Local migration and integration policies - current and future research questions.

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Research into two areas

- Migration policy – regulation of flows of immigration.
- Integration policy – conditions provided to the resident immigrants.

Common denominator: local level.
Previous research questions – migration policy

• Significant varieties in municipalities’ reception of refugees.

• Quantitative research displays that:
  • Less populated municipalities are more inclined to receive refugees.
  • Poorer municipalities with a lower unemployment rate are more inclined to receive refugees.
  • Municipalities in which the Sweden Democrats hold the balance of power are less inclined to receive refugees.
Previous research questions – migration policy (cont.)

• Municipalities’ argument for agreement / non agreement on refugee reception
Policy changes after the ’refugee crisis’ – new research questions

• Since March 1 2016 it is mandatory for all municipalities to receive newly arrived refugees.

• The quota for each municipality is based on factors on the labour market, population size, asylum seekers in the municipality.

• Future research questions:
  • What actions do this lead to among previously non-receiving municipalities?
  • How does this change the Swedish system (lack of local discretion) and how can it be compared with other migration regimes (cf. Denmark, Norway)?
Previous research - integration policy

• The 'Establishment reform’ (December 2010) – centralization of integration policy.
• Governance of this reform – *the hierarchical network*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>The Establishment reform</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of stakeholders</td>
<td>Several</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incentives to cooperate</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-governance</td>
<td>Varies</td>
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</tbody>
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• Lack of routines for monitoring and evaluating introduction guides.
Previous research - integration policy (cont.)

• The bottom-up perspective. The voice and notions of foreign borns.

• The effect of integration regimes for the individual.

• Policies without being adapted to the individual.
Future research questions:

• How can municipal variation in employment rates for foreign borns be explained by local initiatives?

• Which are perceived hinders and attitudes among the private sector in regards of employment of foreign borns?

• Which effects have the centralization of Swedish integration policy (lack of local discretion) had on: (i) outcome (ii) the initiative at the local level (iii) comparisons of integration regimes
Work with colleagues


