



Institute for Social Research  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2005**

Institutt for   
samfunnsforskning  
Institute for Social Research

## INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

The Institute for Social Research (ISF) is an independent foundation whose primary objectives are:

- To promote the study and understanding of social structures and social change,
- to develop practical and theoretical methodologies in the study of social conditions,
- and to encourage the development of professional skills.

Ever since its foundation in 1950, the institute has been multidisciplinary in its orientation. Today the institute pursues research not only in all branches of the social sciences, but in history as well. ISF is currently one of the few social science environments outside the universities that does not limit itself to the study of a particular segment of society. For further information see [www.socialresearch.no](http://www.socialresearch.no)

The institute's history and current position in social research bear witness to its longstanding desire to avoid drawing a sharp distinction between basic and applied research. Both types of research are pursued in the same environment. We also work with the University of Oslo on research projects and post-graduate education.

In recent years much emphasis has been placed on establishing contact with ministries and unions, with a view to communicating research findings and identifying research needs. This type of contact is time-consuming, but it is encouraging to experience a growing understanding of what social research can contribute and what its limitations are.

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### Contact information

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## SCIENTIFIC STAFF

Staff input amounted to 51.5 person-years in 2005, with 36 from the scientific staff.

Research is divided into five areas

- Employment and working conditions
- Gender and society
- Civil society in transition
- Political institutions, voting and public opinion
- International migration, integration and ethnic relations

In all, 86 active research projects in these areas were ongoing in 2005.

### Scientific staff by discipline

Sociology	12
Political science	6
Economics	7
Philosophy / history of ideas	1
Social anthropology	6
History	3
Criminology	1
Human geography	1
Total	37

### Researchers by competence

Research professor	9
Senior researcher	22
Research fellow	3
Research assistant	3
Total	37

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

### Library

The library primarily serves the Institute for Social Research and Norwegian Social Research (NOVA). It has a collection of nearly 50 000 books, research reports, statistical publications, Norwegian parliamentary publications etc. Its bibliographical database is accessible via the Internet. The library also subscribes to approximately 290 Nordic and international journals and enjoys access to the most important bibliographical databases in the social sciences. Head librarian: Sven Lindblad.

### Information

The information department coordinates publication activities, liaises with the press and maintains the Institute's web pages. It organizes the practical side of lectures and seminars and performs editorial and secretarial services for selected journals and organizations. Head of information: Jørgen Moland.

### IT department

The IT department handles all aspects of IT resources at ISF, NOVA and National Centre for Documentation on Disability. The most important duties are maintaining the operation of the local net, simple database and spreadsheet programme development, and individual support on office programmes and statistics. IT manager: Nils-Eivind Naas.

### Project and administration department

The project and administration department keeps the Institute's accounts and handles the project administration. It is also responsible for mail services, reception and address databases. Office manager: Eli Søgård.

### Cafeteria

The Institute cafeteria serves the Institute for Social Research, NOVA and The National Centre for Documentation on Disability. Cafeteria manager: Wenche Solberg.

## INSTITUTE DIRECTOR



Fredrik Engelstad has been institute director since 1986. He is Dr. Philos. from the University of Oslo, and is the author of numerous books on industrial democracy, social theory, methodology and business-politics relations. He is series editor of the yearbook *Comparative Social Research*.

## THE BOARD

*Appointed by the Norwegian Research Council:*

Permanent secretary Anne Kari Lande Hasle  
Permanent secretary Tor Saglie (co-opted member)

*Appointed by the University of Oslo:*

Professor Aanund Hylland (vice-chairman)  
Professor Helge Pharo (deputy member)  
Professor Dag Album  
Professor Signe Howell (deputy member)

*Appointed by the board at the Institute for Social Research:*

Professor Eivind Smith (chairman)  
Adviser Terje Hauger (deputy member)  
Professor Jon Elster  
Lawyer Liv Monica Bargem Stubholt (deputy member)

*Appointed by the staff at the Institute for Social Research:*

Librarian Jon Haakon Hustad  
Researcher Pål Schøne (deputy member)  
Researcher Mari Teigen  
Researcher Tordis Borchgrevink (deputy member)

## EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS

What are the consequences for the labour market of the boom in higher education in recent decades? How does a more decentralised wage formation affect the wage distribution in general, and the gender pay gap in particular? What are the effects of the active labour market policy? Does it enhance employability, and do benefits exceed costs?

Research on working life and labour markets is a long-standing commitment at the Institute for Social Research. Many of the research topics remain the same, but angles of investigation and methods are changing. While sociological theory and method predominated in the past, most research in recent years has been based on economic theory and analysis.

The objective of the research is to understand more fully employee behaviour, business adaptation, public policy and the functioning of the labour market. Such knowledge is of general interest as a basis for understanding social development. It is also important as a basis for decisions in politics, business and working life. Scientific knowledge is of vital importance to goal setting and implementation. Findings are published in the national and international academic press in ISF's own reports, and by means of verbal presentations conference papers.

The employment and working conditions research group is involved in a number of joint projects with centres outside Norway. They are financed by the EU, NO-S and Nordic Council. This co-operation will be maintained and elaborated in the years to come.

### 2005 IN BRIEF

The employment and working conditions research group were proud to present a collection of papers entitled *Nytt arbeidsliv Medvirkning, inkludering og belønning* (New

Work Organisation Practices. Participation, Inclusion and Reward), edited by Hege Torp. It includes contributions from, among others, Erling Barth, Pål Schøne and Harald Dale-Olsen. Focusing on the work place, the contributors address questions such as: How widespread are new work practices? Do new work organisations take social responsibility for their own employees? Which firms recruit immigrants? Is sickness absence higher or lower in new work organisations? To what extent do performance related pay systems affect wage differentials? Will firms applying new work practices and performance related pay live longer than other? The authors discuss the myths and assertions about new work organisation, practices and the central concepts of participation, inclusion and reward.

We also published four reports last year, each dealing with different aspects of the labour market. Marianne Røed analyzes the impact of immigration on native labour market outcomes in *Effekter av innvandring i arbeidsmarkedet - en norsk kontekst* (ISF report 2005:4). In *Lønns- og karriereutvikling for kvinner og menn i Kriminalomsorgen* (ISF report 2005:6), Marianne Røed and Pål Schøne analyze wage and career development for men and women employed in The Correctional Service of Norway, between 1997 and 2003.

Harald Dale-Olsen, Inés Hardoy, Aagot Elise Storvik and Hege Torp evaluate in *IA-avtalen og yrkesaktivitet blant personer med redusert funksjonsevne* (ISF report 2005:9) the integration of disabled workers in the ordinary workforce under the provisions of the IA agreement.

One of our international publications last year was "Family ownership and productivity: The role of owner-management", published in *Journal of Corporate Finance*. Here, Erling



Barth, Trygve Gulbrandsen and Pål Schøne analyze the relationship between family ownership and productivity, with special focus on the role of owner-management. In "The Effect of a Family Policy Reform on Mother's Pay: A Natural Experiment Approach", published in *Review of Economics of the Household*, Pål Schøne analyses wage effects of the reform, proposing a methodology for evaluating reforms when reforms are uniformly and equally accessible nation-wide.

- Labour force participation among persons with disabilities and the impact of the Cooperation Labour marked outcomes of low-skilled adults. The impact of unemployment benefits. A comparative analyses based on three Nordic countries.
  - Training and education offered by the Public Employment Service
  - A viable welfare state. Equality and stability
  - Analyses of the gender wage gap in Norway
  - Analysis of total labour mobility 1990-2004
- Strategic institute program on ownership: Challenges to the role of owner in modern economy

## PROJECTS 2005

- Education and wage inequality in Europe
- Wage development for researchers in public sector
- Changing wage structures and bargaining regimes in the Nordic countries
- Employee involvement, skill upgrading, and pay – in new work organisations
- Knowledge status on The new labour market
- Wage development for women and men in prison and criminal administration
- Management positions, recruitment and network
- Unemployment insurance and the dynamics of employment and economic exclusion among low income earners

## STAFF

*Research Director:*  
Hege Torp / Erling Barth

*Researchers:*  
Harald Dale-Olsen  
Trygve Gulbrandsen  
Inés Hardoy  
Marianne Røed  
Pål Schøne  
Aagoth Elise Storvik  
Hege Torp



Research area

## GENDER AND SOCIETY

The study of gender as a social and cultural category and the impact of gender relations on other aspects of modern Norwegian society has for many years been an important research area at the Institute. Today, research is concentrated around three broad themes: work and economy, family, and politics. These thematic fields are closely inter-related, and demand a more comprehensive understanding of relations between public and private, between state, market and civil society. Within this framework, we seek to describe, analyze and explain change and stability in gender relations, and how these relations interact with and are part of more general social and cultural processes.

In particular, we want to explore different aspects of gender equality in the general context of democracy and human rights, and how the problematics of gender intersect with those of class and ethnic differentiation in the context of an expanding post-industrial and multicultural society. Through a combination of empirical studies and theoretical work, and by integrating perspectives from different disciplines, our aim is to develop a critical reflection and broad theoretical understanding of these issues, and to contribute to a body of research which has both academic and practical value.

### 2005 IN BRIEF

An important aim has been to develop our research strategy concerning the segregated labour market. This is a research area which has been relatively neglected in Norway over the last fifteen years or so, and there is a lack of systematic studies about how the structure of work segregation has changed during recent years, and how processes of segregation operate in different sectors. In

April 2005, the institute organized an international workshop on these issues, with participants from the UK, Sweden and Denmark. This work has been followed up by a review of current research on gender segregation within Norwegian work life (Mari Teigen: *Det kjønnsdelte arbeidslivet. En kunnskapsoversikt*. ISF Report 2006:2). Our intention is to develop this research area as a special field of competence within the Institute, and to expand the analysis by studying the intersection of gender, ethnicity and class as dimensions of work segregation.

Another focus of study is the relation between gender, capital and ownership within the modern Norwegian economy. This is a new research area within the Institute, which also forms part of the Strategic Institute Program on new forms of ownership. In 2005, we finished a national report from a joint EU project on women's ownership in Greece, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden (Ragnhild Steen Jensen: *Women towards ownership in business and agriculture. National Report Norway*. Oslo: Innovation Norway). We have also started a new project on gender, capital and ownership in the private sector. It joins historical and empirical research on individual enterprises and family firms in Norway past and present.

A third priority is the study of new family forms and changing relations between parents and children after dissolution of marriage. Two different projects belong under this general heading in 2005. One is a study about child custody decisions and changing practices within Norwegian law during the late 1990s regarding gender roles in parenting. An important dimension of this project has also been how violence within the family is conceptualized, both in court and in me-

dia (Kristin Skjørten, "Medieprisme på vold mot kvinner". *Tidsskrift for kjønnsforskning* 4/2005). The other is a study of children's and parents' experience of shared custody and children living with both parents after divorce. Both these projects form part of a general strategy to develop further research on new family forms as a locus of change in gender relations.

During the autumn of 2005 we arranged two public seminars at the Institute on general political issues – one about current difficult choices within Norwegian equal rights policy and the other about feminism, epistemology and politics.

### PROJECTS 2005

- Child custody, parenthood and children's best interest
- The mass media and violence in the family
- Post-industrial working time - new concepts, new realities?
- Women and ownership
- Children's and parents' experiences with

shared physical custody

- Gender, knowledge and ownership – a study of the cultural economy of modern gender relations
- The gender segregated labour market: A Survey of Existing Research
- Cultural capital and gender. Elites in Norway and France
- Strategic institute program: A Comparative Study of Gender Attitudes

### STAFF

*Research Director:*

Anne Lise Ellingsæter / Mari Teigen

*Researchers:*

Johannes Bergh

Ragnhild Steen Jensen

Anne Krogstad

Kristin Skjørten

Jorun Solheim



Research area

## CIVIL SOCIETY IN TRANSITION

Research on civil society aims at increased understanding of civil society in contrast to "state" and "market". We investigate changes in work, ownership and organizational patterns contributions and collate data that help define the borders of civil society. The research explores three intersecting dimensions:

**Democracy and participation:** Civil sector organizations clubs and societies, foundations, cooperations and self-reliance organizations – are created to achieve collective goals. They do not create profit for private owners, and they do have a certain autonomy in relation to external agents. The legitimacy of civil societies has traditionally derived from political/democratic participation, the strengthening of social bonds and local engagement, also by function independently of state and market. There are signs that these ideals are under pressure.

**"Governance" – collaboration and control:** The term "governance" covers a wide range of new ways in which the civil and public sectors work alongside the market. In a European context, interest in these formations is increasing. The research is concerned with issues connected to partnership and user participation, financing and policy making, and ownerships.

**Data and international collaboration:** The Institute for Social Research coordinated the Norwegian part of the Johns Hopkins study, which showed that Norway has greater local commitment than many other countries. We seek to update the data on which this inquiry rests, and compare Norway and other countries.

### 2005 IN BRIEF

A major publication in 2005 was *Norsk idrett – organisering, fellesskap og politikk* (Norwegian Sports - organization, community and politics) where Bernard Enjolras, Ørnulf Seippel and Ragnhild Holmen Waldahl explored voluntary sports organizations in Norway. The book analyses data from various surveys of national and regional sports clubs, sport federations, the Norwegian Olympic Committee and Confederation of Sports.

We also published three reports dealing with different aspects of the Norwegian sports. Ørnulf Seippel analyzed the frequency and reasons people gave for giving up membership of voluntary sports organizations. Bernard Enjolras dealt with the economy and efficiency of the Norwegian Confederation of Sports and its national and regional branches. Håkon Lorentzen reviewed data bases containing information on various aspects of sporting and outdoor life.

An exciting new project this year is Karl Henrik Sivesind and Bernard Enjolras's participation in the CINEFOGO network, Civil Society and New Forms of Governance in Europe. This "Network of excellence" is supported by the EU's 6. Frame Programme. CINEFOGO is a network focusing on the significance of improving citizen participation in government. This requires new knowledge on multiple identities, active citizenship and the organized civil society.

CINEFOGO is a consortium consisting of more than forty universities and research institutes, a number of public service institutions in fifteen European countries and Harvard University. The Network connects about 100 researchers. Sivesind is coordinator for the Norwegian part of the network.



Norwegian debates on immigration, developmental aid and international relations are generally characterized by an image of Norway as being outside the history of colonialism and racism. In the project "Norwegian images of 'Self' and 'Other'. A study of a transnational knowledge regime", Marianne Gullestad aims to examine closely some of the historical beginnings of categories, ideas and images that are currently regarded as natural and self-evident. Gullestad makes qualitative interpretations of photographs taken by Norwegian missionaries in Northern Cameroon from 1925-1998. The main goal is to assess to what extent and in what ways present cultural changes and transformations are grounded in historical continuity.

### PROJECTS 2005

- Public affairs and voluntary associations in sports
- Sports as arenas of integration
- Fitness centres and sport clubs: Physical activities in modernity
- Participation of elderly people in voluntary

- organizations in Norway
- European Voluntary Associations network
- Social science data on sport and physical activity
- Voluntary work in sport organizations in Oslo
- Governmental tools and voluntary sport
- Sport democracy: participation and discourse
- CINEFOGO - Network of Excellence
- Regimes in athletics
- Norwegian images of 'Self' and 'Other'. A study of a transnational knowledge regime

### STAFF

*Research Director:*  
Håkon Lorentzen

*Researchers:*  
Bernard Enjolras  
Marianne Gullestad  
Ørnulf Seippel  
Karl Henrik Sivesind  
Anne-Lene Bakken Ulseth  
Ragnhild Holmen Waldahl



## POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS, VOTING AND PUBLIC OPINION

The study of political behaviour and democracy covers several areas: 1) the actors and institutions of representative democracy, and their interaction in a contemporary and historical perspective; 2) new forms of political participation, involvement and influence; 3) the “state of health” of democracy.

The changing relationship between voters and parties, with increasing volatility and unpredictability in public attitudes towards social problems and political values, requires constant monitoring and analysis.

Political participation has become a more complex phenomenon. A better understanding of what may be called the “the mechanisms of participation” is a major challenge for future research. This incorporates participation in other arenas than the electoral, for instance direct actions and citizen initiatives. An important question concerns whether participation in new arenas compensates for shrinking participation in conventional arenas, like elections.

If participation in political processes is going to strengthen confidence in political actors and the political system, it must be perceived as meaningful by the citizens involved. High trust and confidence can not be taken for granted even in established democracies. In time, increasing political distrust and withdrawal could undermine the democratic system. In Norway we see increasing uneasiness particularly at the local level. Turnout in local elections and political recruitment is under pressure. This calls for a closer scrutiny of the relationship between the local, regional and national level.

Immigration has introduced an ethnic component to the question of political parti-

cipation and influence even in a homogeneous country like Norway. The political rights granted the Sámi minority also call for more research.

The mass media has become increasingly important as a link between citizens and political leaders. Consequently, the interaction between voters, leaders and the media has captured the interest of students of social and political processes. New technology has opened up new channels of communication and information exchange. Studies of political communication in the mass media are vital in order to understand major trends in post-modern societies.

### 2005 IN BRIEF

The main report from the 2003 local elections study was published in the book *Lokalvalg og lokalt folkestyre* (Local Elections and Local Democracy), edited by J. Saglie and T. Bjørklund.

A historical study of the Norwegian Supreme Court was published in two volumes: *Siste ord. Høgsterett i norsk historie 1814–1905* (The Last Word. The Supreme Court in Norwegian History 1814-1905), by Nils Rune Langeland, and *Siste ord. Høyesterett i norsk historie 1905–1965* (The Last Word. The Supreme Court in Norwegian History 1905-1965), by Erling Sandmo.

In connection with the centenary of the dissolution of the Swedish-Norwegian union, Francis Sejersted published his volume *Sosialdemokratiets tidsalder. Norge og Sverige i det 20. århundre* (The Age of Social Democracy. Norway and Sweden in the 20th Century).

## PROJECTS

- The Norwegian Election studies
- Delegation and responsibility in a multi party system
- The 2003 local election study
- Power, democracy and ICT
- Digital elections
- The politics of welfare policy
- The history of the Supreme Court in Norway
- The age of social democracy: Norway and Sweden in the twentieth Century
- History of the consumer cooperatives
- The history of violence
- National elites under pressure: Stability and change in elite structures and elite behaviour in a globalized world

## STAFF

*Research Director:*  
Bernt Aardal

*Researchers:*  
Rune Karlsen  
Anne Krogstad  
Even Lange  
Nils Rune Langeland  
Eivind Merok  
Jo Saglie  
Erling Sandmo  
Francis Sejersted  
Rune Slagstad  
Guro Elin Stavn  
Iselin Theien  
Henry Valen



## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION, INTEGRATION AND ETHNIC RELATIONS

The merging of national and international parameters and internationalization of the premises for political action are taking place at the same time as more specific national factors still matter both in terms of the formulation of control policies and as a context for integration of new members of society. National challenges consequently have to be analyzed as embedded in an international context, and research on multicultural society – be it the impact of human rights, access control or integration policies – need a comparative perspective. An overarching perspective is how society should be organized in order to realize ideals of equality and equal treatment in combination with tolerance of difference. The interplay between ethnicity, religion, class and gender is central in understanding this broad field in which concepts like identity, trust, interest, pluralism, nationhood, exclusion and inclusion feed analysis.

### 2005 IN BRIEF

Keywords for the research projects in this group in 2005 are democracy and participation; conflicting rights in a multicultural setting; international marriages; welfare state dilemmas in integration endeavours; asylum policies; immigration history and citizenship theory.

Relatively new in the group's approach is cooperation with legal scholars in the field of asylum policies and conflicting rights, e.g. freedom of religion versus equal rights for women and children.

The group has been involved in research that revolves around issues of participation – participation in the labour market, participation as citizens and questions about how the welfare state can be organized in ways that encourage and enable participation. One

major international project has been finalized in 2005 in which the following research questions were central. To what degree do ethnic groups participate politically and in what sense do they trust local political institutions? What kind of relationship obtains between civil society, political behaviour and political attitudes among ethnic minorities?

Research has also been undertaken on integration as a practical activity, as something people are employed to do in a range of institutional settings, most of them local and engaged in direct relations with clients and users.

Immigration history is one of the priorities of recent years, and in 2005 the group linked this approach to welfare and citizenship, thanks to a major grant from the Research Council on the "Nordic welfare state and its others 1945-2005".

Another project was concerned with international students in Norway. Over the last five years, there has been a shift in attitudes towards international students among Norwegian authorities. A strong emphasis on return to original countries has given way to a growing acknowledgement of the positive effects of student immigration. In this study we ask who international students are, and what they do after they are finished? What is their motivation for coming, staying or leaving? The study is based on register data, qualitative interviews and a web-based survey.



## STAFF

*Research Director:*  
Grete Brochmann

*Researchers:*  
Tordis Borchgrevink  
Anniken Hagelund  
Jon Rogstad  
Hilde Lidén  
Jan Paul Brekke

## PROJECTS

- Multicultural democracies and political integration in large cities. A comparative study
- Integration and bureaucracy. Administration, knowledge and power in the multicultural city
- Evaluation of introductory programmes for newly arrived refugees

- Serial marriages – type, scope and complexity
- Democracy, religious freedom and women's human rights
- In the borderland of the welfare state
- Nordic knowledge review on children and youth from national minorities in the Nordic countries
- Arranged marriages, autonomy and community among young Norwegian-Asians
- Asylum seeker children and children rights
- International students and immigration to Norway
- Conceptions of gender and honour in the Nordic countries from early middle ages to present – in relationship to contemporary honour killings
- Strategic institute program: Migration and democracy



## HISTORICAL RESEARCH AT ISF

The multidisciplinary approach of the Institute is not limited to the traditional social sciences. In the past ten years, the Institute has developed a collaboration with a large number of historians, some of whom are staff members, others attached to institutions elsewhere. Out of this has come four large-scale historical studies.

### THE AGE OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY



Francis Sejersted's *Sosialdemokratiets tidsalder* (The Age of Social Democracy) constitutes the second and final volume of his history of Norway and Sweden from 1800 to today. The dissolution of the union between Sweden and

Norway in 1905 forms the starting point for the development of Scandinavian social democracy in two modern nation-states. Contact and influences were strong between the countries, and the similarities striking. But there were also differences of a historical nature. The scale of industrialisation in Sweden exceeded Norway's, whereas democratization came earlier and was more far-reaching in Norway.

Francis Sejersted analyzes the last hundred years' history in the two countries in a number of fields in society: democratic and political development, national economic characteristics, school, welfare arrangements etc. Why did Sweden become the leading industrial nation with corporations like Volvo, ASES and more? How did the Scandinavian speciality - the welfare state - develop in the two countries? What distinguishes the social democratic period in the two countries? Has Norway been jogging along after Sweden in development in all areas - or just in the educational field? What did the two countries' different war experiences do to later collaboration?

One hundred years of Swedish and Norwegian history seen through a comparative perspective gives new insight on development within the two countries.

The first volume of the relations between Norway and Sweden is Bo Stråth: *Union and Democracy. The united states Norway-Sweden 1814-1905*. (Union og demokrati. Dei sameinte rika Noreg-Sverige 1814-1905).

### IMMIGRATION HISTORY



In the mid 1990s, ISF was invited to take part in a large-scale research project with the University of Oslo entitled "The History of Immigration to Norway 900-2000". Grete Brochmann headed studies of the most recent period, 1975-2000. In

2003 this comprehensive work resulted in the publication of a three-volume work, by Pax Oslo. This work, which was awarded with the prestigious Norwegian "Brage Prize" the same year, is viewed as a pioneer venture in a Scandinavian context. It is the first time such a thorough historical study has been undertaken in the field of immigration, covering the whole period since the foundation of the Norwegian state; analyzing various categories of immigrants, varying state policies over time; impact on the receiving society as well as on the migrants themselves.

A single-volume English version is forthcoming. It offers both a synthesis and freshly

written account of the “Norwegian case” in a research field which is expanding throughout Europe. As Norway was early part of larger migratory movements in Europe, the case both represents interesting contrasts to the major immigration countries at the continent, yet there are also striking similarities.

## THE SUPREME COURT IN NORWAY



Throughout its history, the supreme court has settled conflicts, and its decisions have also affected Norwegian society. *Siste ord* (Last Word), by Nils Rune Langeland and Erling Sandmo, is the first historical study of the role of the supreme court at the junction of everyday life and the Norwegian Constitution.

Nils Rune Langeland wrote the first volume of *Siste ord*, covering the period from 1814, when Norway gained independence as a constitutional state in its own right and the union with Denmark was ended, to 1905, when Norway's union with Sweden was dissolved, finally given the country status as a fully sovereign state.

Although the Norwegian Supreme Court in some sense was a minimized version of the former Supreme Court in Copenhagen and operated in the same institutional, legal and cultural spirit of this earlier court which emerged with absolutism in the twin monarchy in 1661, the Norwegian Supreme Court was a result of the new constitution of 1814. It was no longer the King's court but an indepen-

dent judicial power alongside the executive and the lawmaking power of Parliament. It thus quite early took on the role as a defender and interpreter of the Constitution.

The Norwegian Supreme Court was only second to the American Supreme Court to put laws and administrative decisions under judicial review. During most of the nineteenth century the Norwegian Supreme Court had full competence, the final court of appeal in penal cases of all kinds.

This history is not institutional history in the narrow sense. It is a reading and interpretation of decisions of the court where historical forces merge with the legal system. But it is not only a history of the decisions which legal experts find important for present legal issues. It is an historical reconstruction of legal argumentation. In this period the court also lived in a continual tension with the mobilizing democratic movements, resulting ultimately in radical institutional changes.

Erling Sandmo wrote the second volume of *Siste ord*, which deals with the period from 1905 to 1965. The first part of this period was characterized by increased tensions between the supreme court and other branches of government. The Norwegian parliament used its legislative powers to modernize and regulate Norwegian society. The supreme court slowed this process down with the rights it had to examine the new laws constitutional validity. The discussions that followed were very intense, both among jurists and politicians. Was it right, democratically, for the supreme court to possess such powers?

After 1945, relations between the different branches of government changed. Comprehensive and controversial laws were passed to modernize the country, but this time the supreme court did not interfere. Again this caused a stir. Was the supreme court no longer a corrective to parliament and government? Had it stopped defending individual rights against the will of the majority? These questions have many dimensions, and receive many answers in this volume, which

does not forget the small issues within the broader history, at times of war and peace – and at the conjunction of law and politics.

## THE NORWEGIAN CONSUMER CO-OPERATIVES



The consumer co-operative movement in Norway holds a very strong position by international standards: Its membership of one million equals more than a fifth of the population, and the co-operative movement is the second largest food retailer in the country with a market share of approximately 25 per cent. This project investigates the history of the consumer co-operative movement in Norway, and seeks to understand the fundamental features of this specific organizational form and how it has gained such a strong position in Norway.

The Norwegian co-operative union and wholesale society – Norges Kooperative Landsforening – was founded in 1906, at a time when ordinary people in Britain, Germany, Belgium and France were signing up in numbers for membership of consumer co-operatives. The international consumer co-operative movement heralded democratic governance and self-organization as a means to alleviate economic hardship. From the 1950s, however, the movement started to stagnate. The consumer cooperatives, it seemed, had difficulties finding a role in newly affluent societies, as competition from fast-growing, private chain stores proved difficult

to combat. As a latecomer in an international context, the Norwegian co-operative movement proved resilient in the face of these challenges. The organization consolidated its position in the post-war years, and spearheaded attempts to modernize and rationalize the retailing sector. When the NKL introduced the first national chain-organization in the Norwegian market in the 1990s, it scored another commercial success.

This research project attempts to understand the Norwegian consumer co-operatives as a national variant of the international co-operative movement, and seeks to explain its strong position in Norway by focusing on three main analytical dimensions: Firstly, the ability of the consumer co-operatives to confront major challenges in the economic environment and develop a strong economic entity. Second, how the consumer co-operative organization operated as a broad social movement designed to serve consumer interests. Finally, how the co-operative's organizational structure managed to combine democratic governance with economic adaptability.

The main project report will be published in June 2006. Written by Iselin Theien, Espen Ekberg, Jon Vatnaland and Eivind Merok, it will take the form of a historical monograph. The project is led by Professor Even Lange. Thematic studies have already been published as ISF reports, and several Master's students have written their thesis under the framework of the project. The project also intends to publish its findings in national and international journals and anthologies. A complete list of publications is available at the Institute's website.



## PUBLISHING AND EDITORIAL WORK

The staff at ISF publish results of research projects in institute reports, books, articles in journals and anthologies and as papers presentations at scientific conferences. Results can also be published at lectures, seminars and in the press. In addition, the researchers communicate their research through lectures and teaching of students and research fellows.

In addition to the ISF Report series, the Institute is responsible for the following four scientific journals:

### COMPARATIVE SOCIAL RESEARCH



The yearbook *Comparative Social Research* aims at furthering the international orientation in the social sciences. Each volume is concentrated on a specific topic, mostly of substantive, but also of methodological character. As a rule,

the articles presents two or more cases for comparison, be they nations, regions, organizations, or social units at different points of time. The themes of the most recent volumes have been the multicultural challenge, comparative studies of culture and power, and conscription in the armed forces. *Comparative Social Research* is published by Elsevier Science.

### NORDIC JOURNAL OF POLITICAL ECONOMY



*Nordic Journal of Political Economy (NOPEC)* is published twice a year. The editors welcome submissions from all areas of economics and social science. Submissions are subject to a standard referee process. The journal

publishes articles that are relevant to political and normative issues, survey papers for a general audience of economists and social scientists, inter-disciplinary papers as well as empirical research from the Nordic countries. The editors of the journal organise annual conferences.

### FOCUS ON THE LABOUR MARKET



*Søkelys på arbeidsmarkedet* (Focus on the Labour Market) is published biannually by the institute with financial support from the Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion. The periodical is intended as a supplement to existing publications on the labour market and labour research, and it aims at making research findings available to a wider circle of readers.

### JOURNAL OF SOCIAL RESEARCH



In 1960, the Institute established the *Tidsskrift for samfunnsforskning* (Journal of Social Research). The journal is published by Universitetsforlaget (Norwegian University

Press). Aside from original articles by Norwegian researchers often based on empirical studies, the journal contains book reviews, debates on current issues, review articles and articles on research policy. Issues on special themes are also published.

## EDITORIAL WORK 2005

In 2005, the scientific staff at ISF were editors, guest editors, members of editorial boards and referees in a wide range of Nordic and international journals.

### Editor, guest editor, member of the editorial board

#### International journals:

- Acta Sociologica
- Comparative Social Research
- European Societies
- Gender & Society
- International review of social economy (RECMA)
- Nora - Nordic Journal of Women's Studies
- Nordic Journal of Political Economy
- Revista de Economía Pública
- The Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics
- The European Journal of Cultural Studies

#### Norwegian journals:

- Nytt Norsk Tidsskrift
- Prosa
- Samtiden
- Sosiologi i dag
- Søkelys på arbeidsmarkedet
- Tidsskrift for samfunnsforskning
- Tidsskrift for velferdsforskning

## Referees

#### International journals:

- Acta Sociologica
- American Economic Review
- Ethnos
- European Journal of Cultural Studies
- European Societies
- Journal of Population Economics
- Journal of Refugee Studies
- Marriage and Family Review
- Men and Masculinities
- Nora - Nordic Journal of Women's Studies
- Scandinavian Journal of Economics
- Scandinavian Political Studies
- Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale
- The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute

#### Nordic journals:

- Nordisk tidsskrift om maskulintetsforskning
- Norsk statsvitenskapelig tidsskrift
- Tidsskrift for kjønnsforskning
- Sosiologi i dag
- Sosiologisk Tidsskrift
- Statsvetenskaplig Tidsskrift
- Samtiden
- Internasjonal politikk

## Publication activities at ISF in 2005

Articles in international scientific referee journals	18
Articles in national scientific referee journals	10
Scientific books, textbooks or other autonomous publications	12
Chapters or articles in scientific books, textbooks, proceedings, scientific journals	35
Reports in own report series	11
Reports in external report series	11
Reports to employers	1
Lectures/presentations of papers/posters	33
Articles and lectures in popular science	97
Editorials, comments, reviews, feature articles etc., published in journals and the press	41

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Hagelund, Anniken: "Why is being good so bad? Educating refugees to life in the welfare state. A case from Norway." Paper presented at Social Policy Association Conference, Bath, UK, June 27-29 2005.

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Karlsen, Rune, Bernt Aardal og Dag Arne Christensen: "Elektronisk stemmegivning – de første norske erfaringer." Paper presentert på Fagkonferansen i statsvitenskap, 5.-7. januar 2005 i Hurdal.

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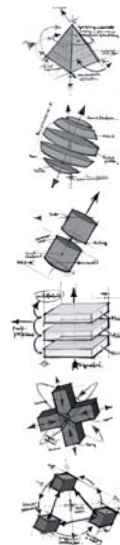
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## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION 2005

The Institute for Social Research promotes international cooperation through projects, publishing, visits and assignments in international organisations. Cooperation with excellent institutions at home and abroad contributes to increased quality and higher competence. About one third of the Institute's projects have foreign partners.

### PROJECT PARTNERS

In 2005 the researchers at ISF had project partners at the following international institutions:

- Aalborg University, Denmark
- Aarhus school of business, Denmark
- Australian National University
- Byggðastofnun, Iceland
- Centre for Economic Research and Environmental Strategy, (CERES) Greece
- Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Bourdeaux, France
- CIRIEC Université de Liège, Belgium
- European University Institute, Florence, Italy
- Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, Italy
- Göteborgs University, Sweden
- Halmstad University, Sweden
- Institute of Education, United Kingdom
- Katolieke Universiteit Brabant te Tilburg, Holland
- L'IPRAUS, Paris, France
- Labour Institute for Economic Research, Helsinki, Finland
- Lund University, Sweden
- McGill University, Montréal, Canada
- National institute for working life, Stockholm, Sweden
- Open University, Milton Keynes, UK
- Panteion University, Athen, Greece
- Roskilde University
- Social Science Research Center, Berlin, Germany
- STAKES, Helsinki, Finland
- Stockholm University, Sweden
- Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth (NUTEK), Stockholm, Sweden
- The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA
- The Research Institute of the Finnish Economy, Finland
- Turku University, Finland
- Universidad de Valencia, Spain
- Universidade da Madeira, Portugal
- Universität Duisburg, Germany
- Universität Wien, Austria
- Universität zu Köln, Germany
- Université de Quebec à Montréal, Canada
- Université de Rouen, France
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- Universiteit van Amsterdam, Holland
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- University of California, USA
- University of Heidelberg, Germany
- University of Helsinki, Finland
- University of Iceland
- University of Latvia
- University of Mannheim, Germany
- University of Ngaoundéré, Cameroon
- University of Nottingham, UK
- University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland
- University of Toronto, Canada
- University of Twente, Holland
- Uppsala University, Sweden
- Yale University, USA
- Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung (ZEW), Germany



## ASSIGNMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ORGANISATIONS

The researchers had assignments in the following international scientific organisations:

- Chaire d'Economie Sociale, Université de Québec à Montréal
- Civil Society and New Forms of Governance in Europe (CINEFOGO)
- The Comparative Study of Elections and Representative Democracy (CSES)
- Cost Action 23: The Evaluation of European Labour Market Programmes
- EMES European Research Network
- EU Expert Network on Gender Equality in Employment and Social Inclusion
- European Association of Labour Economists (EALE)
- European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR)
- European Sociological Association
- European Science Foundation
- European Voluntary Associations in the Modern and the Contemporary Period
- International Committee for Research into Election and Representative Democracy (ICORE)
- International Scientific Commission of CIRIEC on Social and Cooperative Economy
- International Political Science Association
- International Sociological Association
- Modélisation appliquée trajectoires institutionnelles stratégies socio-economiques (MATISSE) Université Paris I, Pantheon-Sorbonne
- New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Co-operation in Europe (NORFACE) ERA-Net

## GUEST LECTURES AND VISITS

The researchers at ISF had guest visits or lectures at the following institutions:

- Nordeuropa-Institut der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany
- Policy Studies Institute, London, UK
- University College London, UK
- University of California at Santa Barbara, USA
- University of Chicago, USA
- University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- University of Sussex, UK



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