

## Jon Kvist

### Research statement

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#### MAIN RESEARCH INTERESTS

My expertise is in comparative public policies, EU studies and comparative methodology:

- *Comparative public policies.* I am established as a leading scholar in comparative welfare state analysis of the Nordic welfare model through a long series of studies comparing welfare policies, contemporary reforms, and implications as most recently exemplified by *Changing Social Equality: The Nordic welfare model in the 21<sup>st</sup> century* (co-editor, Policy Press, 2012) and a special issue of *Økonomi & Politik* on the Nordic model and globalization (vol. 85, No 4).
- *EU studies.* I am particularly known for studying the implications of membership of the EU on national welfare states. Thus, I wrote the much cited article on EU enlargement to the Central and Eastern European countries (*Journal of European Social Policy (JESP)*, 2004) and co-edited *The Europeanisation of Social Protection* (Bristol, 2007).
- *Comparative methodology.* In 1999 I made the first application of fuzzy sets (*JESP*, 1999) and have since been a front figure in the advancement of set-oriented methods in social science. Most recently I co-authored a methodological piece in *Political Research Quarterly* (2013).

My research in methodology, political economy and political sociology engages scholars with diverse disciplinary background. Especially political scientists and sociologists, but also economists, demographers and legal scholars contribute to comparative welfare state research, EU studies and methodology.

My keen interest for multidisciplinary work was initiated during my own studies at RUC and abroad 1986-92, nurtured at SFI 1992-2008, and took me to the Centre for Welfare State Research in Odense in 2008. At the centre we continuously aim to be multidisciplinary as represented by historians, sociologists, economists, and political scientists with occasional collaboration with colleagues from health, literature and culture as in the NICE Welfare application, see below. The multidisciplinary approach is one of the reasons we have become one of the leading research environments in comparative welfare state research.

#### RESEARCH PLANS

Building on my work in the three areas set out above I plan to do further studies of:

- the EU and globalisation, including the economic crisis, on the national welfare states, especially investigating:
  - the nature and impact of the new fiscal pact and the European semester, including the effect of country specific recommendations and conditions attached to crisis packages and breaches of the excessive deficit procedure; and
  - contrasting EU influence through the open method of coordination in the social dimension, currently couched as a social investment strategy, with the stricter demands on national reforms of labour markets, pensions, health and long-term care
- European national welfare reforms on social and economic outcomes like education and skills acquisition, fertility, health, employment, income, and subjective measures of well-being. Especially I intend to focus on:
  - spatial dimensions: taking into account the regional rather than the conventional the national and regional level
  - gender dimensions and intersectionality, i.e. simultaneous membership in various socio-economic groups, especially based on skills, gender, age, and ethnicity
- Comparative methodology
  - Measurement validity and reliability of indicators and data on the welfare state
  - Set-oriented approaches applied in comparative study of inequalities in welfare outcomes

#### RESEARCH GRANTS

At SFI there is a strong demand on external funding, so I have been applying for research grants since 1992. A non-exhaustive list:

- Comparative welfare state research, 1995-98, 2.4 mill DKK, Statens Samfundsvidenskabelige Forskningsråd (SSF) (with Odense University)
- Nordic welfare states in the 1990s, 1999-2000, 1.1 mill DKK, Nordic Council
- International Social Security Association, 1997, 0.5 mill DKK, Danish Ministry of Social Affairs
- Welfare State Architecture, 2004-2008, 3.5 mill, (SSF) (with University of Aalborg)
- RECWOWE - Reconciliation of Work and Welfare, National Coordination and Working Group Coordinator, 2007-2011, total budget 4 mill. euro, EU FP 7
- EDACwowe – European Data Centre on Work and Welfare, 2007-11, RECWOWE, EU FP 7
- New Welfare States, New Welfare Measures, (RECWOWE, EU FP 6 & Research programme on the reform of welfare state institutions, SDU)
- Comparative welfare state research, 2011-13, Grant for Research in international class, SDU Social Science Faculty (3 mill. DKK)
- Fellowship for Visiting HCA Professor, HCA Academy, 7 month, 700,000 DKK, 2011-12

- Various fellowships for a series of visiting scholars, NordWel & Reassess, 2009-2013

#### RESEARCH INTERNATIONALIZATION

I have a wide international network and considerable experience in initiating and managing various types of research endeavours ranging from once off events like seminars and conferences over networks of excellence to actual research projects.

At the Centre for Welfare State I have strengthened ties with leading international scholars, especially in the US and Europe, and contributed to concrete collaboration with Bremen University and Hamburg University (HU). The University of Southern Denmark and HU entered a strategic partnership where we – Klaus Petersen and I – made a contract of collaboration with a similar centre at HU led by professor Birgit Pfau-Effinger. Together with a third similar centre, Zentrum für Europäische Sozialpolitik (ZeS), at Bremen University led by Steffan Mau we organise twice annual conferences and workshops.

I have had a central role in various Nordic and EU research projects and networks of excellence. I have directed projects financed by the Nordic Council, the Danish ministries, the Finnish presidency of the EU and more.

At the University of Southern Denmark I organise yearly 24 h method conferences where we have one or more leading American researchers and 15 European scholars, half senior and half junior.

I am working with Charles Ragin, UC Irvine, on set-oriented applications in comparative welfare state research. Ragin gave an international PhD seminar “Configurational Comparative Methods” on SDU in 2011 and we have another scheduled for Autumn of 2013. The Spring 2013 we started a collaborative project on the determinants of multi-dimensional wellbeing and welfare.

Through my work as research and for the Norwegian Research Council I have a good picture of social research in the Nordic countries. For example, I was member of an expert group in 2004 that evaluated five research units in Norwegian social research that had received a substantial grant from 1992 onwards.

At SFI – The Danish National Institute of Social Research I helped improve research performance of the institute by attaching expert in language, Natalie Reid, and help her customize courses to European social scientists on getting published.

I have very many, strong links to the European communities and some American scholars and played a key role in especially European and Nordic research projects and networks of excellence.

#### ORGANISATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

With more than one billion Norwegian kroner “Welfare, Work and Migration” (Velferd, Arbeid, Migrasjon, VAM) is the largest ever welfare research programme in the Nordic countries. From 2009 to 2013 I was on the board of the management and helped set out the call for research, deciding on research grants and took care of other management issues.

However, my biggest organisational contribution to the academic community is no doubt co-founding the *ESPAnet – Network for European Social Policy Analysis* and organising its

inaugural conference in Copenhagen, 2003. Since 2003 each of the annual conferences of *ESPAnet* have attracted between 200 and 350 paper proposals for around 100 places making it the most competitive and popular research event of the European social policy research community.

In 2015 the annual *ESPAnet* conference will be held in Odense commemorating the “25 year with *Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*” (Esping-Andersen, 1990). I have been instrumental in getting the conference to Odense and in getting Esping-Andersen and others on board a project where we prepare a special issue of the *Journal of European Social Policy* and launching these at a high panel debate with some of the worlds leading welfare state scholars at the 2015 *ESPAnet* conference.

At the Centre for Welfare State Research, SDU, I have together with good colleagues set up a long range of conferences, streams, session, seminars, and workshops. I have also done this as part of the RECOWE EU FP 7 Network of Excellence, the REASSESS – Reassessing the Nordic welfare model, NordWel, COST A15 Network on Reforming Social Protection in Europe, and at during my time at SFI – The Danish National Institute of Social Research.

In June 2013 the final conference of REASSESS and NordWel is held in Berlin at the Nordic Embassies (same place where I in 2001 organised the annual conference of the COST A15 network making use of the conference hall and the meeting rooms at all five embassies).

A non-exhaustive list of events I have organized:

- Stream: *Designing comparative social policy analysis*, *ESPAnet* annual conference, Poznan, 5-7 September 2013 (with Olli Kangas)
- Session: *Changing Nordic Welfare States? Crisis, Change, and Consequences*, CES Conference, Amsterdam, 25-27 June 2013
- Session: *What are we comparing and what should we compare? Challenges of comparative welfare state research*, Final REASSESS-NordWel conference, 3-4 June 2013 (with Bernhard Ebbinghaus)
- International research seminar: *Spatial dimensions of welfare state policies and outcomes*, Odense, May 2-3 2013 (with Caroline de la Porte)
- Stream: *Crafting Cross-National Social Policy Analysis*, *ESPAnet* annual conference, Edinburgh, 6-8 September, 2012 (with Olli Kangas)
- Conference: *Dansk velfærdspolitik som model for EU? Bidrag til en europæisk høring*, Europa-Kommissionens Repræsentation i Danmark, Europa-Huset, 7 March 2008 (w. the Representation of the European Commission, Copenhagen)
- Stream: *Multidimensionality in the Analysis of Welfare States*, *ESPAnet* annual Conference, Vienna, 20-22 September, 2007. (w. Silja Häusermann)
- Session: *EU Social Policy*, *ESPAnet* annual Conference, Vienna, 20-22 September, 2007.
- Seminar: *C Wright Mills and “The Sociological Imagination” in Copenhagen, 1957*, SFI - Danish National Center for Social Research, 24 May, 2007. (w. Adrian Sinfield)
- International research conference: *Welfare state feedbacks: From outcomes to inputs*, St. Restrup Herregaard, 31 January - 2 February, 2007.

- The inaugural ESPAnet research conference: *Changing European Societies – The Role for Social Policy*, Eigtveds Pakhus, Copenhagen, 13-15 November, 2003. (see [www.sfi.dk/espanet](http://www.sfi.dk/espanet))
- International research seminar: *Flexicurity – Models, Policies and Effects*, Danish National Centre for Social Research, 23-24 January, 2002.
- Workshop: *Comparative welfare state research*, XI. Nordic Social Policy Research Meeting *Redesigning the Welfare State? - Policy Reforms and their Consequences*, Helsinki, 20-22 August, 2002.
- Research seminar: *Urbino meeting*, COST A15, Working Group 2 seminar, Urbino, 17-19 October, 2002.
- Conference: *Welfare Reforms for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, COST A15 conference, Oslo, 5-6 April, 2002. (co-organiser)
- International conference: *Die Nordische Wohlfahrtsstaaten: Vorbild oder Auslaufmodell?*, Berlin, 25 April, 2001. (in collaboration with the Nordic Embassies in Berlin as well as NOVA, SOFI og Turku Universitet)
- Research seminar: *Berlin Meeting*, COST A15, Working Groups 1-4 Seminar, Berlin, April, 2001. (w. Nordic Embassies and chairs of WG 1 and 3-4)
- Research seminar: *Families, Work and Welfare*, COST A15, Working Group 2 Seminar, Budapest, October, 2001.
- Research seminar: *Reforming Social Protection in Europe – Outputs and outcomes*, COST A15, Working Group 2 Seminar, Brussels, March, 2000.
- Research workshop: *Comparative Welfare State Research as part of the X. Nordic Social Policy Research Meeting*, Oslo, 17-19 August 2000.
- Research seminar: COST A15, *Reforming Social Protection in Europe*, Working Group 2 Seminar, Cologne, October, 2000.
- International symposium: *Nordic Welfare States in the 1990s - Stability in a Changing World*, CWR International Symposium, Odense, 9 June, 1999.
- Research seminar: *Nordic Welfare States in an International Context*, Researchers' seminar, Jægersborg, 7-8 June, 1999.

#### RESEARCH SUPERVISION

Supervision I find particularly rewarding because researchers, junior and senior alike, struggling with their research are particularly open to inputs. And I bring a lot of experience to the table:

- *PhD supervision*. Currently I supervise three PhD students: two Phd students at the University of Southern Denmark and one dual career PhD scholar at the UN University and Maastricht University. At the latter institution I also coach the enrolled PhD students once a year in short intensive sessions of 20 minutes.
- *Researchers*. From my time at SFI – The Danish National Institute of Social Research I have experience in supervising younger and more senior scholars and through the

internal Research Council (Interne Forskningsråd) at SFI helped qualify researchers' applications for research grants.

- *Students.* As part of my responsibilities at SDU and other universities I have supervised many Master students and BA students as well as students doing essays and other types of assignments related to my courses or as part of their general study.

#### EVALUATION OF RESEARCHERS

- Research assistant professor, SDU, 2013 (chair)
- Research assistant professor, SDU, 2012 (member)
- Research associate professor, SDU, 2011 (chair)
- Evaluation of three part-time professors, SDU, 2011 (chair)
- Ph.D. dissertation by Lis Holm Petersen, SDU, 2011 (chair)
- Honorary professor, Aarhus University, 2010 (member)
- Research associate professor, SDU, 2010 (chair)
- Post.doc. position, SDU, 2010 (chair)
- Senior researcher, SFI, 2009 (member)
- Research associate professor, Aarhus University, 2009 (member)
- Research assistant positions, SFI, 2007. (chair)
- Ph.D. dissertation by Jan Bo Bendix, Aalborg University, September 2006. (member)
- Ph.D. dissertation by Monique Kremer, University of Utrecht, October 2005. (member)
- Senior researcher positions, SFI, 2004. (chair)