadóttir, U Iceland,
Student: Olafs Helga, U Iceland

Scientific results

1. Edited volume written by the network members, published by Ashgate 2010.

Media in Motion: Cultural Complexity and Migration in the Nordic Region, edited
by Elisabeth Eide, Oslo University College, Norway and Kaarina Nikunen,
University of Tampere, Finland

This collection draws together the latest research from Denmark, Finland,
Norway and Sweden to look at different aspects of the relationship between
media and migration in the Nordic region. 17 authors.

2. In addition, a number of peer-reviewed articles, books and doctoral
dissertations have been published with the support provided in the seminars,
workshops and mobility grants. These publications are listed in the Nordic

online bibliography published on the Network website:
<http://sockom.helsinki.fi/ceren/migranord/index.html>

3. The following joint articles and Nordic review articles have been a direct outcome of the network: Horsti, Karina & Hultén, Gunilla (2011) Directing diversity: Managing cultural diversity media policies in Finnish and Swedish public service broadcasting. *International Journal of Cultural Studies* 14(2): 209-227.

Horsti, Karina (2008) Overview of Nordic media research on immigration and ethnic relations: From text analysis to study of production, use and reception. *Nordicom Review*. 29(2): 275-293.

4. The network has organised joint panels at the following conferences: 15th Nordic Migration Research Conference, Malmö, August 25-27, 2010; Nordic Media in Theory and Practice, University College London, 8-9 November, 2008 ; 4th Nordic Migration Researchers Conference, Bergen Norway. 14-16 November 2007.

5. The network has been presented in poster sessions in the following conferences: NordMedia conference in Karlstad, 13-15 August 2009; ECREA European Communication Conference, Barcelona, 25-28 November 2008; 5th annual IMISCOE Conference, University of Deusto, Bilbao, 9-11 September 2008; International Association for Media and Communication Research, International congress, 20-25 July 2008, Stockholm.

6. Six network members were invited to "Mediated networks" preconference organized and funded by University of Leeds, 19 July 2008, Stockholm. Karina Horsti and Rikke Andreassen presented a study: "Overview of current Nordic research on mediated networks and migration: Case on Muslim women in the media's intersection of race, gender, sexuality and nationality"

7. The Network and members are presented at the SSRC Media Research Hub, Social Science Research Centre in New York. <http://mediaresearchhub.ssrc.org/>

8. A multidisciplinary association Nordic Migration Research was established in 2009. Karina Horsti (NMR Board Member and Nordic Migration Journal editorial board member) and Sharam Alghasi (NMR board substitute member) from Migra-Nord have been involved in preparation of the association and are currently in the board of NMR. <http://nordicmigration.saxo.ku.dk/>

9. Nordic bibliography on media, migration and ethnic/ race relations published in the Migra-Nord website has received excellent feedback and is used by students and researchers.
<http://sockom.helsinki.fi/ceren/migranord/index.html>

10. The network has been a basis for contacts in the following funding applications: 1) A European COST application (2 members from Finland and 1 member from Sweden were involved together with several European researchers). Unsuccessful application. 2) Academy of Finland application for international research collaboration, (2 members from Finland, 3 members from Sweden were involved with European applicants). Successful application. 3) 2

Norface applications (total number of network members 4 from Finland, 5 from Sweden were involved with European applicants). Unsuccessful applications.

Research training

The Nordic Research Training Course Media, Migration and Transnational Relations was organised by the Migra-Nord network in collaboration with Örebro University and funded by a NordForsk grant, March 30 – April 3 2009. The course gathered 21 participants from the Nordic and Baltic countries. The teaching staff included 8 scholars from the Nordic countries, Australia and the UK. Leonor Camauër, Örebro University organized the course and acted as a course leader together with Ramaswami Harindranath, Melbourne University.

Research training has been an important part of the Migra-Nord seminars as doctoral students have been able to present their work, receive feedback and contacts from more senior academics. Ongoing doctoral dissertations were also presented and discussed among the research of more senior professors and post-docs. Peer support has been available in these seminars.

Research seminar "Avoiding the minority trap" 3-5.4.2008, University of Helsinki: Keynote speakers Terry Threadgold, Cardiff University, U.K. and Gavan Titley, NUIM, Ireland. 24 participants.

Nordic dialogue between academics and practitioners: Journalism and Media Research on Migration, Minorities and Society Dialogue Forum, Stockholm 22 – 23 October 2009. Department of Journalism, Media and Communication, University of Stockholm. This two-day event provided a forum for input and networking on different levels, presentations, workshops and speed dating.

Nordic seminar: "Mediation of cultural complexity and migration", Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki, Finland, September 1-3, 2010. Keynote speakers professors Annabelle Sreberny (University College London), Radha Hegde (New York University), and Andre Jansson (Karlstad University) presented their work and participated in the workshops where the network members, including doctoral students, presented their research. 40 participants.

Mobility

The network has a mobility programme that offers grants for short (1-2 weeks) scholar visits for Nordic researchers to Nordic universities and research institutions on the basis of application. Two doctoral students have used this opportunity.

The network facilitated research proposals and mobility through a Research idea competition. Two groups with a strong input from doctoral students received travel funding for a brainstorming meeting and writing a draft for future funding calls.

Meetings

Migra-Nord's manuscript seminar for Nordic researchers (PhDs) was organised in Malmö University (MIM) April 20-21, 2009. "God Needs No Passport" - Guest lecture by Peggy Levitt, Associate Professor Dept. of Sociology, Wellesley College.

Funding talk. Jonas Alwall, prefekt, IMER, Malmö University and Tomas Olofsson, EU-Coordinator, Malmö University. 8 network members participated in the event and discussed their scientific manuscripts. This event was open to all network members with a PhD degree.

The three seminar events were mentioned above in the research training section. In addition to research training, these seminars were useful for professors and post doctoral researchers who presented their own research.

Migra-Nord business meetings have been arenas where activities have been evaluated and planned:

November 18-19, Stockholm University, 10 members participated.

September 3, 2010, Helsinki, 30 members participated.

April 21, 2009, MIM, Malmö University. 7 members participated.

November 8, 2008, University College, of London. 7 members participated.

Bergen, 13 November 2008: Network business meeting. 10 members were present.

Helsinki 5.4. 2008: Network business meeting. 21 members were present.

Stockholm 20.7.2008: Network business meeting. 7 members were present.

Targets achieved

The network has been successful in establishing the research field of media and migration. It has provided doctoral training and peer-support that was not available. The network has been able to bring Nordic research internationally accessible and known. The events have had a very encouraging spirit. Publication targets were achieved.

Example of future plans

The emailing list "Migra-Nord" is open to all interested doctoral students and more senior academics. The list was established in September 2007, and has grown steadily as the network has received more attention in the research community. Today it gathers some 90 Nordic researchers. The list is actively used in disseminating relevant information, such as call for papers and job openings. In addition, it has been used in fishing for interest to organize a panel or research proposal.

Currently 10 members are preparing for an application for Nordforsk researcher network call to establish a different type of more thematically focused network. This group is also planning to organize a doctoral training course in 2012. There will also be collaboration through the Nordplus teacher exchange.