

**INSTITUTE  
FOR SOCIAL  
RESEARCH**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2017**

## Contents

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Page	
	<b>1 Annual Report</b>
3	1.1 About the institute
4	1.2 A word from the Director
5	1.3 The board's report
<b>7</b>	<b>2 Key figures</b>
8	2.1 Income
9	2.2 Accounts
<b>11</b>	<b>3 Research studies</b>
12	3.1 Work
13	3.2 Migration and integration
14	3.3 Welfare
15	3.4 Equal opportunities
16	3.5 Elections and democracy
17	3.6 Civil society
18	3.7 Digitalisation
<b>19</b>	<b>4 Scientific publication and research dissemination</b>
20	4.1 Journals
22	4.2 Publications
23	4.3 Research dissemination
24	4.4 Overview of publications

# 1.1 ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Institute for Social Research is an independent research foundation, founded in Oslo in 1950.

## Objectives

The Institute for Social Research shall be at the forefront of research on society, politics and working life.

## Mission

The Institute for Social Research unites basic and applied research.

## Values

Our research is independent, innovative, relevant and of a high academic standard.

## Organisation

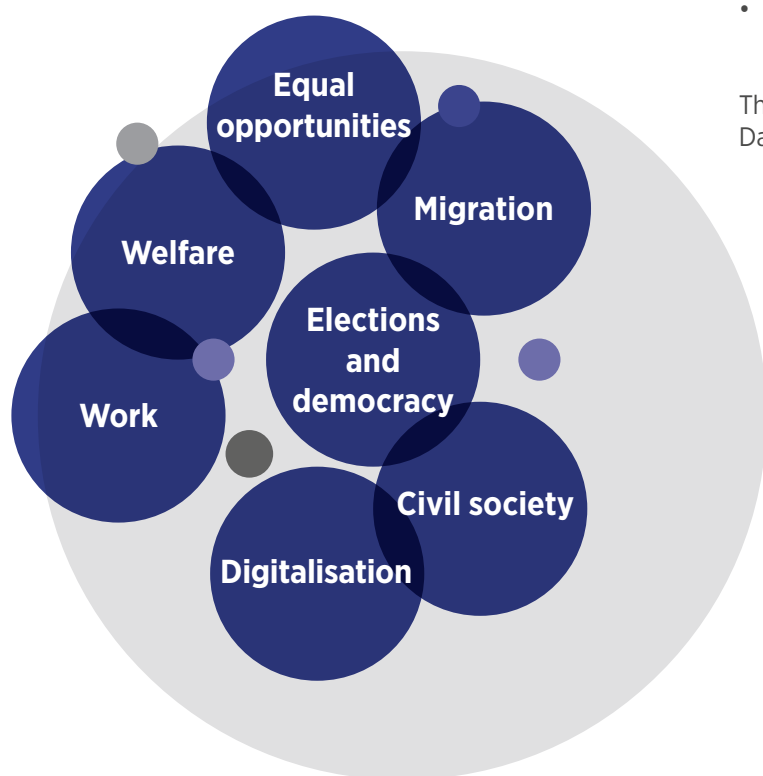
The institute is organised into four research groups:

- *Work and welfare* is led by Pål Schøne
- *Gender equality, integration and migration* is led by Liza Reisel
- *Politics, democracy and civil society* is led by Kari Steen-Johnsen
- *Welfare policy* is led by Anne Skevik Grødem.

The institute has two research centres:

- *CORE – Centre for Research on Gender Equality*, which is led by Mari Teigen
- *The Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector* is led by Bernard Enjolras

The Director at the Institute is Tanja Storsul. Yngve Davidsen is HR and Administration Manager.



## 1.2 A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Social challenges require more knowledge about society.

The UN Sustainability Goals are the world's common action plan to solve some of our major societal challenges by 2030. Achieving these goals will require concerted efforts – and the need for good social science research will be greater than ever.

If we are to eradicate poverty, fight inequality, promote full employment and gender equality and stop climate change, more knowledge about society is needed. We need knowledge about how technology interacts with people and society, what affects people's attitudes and behaviour, about changes in the labour market, the relationship between local and global dimensions, and much more.

The Institute for Social Research is well prepared to participate in this work. Through the Institute's research on work, welfare and gender equality, elections and politics, migration and integration, civil society and digitalisation, we provide important knowledge bases for achieving sustainability goals. Through outreach activities, we make this research known to decision makers in both the public and private sectors – and we contribute to knowledge-based public debate.

2017 was a good year for the Institute for Social Research. The Institute's finances are healthy, we have a strong project portfolio, and our researchers are actively publishing in books, scientific journals and sound research reports.

We want the Institute's research to be available.

To this end, new websites were launched in 2017. Our reports and journals are open and free. In 2017, we also made most of our scientific articles available online free of charge.

This provides a good foundation for further development of the Institute so that we can contribute even more effectively to the UN Sustainability Goals.

Tanja Storsul  
Director



## **1.3 THE BOARD'S REPORT**

The Institute for Social Research (ISF) was founded in 1950. The Institute's objectives are to be a leading institution for research into social life, politics and working life. We are a professional, independent, innovative and socially relevant meeting place for basic research and applied research, and maintain a high academic level.

The Institute's research portfolio reflects key challenges in society. In 2017, the Institute received 24 new research projects, five of them funded by the Research Council of Norway, and 19 assignment projects. In addition, the ISF is participating in eight new projects led by other institutions, two funded by the Research Council of Norway, two by a government department and four by international principals (including an H2020 network project).

The ISF has two research centres. CORE – Centre for Research on Gender Equality is funded through the state budget from 2017 on, which provides good, predictable framework conditions. The Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector concluded its second period in 2017 with a major conference on development trends and social impacts of Norwegian volunteering and has received funding for two further years from 2018.

The ISF publishes two journals and one yearbook. *Tidsskrift for samfunnsforskning* published four issues in 2017 with a total of 37 articles, while *Søkelys på arbeidslivet* published three issues (one of which was a double issue) with a total of 17 articles. Both journals are published digitally and are accessible to everyone.

2017 has certainly been a productive research year. The Institute's employees have been sole or co-authors of 86 scientific articles in Norwegian and international journals or anthologies, and have edited eight scientific

monographs or anthologies. In addition, the Institute has published 22 reports, 11 of them in our report series.

The ISF has held nine externally directed seminars, while the Centre for Research in Civil Society and Voluntary Sector has held five and CORE has held three such seminars. There has also been considerable popular science activity in the form of dissemination in various fora through features and articles in Norwegian newspapers, and participation in radio and television.

The Institute completed several development projects and launched a new website in the summer of 2017. One of the main goals of this is to make the ISF's research more easily available. The Institute has also adopted a new communication strategy with clearer objectives for communication, and has established a new system for internal control of information security and handling of privacy in research.

There were 57 person-employment years in 2017, of which 47 were research-person employment years. As at 31 December 2017 the Institute had 73 employees. Of these, 63 were employed in scientific posts, nine of whom were part-time and 13 in other types of temporary posts (research fellows and scientific assistants). The research staff consists of 51 percent women and 49 percent men, the administration of 60 percent women and 40 percent men.

The institution owns Munthesgate 31 / Fuglehauggata 6 with associated building stock, which houses the Institute's offices and common areas and some rented-out offices. In 2017, all the offices and common areas in Fuglehauggata 6 were refurbished. Thus, the refurbishment of all of the Institute's premises has essentially been completed.

Sick leave in 2017 was 2.6 percent. No injuries or accidents were reported in connection with work and the work environment survey in 2017 showed a good working environment. There is nothing in the Institute's activities that pollutes the external environment.

Total turnover in 2017 was NOK 92,576,545. Ordinary operating income was NOK 5,401,458, while profit after tax and financial income was NOK 6,107,769.

The Institute's finances are sound and the conditions for continued operations are satisfactory, in the opinion of the Board.

Eivind Smith  
Chair

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Oslo, 19 March 2018

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**2** Annual Report 2017  
Institute for Social Research

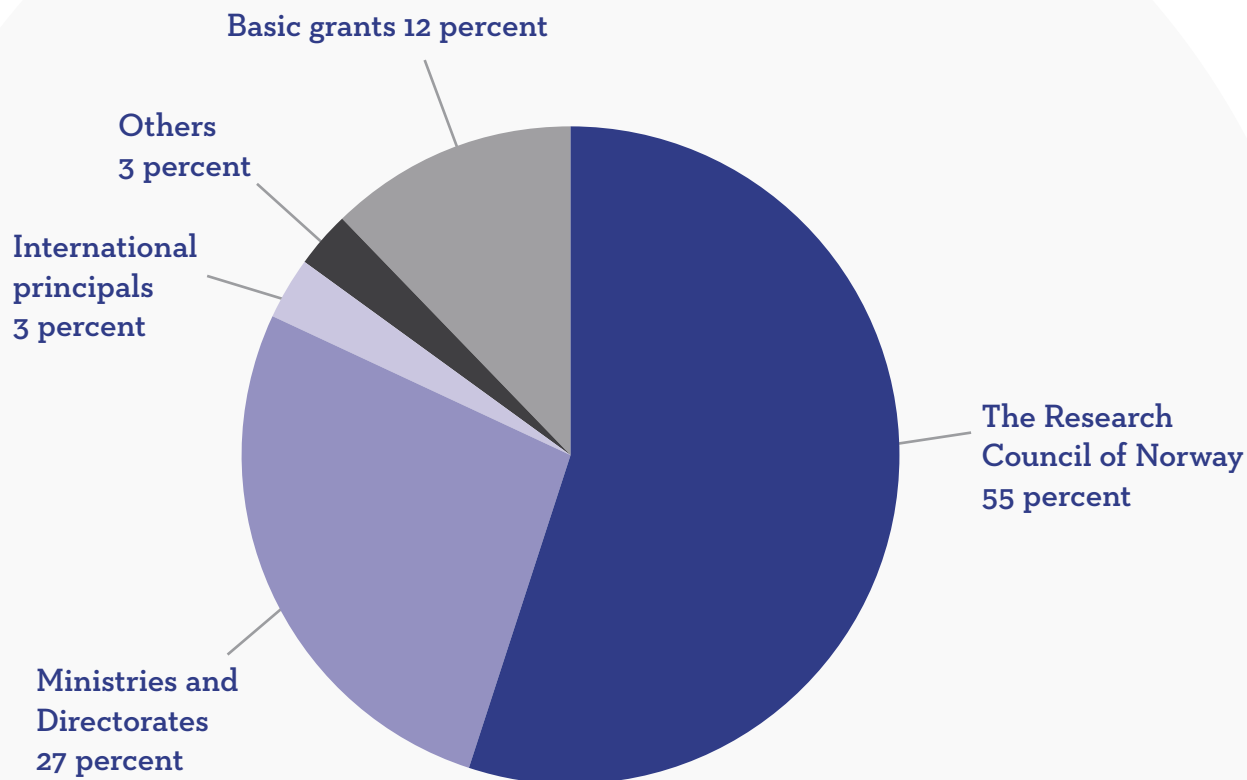
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# KEY FIGURES

## 2.1 INCOME

The Institute's finances are sound and the supply of projects is good. This emphasises the Institute's central position in its disciplines.

The Research Council of Norway's share of turnover was 55 percent and allocation of basic grants was 12 percent. Of the government departments, the Ministry of Children and Equality, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation and the Ministry of Justice and Public Security were the biggest principals.





## 2.2 ACCOUNTS

### Profit and loss account per 31.12.2017

	2017	2016
	Full NOK	Full NOK
<b>Operating income and operating costs</b>		
Basic funding	11,049,000	10,977,000
Projects	81,213,679	75,866,084
Other operating income	313,866	589,596
<b>Total operating income</b>	<b>92,576,545</b>	<b>87,432,680</b>
Payroll expenses, etc.	50,168,123	47,606,384
Depreciation and amortisation of buildings, land, operating assets	543,258	543,258
Projects and operating costs	36,463,706	33,165,384
<b>Total operating costs</b>	<b>87,175,087</b>	<b>81,315,026</b>
<b>Operating result</b>	<b>5,401,458</b>	<b>6,117,654</b>
<b>Financial income and financial expenses</b>		
Interest income	504,145	415,392
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>5,905,603</b>	<b>6,533,046</b>
Tax expenses on ordinary activities	-202,167	-162,075
<b>Profit/loss for the year</b>	<b>6,107,770</b>	<b>6,695,121</b>
<b>Carried forward</b>		
Transfer to operating fund	6,107,770	6,695,121
<b>Total carried forward</b>	<b>6,107,770</b>	<b>6,695,121</b>

## Balance sheet as at 31.12.2017

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Intangible assets</b>		
Deferred tax assets	114 136	0
Total intangible assets	114 136	
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
<b>Tangible assets</b>		
Land and buildings	18 061 800	18 480 400
Operating movable property, inventory and other equipment	363 518	488 176
<b>Total tangible assets</b>	<b>18 425 318</b>	<b>18 968 576</b>
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>18 539 454</b>	<b>18 968 576</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
<b>Receivables</b>		
Accounts receivable	2 752 994	7 570 187
Other receivables	1 438 378	1 137 288
<b>Total receivables</b>	<b>4 191 372</b>	<b>8 707 475</b>
Shares and participations	25 617 835	16 847 622
Bank deposits	56 618 299	37 450 936
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>86 427 506</b>	<b>63 006 033</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>104 966 960</b>	<b>81 974 609</b>
<b>Equity and liabilities</b>		
<b>Equity</b>		
Basic capital	5 374 000	5 374 000
Operating fund	49 172 455	43 064 686
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>54 546 455</b>	<b>48 438 686</b>
<b>Debt</b>		
<b>Allowances for liabilities</b>		
Deferred tax	-	88 031
<b>Total allowances for liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>88 031</b>
<b>Short-term debt</b>		
Trade creditors	9 304 516	5 890 202
Tax and duties owed	3 877 991	3 680 764
Other short-term debt	37 237 998	23 876 928
<b>Total short-term debt</b>	<b>50 420 505</b>	<b>33 447 893</b>
<b>Total debt</b>	<b>50 420 505</b>	<b>33 535 924</b>
<b>Total equity and debt</b>	<b>104 966 960</b>	<b>81 974 609</b>

**3** Annual Report 2017  
Institute for Social Research

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# RESEARCH STUDIES

## 3.1 WORK

While working life is constantly changing, the goal of the ISF's working life research is constant: to contribute high-level empirical research to topics of societal relevance. Our research uses both qualitative and quantitative methods, with the main emphasis being analyses of administrative register data.

Labour market research at the ISF is wide ranging, including topics such as employment, gender equality and discrimination, diversity in working life, sickness absence, and pay differentials. In recent years we have also researched issues related to education, welfare and migration from the perspective of the labour market. A large part of the research is performed on administrative register data, but we also use survey data and, more recently, field tests as well. The labour market research group – like the ISF – aspires to be a meeting place between basic research and applied research.

### Ongoing projects

- Analyses of social backgrounds, education, career and benefit careers for people with reduced working capacity
- Agreements, wage trends and wage spread
- CORE – Centre for Research on Gender Equality
- Drivers of regional growth and economic development
- Education to work transitions: The role of work capacity, skills and health
- European strains: An interdisciplinary research proposal on crises, institutions and changing social models in Europe
- Evaluation of moderation arrangements for pre-schools
- Explaining social patterns in sickness absence: The influence of values, attitudes and norms

- Gender segregation in the labour market: Comparative perspectives and challenges of welfare states
- Knowledge status of the equal wage standard in Iceland
- Between equality and effectiveness: Work incentives, social reallocation and gender equality in the reformed pension system
- Temporary employment and groups with a weak connection to working life
- NORDICORE – Nordic Center for Research on Gender Equality in Research and Innovation
- Staying competitive: Challenges for a small open economy
- Understanding the gender gap in sickness absence

### Completed projects in 2017

- Analysis of wage trends for researchers in the Norwegian labour market 2004–2014
- Use of paternity allowance and withdrawal of parental benefits
- Elites and society: Elite unity and elite/mass correspondence or widened gaps?
- Ethnic differences in labour market participation, health and sickness absence among parents caring for disabled or chronically ill children
- Gender differences in occupational and sector mobility in Norway
- Striving for excellence, learning to cope? Employer strategies for managing sick leave and employee health over the decades
- Surveys of women in management positions
- The effect of activity duty on sickness absence
- Virkningen av aktivitetsplikt på sykefraværet

## **3.2 MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION**

How does migration affect Norwegian society and what are the effects of integration measures aimed at the migrants that come here? These questions have been researched by the Institute for Social Research since migration research started in this country in the late 1960s. We research, among other things, migration management and social inequality, politics, labour market and educational inequality from a migration and integration perspective.

In recent years, the ISF migration researchers have contributed knowledge of, among other things, asylum flows, revocation of residence permits, government use of social media in migration management, citizenship, integration of the children of immigrants, participation in public debate and the extent of hate speech. The relationship between immigration and welfare, and support for the welfare state, has been central, in addition to civil society's role in immigration and integration processes.

### **Ongoing projects**

- Convergence or segregation? Regional imbalances and labour market flows
- Experiment with measures for increased electoral participation
- European strains: An interdisciplinary research proposal on crises, institutions and changing social models in Europe
- Evaluation of moderation arrangements for pre-schools
- Refugees' employment and welfare dependency over time
- GOVCIT – Governing and Experiencing Citizenship in Multicultural Scandinavia

- Immigration and support for the welfare state: Local and institutional responses
- Integration barometer 2017
- Knowledge of municipal housing facilities for children and adolescents
- Scope of hate speech
- Pathways to integration: The second generation in education and work in Norway
- Staying competitive: Challenges for the small open economy
- The Norwegian Parliament election survey 2016–2023
- The effect of policy on interconnected asylum flows
- Recall of residence permit given upon application: Review and evaluation
- Development of citizenship in the Nordic countries

### **Completed projects in 2017**

- Use of social media to inform migrants and potential asylum seekers
- Comparative study of return and reintegration programmes
- EMN study on family immigration
- Ethnic differences in labour market participation, health and sickness absence among parents caring for disabled or chronically ill children
- Evaluation of competence for diversity
- Status of freedom of expression in Norway 2015–2017

## **3.3 WELFARE**

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Norwegian society is characterised by, among other things, a comprehensive welfare state. How welfare policy is developed and changed and its effects, are important research topics. In the welfare research at the ISF, historical and comparative studies are central: studies about how individual schemes have changed over time and also how Norwegian systems compare to similar schemes in other countries. Welfare researchers at the ISF also study the population's support for welfare systems and how this can change in light of, for example, high immigration or increasing unemployment. A third overall theme is how welfare systems work: do they protect against inequality and poverty, do they help keep many people in work?

In 2016, the ISF continued to receive support as a "core center" for welfare research from the Research Council of Norway. As part of the initiative, research will be conducted on, among other things, opinion formation, sickness absence and migration.

### **Ongoing projects**

- European Social Policy Network
- Immigration and support for the welfare state: Local and institutional responses
- Knowledge status of the equal wage standard in Iceland
- Between income security and activation: The legitimacy and implementation of welfare policies (TREF-2)
- Between equality and effectiveness: Work incentives, social reallocation and gender equality in the reformed pension system
- The interaction between the national insurance pension and occupational pensions in Norway: Political processes and outcomes

### **Completed projects in 2017**

- Elites and society: Elite unity and elite/mass correspondence or widened gaps?

## **3.4 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

The ISF's gender equality research is concerned with societal challenges in the interaction between family, work and politics. Gender equality research at the ISF has placed particular significance on understanding and explaining gender differences in terms of participation in education and working life, wages, careers and management, as well as investigating the relationship between work and family life. In our research we are concerned with how gender is intertwined with other inequality generators such as ethnic background, age, generation and class.

The Institute has been conducting research into gender issues for many years. In recent years, the CORE Centre for Research on Gender Equality has played a key role in this field. In 2017, the Institute also established NORDICORE, a five-year Nordic Centre of Excellence for research into gender balance studies and gender equality in academia.

### **Ongoing projects**

- Changing families and the gender revolution (FAMGEN)
- CORE – Centre for Research on Gender Equality
- Evaluation of moderation arrangements for pre-schools
- Gender segregation in the labour market: Comparative perspectives and challenges for welfare states
- Knowledge status of the equal wage standard in Iceland

- Between equality and effectiveness: Work incentives, social reallocation and gender equality in the reformed pension system
- NORDICORE – Nordic Centre for Research on Gender Equality in Research and Innovation
- The Norwegian Parliament election survey 2016–2023
- Understanding the gender gap in sickness absence

### **Completed projects in 2017**

- Use of paternity allowance and withdrawal of parental benefits
- Elites and society: Elite unity and elite/mass correspondence or widened gaps?
- Ethnic differences in labour market participation, health and sickness absence among parents caring for disabled or chronically ill children
- Gender differences in occupational and sector mobility in Norway
- Wage trends for researchers in the Norwegian labour market 2004–2014
- Scope of hate speech
- Status of freedom of expression in Norway 2015–2017
- Surveys of women in management positions

## **3.5 ELECTIONS AND DEMOCRACY**

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For decades, many key contributions in election and democracy research have come from researchers at the ISF. These contributions cover areas such as political representation and participation, electoral systems, internet elections, referendums, political parties and political institutions at national and local level. This research constitutes an important knowledge base for understanding political developments in Norway.

The research uses a broad spectrum of research methods, including experimental methods. Today, this research is largely characterised by national and international cooperation, and is more extensive than ever.

### **Ongoing projects**

- Boundaries of municipal and regional independence during reform: A study of processes linked to municipal reform 2014–2019
- Experiment with measures for increased electoral participation
- Media impact in the public service sector
- At the top of the management system: Growth, integration and coordination
- The Norwegian Parliament election survey 2016–2023
- The Limits of Sámi Politics: Inside and Outside of the Sámi Polity
- Sami Parliament election survey 2017

### **Completed projects in 2017**

- Elites and society: Elite unity and elite/mass correspondence or widened gaps?
- Evaluation of new political work in the Svelvik municipality
- Institutional change in democratic societies
- Local Democracy Survey 2015–2017
- Note on population involvement
- Sami Parliaments as representative organs
- Sami Parliament election 2013
- Investigation into local referendums



## **3.6 CIVIL SOCIETY**

Norway has a rich and vibrant civil society that is of great social value, and also contributes significant economic value. The majority of the adult population perform voluntary work each year. In recent years, the ISF's long-term research in this field has been further developed and extended to new themes, such as the role of non-profit organisations as welfare providers and the importance of civil society for community resilience.

Much of the research on Norwegian conditions has been added to the Centre for Research in Civil Society and Voluntary Sector, a centre operated in cooperation between the ISF and the Uni Research Rokkansenteret. The Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector studies long-term trends in participation, organisation and policy. Civil society research also has a strong international and comparative dimension, including through the EU-funded Third Sector Impact project, which was completed in 2017.

### **Ongoing projects**

- Disruption, social capital and resilience: A longitudinal and comparative approach
- Conditions and impacts of welfare mix. Comparative analysis of policy making, public discourse and service quality.
- Civil society for the voluntary sector 2013–2017

### **Projects under the Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector**

- Voluntary participation in the minority population
- Municipal voluntary policy and local organisations
- Cultural institutions and volunteers
- Organisational landscape in change
- Examination of Voluntary Effort 2018

### **Completed projects in 2017**

- Input to Government White Paper on Government volunteer policy
- The contribution of the Third Sector to Europe's socio-economic development

### **Completed projects under the Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector 2017**

- Financing and framework conditions
- Volunteer efforts and motivation in Norway and Scandinavia
- New forms of collective action
- Partnership for social innovation: New cooperation platforms between the voluntary, public and private sectors
- Interaction between civil society and other social actors (governance)
- Civil society participation and public health

## **3.7 DIGITALISATION**

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The rapid evolution of digitalisation involves major and unforeseen changes in a number of areas of society. Broad-based research into this theme has increased in recent years at the ISF, in collaboration between political scientists, sociologists and media scholars. We combine research on how parties, politicians and public authorities communicate in public, with research on citizens' attitudes and participation in politics and civil society.

Digitalisation as a process plays a central role in several of the projects, and includes specific studies of media and media systems within a globalised and digitised context. The theme also includes projects on communication and management in government departments, both internally and externally.

### **Ongoing projects**

- Behaviour data on media usage
- Anti-Semitism on the internet and in social media: Propagation, monitoring and counteracting

- Disruption, social capital and resilience: A longitudinal and comparative approach
- Disruptive change and new media policies: A field approach
- Experiences of hate speech in different population groups
- Health communication regimes: Contest, meaning and power
- Media impact in the public service sector

### **Completed projects in 2017**

- New forms of collective action
- Scope of hate speech: Methodological challenges and suggestions for research design
- Social media in government communication
- Status of freedom of expression in Norway

**4** Annual Report 2017  
Institute for Social Research

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**SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION  
AND RESEARCH  
DISSEMINATION**



## 4.1 JOURNALS

The Institute for Social Research publishes two journals and one yearbook with research within the Institute's fields of research.

### Tidsskrift for samfunnsforskning

*Tidsskrift for samfunnsforskning* (TfS) is Norway's leading social science journal. The journal publishes results from current social science surveys for a wider audience. The focus is placed on academic articles based on original empirical and/or theoretical analysis at a high academic level.

The journal covers a broad range of themes and contributors come from all disciplines within social science – sociology, political science, social anthropology, socio-economics, media science, etc. TfS is the only Norwegian social science journal to be represented in the ISI Web of Science.

The journal was published for the first time in 1960. TfS is available with open access through Universitetsforlaget's web portal Idunn: [www.idunn.no](http://www.idunn.no). The journal is published four times a year.

- Editors: Rune Karlsen and Arnfinn H. Midtbøen.
- Sub-editor: Gerd Granhaug.
- Contact: [tfs@samfunnsforskning.no](mailto:tfs@samfunnsforskning.no)
- Follow TfS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tidsskriftforsamfunnsforskning/>

### Søkelys på arbeidslivet

*Søkelys på arbeidslivet* is a scientific journal that publishes research-based articles on working life in Norway and the Nordic region. Key themes are working life-related issues such as employment, pay, employment conditions, education and the relationship between work and family life. *Søkelys på arbeidslivet* is aimed at researchers, investigators, case managers and decision-makers in business and management and social partners in working life.

The journal is published three times a year (one double issue and two single issues) in collaboration with Universitetsforlaget, with support from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. From 2016, *Søkelys på arbeidslivet* has been available with open access. Articles can be downloaded from [www.idunn.no](http://www.idunn.no). Articles from previous years can be purchased for downloading and printing at [www.idunn.no](http://www.idunn.no).

- Editorial team: Ragni Hege Kitterød (editor), Kjersti Misje Østbakken (editor), Harald Dale-Olsen, Marjan Nadim, Julia Orupabo, Marte Strøm and Elisabeth Ugreninov.
- Sub-editor: Gerd Granhaug.
- Contact: [spa@samfunnsforskning.no](mailto:spa@samfunnsforskning.no).
- Follow SPA on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sokelysarbeidslivet>



**Comparative  
Social  
Research**



**Tidsskrift for  
samfunns-  
forskning**



**Søkelys på  
arbeidslivet**

### Comparative Social Research (CSR)

Despite the growing awareness of globalisation, the majority of empirical social scientific work is carried out within the framework of what Stein Rokkan characterised as “national empiricism”. CSR is a yearbook published by the Institute for Social Research in collaboration with the Institute of Sociology and Social Geography at the University of Oslo (UiO). For more than 30 years, CSR has helped to strengthen the international orientation of the social sciences. The publications offer a multidisciplinary perspective and can be theoretical, empirical or applied in nature. Each edition has a separate theme. The most recent editions have covered research themes such as family and gender, civil society, social class and gender perspectives in vocational training. Future editions will cover the labour market in Europe and bureaucracies in change.

- Fredrik Engelstad (UiO/ISF) is editor-in-chief. Co-editors are Lars Mjøset (UiO), Kristian Stokke (UiO), Marte Mangset (HiOA), Kristian Berg Harpviken (PRIO), Mari Teigen (ISF), Bernard Enjolras (ISF) and Liza Reisel (ISF). Daniel Arnesen (ISF) is sub-editor.
- The series is published by Emerald Group Publishing Limited (<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/series/cosr>)
- Contact: [fredrik.engelstad@sosgeo.uio.no](mailto:fredrik.engelstad@sosgeo.uio.no) or [daniel@socialresearch.no](mailto:daniel@socialresearch.no)
- Follow CSR on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/comparativesocialresearch>

## 4.2 PUBLICATIONS

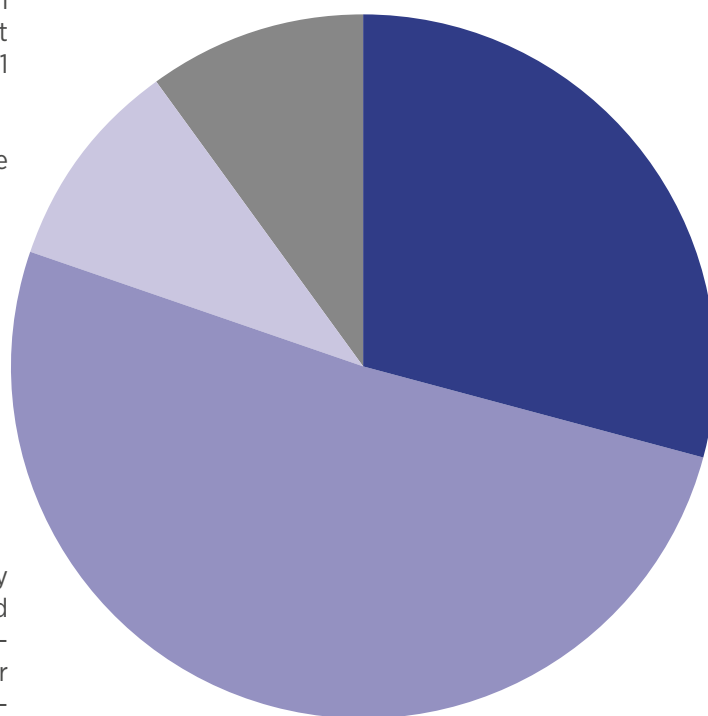
The research conducted by the Institute is published in various scientific journals. Scientific articles and books are the main publication channels.

In 2017, researchers published 92 scientific articles and book chapters in channels that are approved by and give publication points from the Norwegian Social Science Data Services. Of these, 58 were international scientific journal articles and book chapters, 33 book chapters and journal articles in Scandinavian language publications and one book. Researchers affiliated with the Institute were authors or editors of a total of eight books. The Institute also has a report series in which 11 reports were published in 2017.

A list of publications from 2017 can be found at the back of the annual report.

- Scientific articles in Scandinavian journals and anthologies 33
- Scientific articles in international journals and anthologies 58
- Reports in external report series 11
- Reports in internal report series 11

The Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector administers its own report series and published 11 reports during the year. The CORE Centre for Research on Gender Equality published, among other things, the CORE Gender Balance Scorecard. This detailed overview maps the gender balance of senior management in Norwegian business.



## 4.3 RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

Through popular science dissemination, the ISF contributes to a knowledge-based community debate. The researchers at the Institute are active in the public debate and convey research findings at scientific conferences, events under the Institute's auspices, seminars, lectures and in the media.

### Online communication

samfunnsforskning.no is our most important channel for public-oriented research communication. Traffic on the website has increased compared to 2016. Visitors come mainly from searches and hits on Google, other websites, direct traffic, and social media.

In 2017, we received a more complete analytical basis in Google Analytics, which we use for our web statistics. The statistics show more than 75,000 external visits on samfunnsforskning.no from 30 March to the end of 2017. For the period 1 January–29 March we cannot distinguish between external and internal visits, but the total number of sessions during the period was 38,526.

In May 2017 we designed new web pages for the ISF and our centres CORE – Centre for Research on Gender Equality and the Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector. We now meet the universal design requirements (measured by the WCAG standard), with responsive design that can be used on all devices (PC/Mac, mobiles and tablets). The listing of publications on the web pages has been linked to the publication database Cristin. The website project was overseen by the University Centre for Information Technology (USIT) at the University of Oslo, based on the UiO publishing framework and the Vortex tool. From 2017, USIT operates our website.

The Institute's profiles on Twitter and Facebook serve as good additional channels for research communication, and generate activity throughout the year. The ISF page on Facebook had 2,665 'likes' by the end of 2017 – an increase of 25 percent from the previous year. In 2016, the ISF journal *Tidsskrift for samfunnsforskning* saw the light of day on Facebook. The journal *Søkelys på arbeidslivet* and the yearbook *Comparative Social Research*, which is edited by the ISF and the Institute of Sociology and Social Geography at the University of Oslo, are also available on Facebook.

The research centres associated with the ISF have their own Centre websites: Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector (sivilsamfunn.no) and CORE – Centre for Research on Gender Equality (likestillingsforskning.no). Both centres are also active on social media. In addition, the Status of Freedom of Expression in Norway 2015–2017 project uses social media administered by the ISF.

### In the media

The Institute's researchers are contacted regularly by the press to provide comments, present research and participate in debates. Researchers affiliated with the Institute wrote 33 opinion pieces and newspaper articles in 2017. Searches on the Retriever media surveillance service gave 1,028 hits where ISF researchers or research from the Institute were quoted in 2017. In addition, researchers contributed 164 popular science lectures and articles in various forums.

### Events

In 2017, the ISF and the Institute's centres were organisers or co-organisers of 18 open events where research-related topics of public interest were highlighted and debated. The ISF's events attract a lot of attention and are well-attended. Nine of the events in 2017 were streamed online and are freely available for all interested parties. In 2017, the Institute also began to stream events via Facebook Live, to reach even more interested parties.

In 2017, the ISF increased its participation in Arendalsuka, the largest political gathering in Norway. The Institute's researchers have participated in a number of events during Arendalsuka for several years, but in 2017 a more organised initiative was undertaken, with the presence of the Communications Department, which produced content for web pages and social media throughout the week. CORE was also a co-organiser of an event. The evaluation of this initiative was positive.

## 4.4 OVERVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS

### Books

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