



Research agenda for the Swedish national research programme within migration and integration

Strengthening research to meet societal challenges

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Foreword

The Swedish Research Council has been tasked by the Government to establish a ten-year national research programme within migration and integration. The purpose of the research programme is to create good conditions for research to contribute to meeting societal challenges related to migration and integration. (For more information on the research programme, please see www.vr.se/NFPmigint)

The national research programme will be conducted based on a coordinating and strategic research agenda. The purpose of the research agenda is to investigate and analyse how the national research programme within migration and integration should be designed. The strategic research agenda will be regularly updated. This document comprises the first research agenda and the Swedish Research Council intends to return with more information about how the research agenda will be updated.

The strategic research agenda was written by Gustav Hansson, PhD, and Monica Svantesson, PhD. Gustav Peterson, PhD and Caroline Olsson assisted in the production of the agenda. (All are employed with the Swedish Research Council). A research overview written by Associate Professor Per Strömblad and Amanda Nielsen, PhD at Linnaeus University serves as supporting documentation for the research agenda. The research overview is provided as an appendix. Feedback on the strategic research agenda was collected from researchers, practitioners and decision-makers in e.g. public administration and civil society, who work with issues in the area of migration and integration. Input on the design and contents of the research agenda were also collected at a dialogue meeting on 23 November 2017 and via a referral process at the end of May and beginning of June 2018.

The design and contents of the research agenda have also been regularly discussed with the national programme's programme committee and reference group. The Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences has endorsed the research agenda and the Swedish Research Council's Director General has approved and adopted it.

The research agenda provides the basis for how the research programme within migration and integration will be designed. Based on the research agenda, an implementation document will be drafted to establish the programme activities and schedules for these. The research agenda is also intended to provide data that can be used for more general discussions and initiatives linked to research and the dissemination of research on migration and integration both within Sweden and abroad. The Swedish Research Council would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the production of the research agenda.

Stockholm, 31 October 2018

Kerstin Sahlin

Secretary General, Humanities and Social Sciences, Swedish Research Council

Summary

The Swedish Research Council has been tasked by the Government to establish a ten-year national research programme within migration and integration. The purpose of the research programme is to strengthen research within the field and to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research, thereby creating good conditions for research to address societal challenges related to migration and integration.

The research programme will be conducted based on a coordinating and strategic research agenda. The purpose of the research agenda is to investigate and analyse how the national research programme within migration and integration should be designed. This report is the programme's first research agenda and will be updated regularly. The research agenda answers the following questions:

- What are the current and future societal challenges and knowledge needs in the area of migration and integration?
- What other initiatives and actors are active within the area?
- How should research grants and other initiatives within the research programme be designed, in order to meet the programme goals?

In order to give an orientation of both current and future societal challenges and knowledge needs in the area, the research agenda presents population forecasts and statistics followed by a discussion of challenges and opportunities expressed by researchers and practitioners in the field. The report also describes what characterises Sweden-based research on migration in integration. This description is based on a research overview, which is presented in an appendix.

Based on the research needs expressed by various national and international organisations, and by the participants at the research programme's dialogue meeting, it is clear that there is a great need for knowledge and research within several different areas and scientific disciplines. Several subject areas are recurrent, such as the needs for research into the causes of migration, migration caused by climate change and environmental impact, migrants in the labour market, the health of migrants, causes of xenophobia, as well as the effects of policies and regulations. Several actors have also expressed a need for more comparative studies (such as between countries), for combining quantitative and qualitative methods, for developing data for e.g. longitudinal studies and for more research from the perspective of migrants.

The Sweden-based research on migration and integration is characterised by its great diversity and variation. This diversity is expressed as (i) a multitude of issues studied, (ii) a multitude of scientific disciplines used, (iii) often being very interdisciplinary, (iv) a multitude of methods applied, as well as (v) a multitude of countries studied. The Sweden-based research also seems to be relevant to societal challenges in a broad sense. This suggests that the Sweden-based research is relatively equipped to meet the research needs in the field.

Given that the research needs are manifold, it is difficult to pinpoint what research areas are particularly urgent. There is also a risk associated with a too detailed 'top-down' approach where the areas of research are decided beforehand without the presence of researchers or without a dialogue between research and practice, as such

an approach may prevent important scientific discoveries. This means that there is currently support, at least in the initial stage of the programme, for strengthening the research field in a broad sense, i.e. to strengthen the conditions for research and to use a 'bottom-up' approach, where researchers play a key role in pointing out what questions need to be studied. At the same time, it is important that practitioners take part and point out the challenges and opportunities they see. Therefore, there needs to be a dialogue between researchers and practitioners about the research needs, not least against the background of the research that already exists.

Research into migration and integration is financed by research funding bodies in both Sweden and the rest of Europe. There is also a great number of national and international actors who, in one way or another, work to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings on migration and integration. It is important to avoid unwanted overlaps. An important task for the research programme is therefore to complement other actors' initiatives, and to investigate opportunities for collaboration.

The national research programme is directed towards research within all scientific disciplines and all aspects of migration, migrants and integration. The research programme focuses on two main measures: (i) to strengthen research within the field, and (ii) to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings. The national programme should therefore concentrate on the following:

- To strengthen the research field in a broad sense (such as by supporting research projects, research environments and research infrastructure);
- To promote international collaboration and make Swedish research visible (such as through grants to international postdocs, international research projects and visiting researchers); and
- To support coordination, dissemination and accessibility of research (such as through conference and seminar activities aimed at both researchers and practitioners).

These three bullet points should constitute the direction of the research programme for at least the initial stage of the programme. However, the focus of the research programme may change in the future, e.g. in order to address a specific societal challenge within the area of migration and integration.

The direction of the research programme will be further updated and developed continuously, through updates of the research agenda, by monitoring and evaluation, and through a continuous dialogue with the committees and people organised within and in conjunction with the programme. The research agenda provides the basis for how the research programme within migration and integration will be designed. Based on the research agenda, an implementation document will be drafted to establish the programme activities and schedules for these. The research agenda is also intended to provide data that can be used for more general discussions and initiatives linked to research and the dissemination of research on migration and integration both within Sweden and abroad.

1. Introduction

The Swedish Research Council has been tasked by the Government to establish a ten-year national research programme within migration and integration. The research programme is one of seven national research programmes initiated by the Government (Ministry of Education and Research 2017a, 2017b, Government Bill 2016/17:50, Ref. 2016/17:UbU12, Report 2016/17:208).

The purpose of the research programme is to strengthen research within the field and to promote research accessibility and dissemination, thereby creating good conditions for research to help address societal challenges related to migration and integration. The research programme aims to shed light on all aspects of migration, migrants and integration and will contribute to high-quality research and knowledge-building, evidence-based policy and administration, and a strong link between research and higher education. The research programme will be designed to ensure that it is well-coordinated and creates synergies with other national and international initiatives, that it creates opportunities for interdisciplinary and cross-sectional cooperation, that it contributes to gender equality, and that the programme is conducted in flexible forms and adapted to research conditions and requirements.

Migration refers to both voluntary and forced migration. It includes such types of migration as labour, relatives and refugees. Integration refers to the various forms of migrants' establishment in society, as well as issues of e.g. social cohesion and xenophobia. The research programme relates to studies of migration, migrants and integration in all scientific disciplines. (For a more detailed description, see section 2.3.)

The research programme will be conducted based on a coordinating and strategic research agenda that is regularly updated (Ministry of Education and Research 2017a). The purpose of the research agenda is to investigate and analyse how the national research programme within migration and integration should be designed. The research agenda therefore answers the following questions:

- What are the current and future societal challenges and knowledge needs in the area of migration and integration?
- What other initiatives and actors are active within the area?
- How should research grants and other initiatives within the research programme be designed, in order to meet the programme goals?

These questions are reflected in how the report is organised. Chapter 2 describes the contents of the assignment and the goals of the Riksdag (the Swedish Parliament) and the Government for the programme. Chapter 3 provides an orientation to both current and future societal challenges and knowledge needs in the area. The description begins with population projections and statistics followed by a discussion of challenges and opportunities expressed by researchers and practitioners in the field. The chapter concludes with a general description of what characterises Sweden-based research in migration and integration.

Chapter 4 provides an overview of actors in the field working with either research funding and/or to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings.

The chapter seeks answers to the question of how the research programme can be coordinated with other initiatives and actors in the field.

Chapter 5 presents summary conclusions and a description of how the research programme is planned to be designed over the coming years. The sixth and final chapter describes how the research programme is planned to be regularly followed up and evaluated.

The research agenda was prepared by the Swedish Research Council and the Council is responsible for and supports the contents and conclusions of the research agenda. Appendix 3 contains a research overview of the Sweden-based research on migration and integration, which has provided supporting documentation for the research agenda. The research overview was written by Per Strömblad, Associate Professor, and Amanda Nielsen, PhD, at Linnaeus University.

Feedback on the strategic research agenda has been collected from the national programme's programme committee and reference group, the Swedish Research Council's Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, and researchers and practitioners in the field. The research programme's programme committee consists of representatives from Forte (Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare), Formas (Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning), Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency), the Swedish Migration Agency, and Delmi (the Migration Studies Delegation). The reference group includes researchers in migration and integration belonging to various different scientific disciplines.¹

Researchers and practitioners were given the opportunity to provide input to the research agenda through a dialogue meeting held on 23 November 2017. Dialogue meeting participants included representatives from the Government Offices, public agencies, civil society and the research community. The dialogue meeting aimed at bringing together researchers and people who work out in the field with migration and integration to discuss societal challenges and research needs. A summary of the dialogue meeting discussion is provided in Section 3.3. Researchers and practitioners were also invited through a referral process to provide feedback on a draft of the research agenda. A summary description of the referral process is provided in Appendix 1.

The main target groups for the research agenda are the programme committee for the national research programme within migration and integration (which contributes with the production of the research agenda) and the Swedish Research Council's Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences (which has been delegated the responsibility for the research programme's budget by the Swedish Research Council). These two target groups have key responsibility for the design and implementation of the programme. Other important target groups for the research agenda are the Government Offices, public agencies, and researchers and practitioners in the field who have an interest in the design of the research programme.

¹The researchers in the reference group are: Andrea Spehar (Associate Professor, Political Science), Lisa Åkesson (Associate Professor, Social Anthropology), Dan-Olof Rooth (Professor, Economics), Rebecca Thorburn Stern (Associate Professor, International Law), Stein Tønnesson (Professor, Peace and Conflict Research), Benny Carlson (Professor, Economic History), Solvig Ekblad (Professor, Multicultural Health and Care Research), Eva Vingård (Professor Emerita, Occupational and Environmental Medicine), Nihad Bunar (Professor, Child and Youth Studies) and Stefan Jonsson (Professor, Ethnicity and Literature).

2. Background

This chapter provides a background of the strategic research agenda and includes a description of the assignment from the Government to establish a ten-year national research programme, the background and various aims of this assignment, and the research programme's path to goal attainment.

2.1 Swedish Research Council's assignment

The Swedish Research Council has been tasked by the Government to establish a ten-year national research programme within migration and integration (Ministry of Education and Research, 2017a, 2017b, Government Bill 2016/17:50, Ref. 2016/17:UbU12, Report 2016/17:208). The mission statement states that the research programme within migration and integration will:

‘...shed light on all aspects of migration and integration, increase knowledge on conditions for creating an inclusive society, and include research on both short-term and long-term causes and implications of migration, e.g. economic, demographic and social aspects.’ (Ministry of Education and Research 2017b, page 1)

The Government bill on research and innovation (Bill 2016/17:50) states that the research programme will be designed and implemented in a way that:

- creates strong research environments
- increases the societal impact of research findings
- creates conditions for long-term planning
- ensures the programme is conducted in flexible forms and adapted to meet the conditions and requirements of the research areas
- creates powerful synergies with other actors and ensures that the programme is characterised by an active and strategic overall coordination of research funding and other activities.
- strengthens the connection between research and higher education, and
- ensures that the research programme contributes to gender equality.

The research programme will be conducted based on a coordinating and strategic research agenda. The research agenda will report existing initiatives in order to facilitate an assessment of synergies and overall coordination. The research agenda will be produced by the Swedish Research Council in consultation with the other funding bodies concerned, Forte and Formas. The strategic research agenda will be regularly updated (Government Bill 2016/17:50, Ministry of Education and Research 2017a).

The Swedish Research Council's budget for the research programme within migration and integration is SEK 10 million for 2017, SEK 20 million for 2018 and SEK 30 million per year for 2019-2026. The total budget for the research

programme is SEK 270 million (Government Bill 2016/17:50, Ref. 2016/17:UbU12, Report 2016/17:208). The Swedish Research Council Board has delegated responsibility for the research programme funds to the Swedish Research Council's Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences.

2.2 Background of the assignment

The national research programme within migration and integration is one of seven ten-year national research programmes. The Swedish Research Council is responsible for the Migration and Integration and the Antibiotic Resistance national research programmes. Forte is responsible for the Applied Welfare and the Working Life national research programmes, while Formas is responsible for the Climate, the Sustainable Spatial Planning Research and the Food national research programmes (Ministry of Education and Research 2017b, Formas 2017 and Forte 2017a).

The national research programmes have been established to build broad, long-term and sustainable research programmes with the aim of creating good conditions for research to help address societal challenges. Strategically prioritising different research areas with the aim of helping to address societal challenges has been done elsewhere, such as in France and the Netherlands, and not least in the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020), in which programmes for tackling specific societal challenges form one of three pillars (Government Bill 2016/17:50). The view of research as central to addressing societal challenges is also clear in the Swedish Government's research policy objectives, which read:

‘The Government's new goals are for Sweden to be one of the world's most prominent research and innovation countries and a leading knowledge nation, in which high-quality research, higher education and innovation lead to society's development, welfare and business competitiveness, and addresses the societal challenges we are facing, both in Sweden and globally.’ (Government Bill 2016/17:50, page 20)

Part of the background to the creation of the national research programme within migration and integration is the refugee situation that has arisen in recent years. The Research and Innovation Bill states that:

‘The most serious refugee situation in modern times is taking place right now. More people than ever before have sought asylum in Sweden, with subsequent questions concerning the establishment and integration of the new arrivals. This poses great challenges for our society and a need for increased knowledge, partly to address these challenges, and partly to promote the potential of migration for development in both the origin and destination countries. It also highlights the need for research about all aspects of migration and integration as well as the need for increased knowledge of the prerequisites for creating an inclusive and democratic society.’ (Government Bill 2016/17:50, page 89)

The national research programme within migration and integration was thus motivated by the large refugee immigration in 2015, but the Government had recognised the need for knowledge-building in migration and integration even before this, for example through the establishment of the Migration Studies Delegation (Dir. 2013:102). Also against the background of an increased international focus on issues of migration – not least within the UN – it has been considered urgent to increase knowledge on the issue from a number of different perspectives (UN 2018b).

Establishing national research programmes has also been suggested by the state research funding bodies in their joint contribution to the research policy bill (Swedish Energy Agency et al. 2015). The contribution of the research funding bodies stresses, among other things, that the research programmes should take advantage of opportunities for synergies in funding nationally and internationally, that the programmes should complement other research initiatives, and that interdisciplinary and cross-sectional cooperation as well as cooperation between research and education should be included. The research funding bodies emphasise in this respect the importance of cooperation among themselves. Another important aspect highlighted is that the research programmes should contribute to publicising Swedish research abroad, thereby increasing the opportunities of coordination with European and international programme initiatives, e.g. by serving as platforms for international cooperation.

2.3 Definitions of key terms

The research programme refers to research of all aspects of migration, migrants and integration. There is actually no generally accepted international definition of who constitutes a migrant. However, a reasonably accepted definition, used by the UN among others, is that a migrant is a person who changes their country of usual residence. Migration is thus the movement of people to another country. A difference is usually made between *temporary* migration – e.g. for seasonal work – where the change of country of residence lasts from three to twelve months, and *permanent* migration, where the change of country of residence lasts for at least one year (UN 2018a, Koser 2007 page 16). The term migration covers both emigration and immigration. It also includes both voluntary and forced migration, such as labour migration, migration of relatives, asylum seekers, unaccompanied minors, refugees, quota refugees, undocumented migrants and victims of human trafficking (note that some of these groups may overlap). Since the definition stipulates a change of country for the move to be classified as migration, it only includes international migration. Several researchers and others, however, stress that internal migration often has a connection to international migration (see e.g. Koser, 2007 page 112), for example in that both can be part of the same refugee flows (this applies not least to internally displaced persons) or when newly arrived people move on within the receiving country. The national research programme within migration and integration therefore includes both international migration and internal migration in cases where internal migration results in or is preceded by international migration.

The research agenda primarily uses the terms ‘migrant’ and ‘migrants’. When other terms and concepts are used, this is done to directly reflect the terms and concepts used in the reports referred to and described.

The term 'integration' similarly does not have any generally accepted definition, but commonly refers to what happens when the migrants have arrived at the receiving country, and more specifically to how migrants and the receiving country adapt to each other (IOM 2011, page 51). This can, for example, concern what rights and obligations migrants and the receiving country have towards each other, the migrants' various forms of establishment in society, as well as different aspects of social cohesion, effects for the creation of new business, cultural expression, development of international contacts, and so on.

The term 'integration' is used in the research agenda primarily because it is the term used in the Government's mission statement. The term should be viewed as encompassing a broad definition and does not exclude the possibility of other researchers using it in different ways and from different perspectives.

2.4 Role and importance of research

Research and experimental development (R&D) is defined by the Frascati manual as 'creative and systematic work undertaken in order to increase the stock of knowledge – including knowledge of humankind, culture and society – and to devise new applications of available knowledge' (OECD 2015a, page 44).

What is common for all research is that it should create value in some way. Researchers are driven, for the most part, by a desire to solve important problems and often define the importance of their research based on its potential benefit and an expectation that the problem can be solved. Research thereby contributes to increasing the general level of knowledge, and provides a background and a history, as well as perspective and reference points. Research provides a genuine knowledge base for the development of a strong society.

A distinction is sometimes made between basic research and applied research. Basic research then comprises the empirical or theoretical work to acquire new knowledge about the underlying explanations for the phenomena and observed facts, but not necessarily with a view to any particular application or use. Applied research also involves acquiring new knowledge, but the research is usually directed toward a specific goal (OECD 2015a). Both basic research and applied research are needed, but it is difficult to determine what the optimal balance between them in practice is. It is also pointed out that the lines between basic research and applied research are often blurred, as applications can lead to new basic knowledge and basic research can lead to new applications. In the research programme, both basic research and applied research are needed, and no strict distinction between them should be made.

Another aspect to consider is to what extent the focus of the research should be steered. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (2012) points out that more curiosity-driven basic research can lead to ground-breaking research results, but that these results can often not be foreseen and therefore cannot be taken into consideration in strategic plans. Excessively detailed control of research can thus close the door for unexpected discoveries. UNESCO (2015) points out that an increased focus on solving societal challenges has led to a problematic tendency to increase focus on applied research at the expense of basic research. UNESCO argues, however, that basic research is a prerequisite for any scientific breakthrough and that basic research and applied research complement one another.

2.5 Goals of the national programme

Based on the design and background of the mission, as well as the Government's overall research policy objectives, the Swedish Research Council has formulated the following overall goals for the ten-year national programme within migration and integration: *The purpose of the research programme is to strengthen research within the field and to promote research accessibility and dissemination, thereby creating good conditions for research to help address societal challenges related to migration and integration.* A broad description of societal challenges is presented in Chapter 3. Attempting to clearly define societal challenges should be done with caution, however, as the challenges are constantly changing and evolving. The researchers and the surrounding society, as well as the interaction between these two groups, will thus play key role in continuously identifying and predicting the most important societal challenges in this area.

Based on the assignment (Ministry of Education and Research 2017a, Government Bill 2016/17:50, page 86), the Swedish Research Council has identified the following programme-specific goals for the national programme (listed in no particular order):

- 1) to contribute to high-quality research and knowledge-building
- 2) to contribute to evidence-based policies and administration
- 3) to help strengthen the link between research and higher education
- 4) to contribute to improved dialogue between researchers, practitioners and decision-makers
- 5) to contribute to gender equality
- 6) to ensure that the research programme is well-coordinated with other national and international initiatives and that synergies are created
- 7) to ensure that the research programme is adapted and designed to meet the conditions and requirements of the research domains and that it is conducted in flexible forms
- 8) that the research programme creates conditions for interdisciplinary and cross-sectional cooperation.

All of the aims of the national programme will be continuously followed up and evaluated after the programme has concluded. The objective of the evaluation is to investigate and assess the degree to which the programme attained its goals (see Chapter 6).

2.6 The national programme's path to goal attainment

The overall goal of the national research programme is to create good conditions for research to help address societal challenges related to migration and integration. The research programme also has eight programme-specific goals, which were listed in the above section. The national programme's path to attaining these goals can be described using what is known as programme theory. Programme theory is a description of how a programme is intended to function to meet its goals.

Programme theory is thus a tool both in the design of the programme and in the design of how it is followed up and evaluated (see e.g. Swedish Research Council 2012, Sandberg and Faugert 2012, Sandahl and Petersson 2016, or ESV 2016).

There are a number of accepted synonyms for programme theory, such as logic models and theory of change.

The programme theory for the national programme within migration and integration is illustrated in Figure 1 and consists of two main actions: initiating and supporting the production of new research, and making accessible, disseminating and promoting the use of new and existing research. This work must be coordinated with other activities and initiatives in Sweden and abroad, and build on an ongoing dialogue between researchers, research funding bodies, practitioners and decision-makers. ('Practitioner refers to people and organisations, other than researchers, who work more practically with issues related to migration and integration. Although their activities are more practically oriented, these actors to varying degrees need research and knowledge about migration and integration.)

The causal link that the research programme aims to influence begins with the use of the research and the need for knowledge and research. This use can be encouraged not least through a dialogue between researchers and practitioners. Such a dialogue can also give rise to new research, which then constitutes a contribution to existing research. For research (both new and existing) to come to use, the research findings must be made accessible and disseminated. It is important here to make a distinction between research accessibility and research dissemination. 'Accessibility' means that the research is made available to a larger audience, e.g. through publication in a scientific journal. 'Dissemination' means that the research is spread to certain target audiences, e.g. via seminars, conferences, or via newsletters and direct mail. 'Making accessible' can thus be seen as a first essential step in making it possible for the research to be read and used, while 'disseminating' is a more active pursuit directed at specific target groups (for a more detailed discussion of accessibility and dissemination of research findings, see Section 4.2).

Figure 1: Schematic description of the role of the research programme in the research process

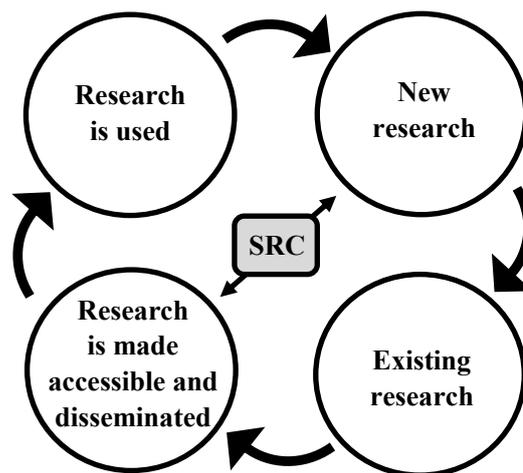


Figure 1 thus illustrates a logic model in which new and existing research is assumed to contribute to addressing societal challenges relating to migration and integration, and which parts of this causal link the research programme should

influence with different initiatives. The research programme will therefore consist of two main actions: initiating and supporting the production of new research, and making accessible, disseminating and promoting the use of new and existing research. This work must be coordinated with other initiatives in Sweden and abroad for the greatest possible impact.

2.7 Examples of grant types and activities

The previous section has shown that the two main focal areas of the research programme are to initiate and support the production of new research, and to promote the accessibility and dissemination of the research. This section describes the various activities and types of grants that the Swedish Research Council has at its disposal.

The Swedish Research Council can use the budget for the research programme in three main ways: (i) performing activities solely or in cooperation with other actors, (ii) co-funding research grants under another organisation's call, or (iii) announcing research grant calls.

Performing activities solely can entail arranging e.g. conferences, work seminars, etc. The Swedish Research Council has previous experience of such activities. The Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, for example, has been arranging a series of seminars since 2016 in cooperation with the Institute for Future Studies, under the name 'Public Talks', in which researchers and practitioners talk about current issues and topics in research (Swedish Research Council 2018b). One such activity in the programme, which has already been carried out, is the dialogue meeting with both researchers and practitioners that was held on 23 November 2017.

The Swedish Research Council can also co-fund existing initiatives at other research funding bodies in Sweden and abroad. One example is the joint initiative by the Swedish Research Council, the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences, Formas and Forte for the research programme 'Long-term Provision of Knowledge: Swedish Research and Higher Education in an International Context' (Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences 2018). One such co-funding initiated within the framework of the programme is the joint British-Nordic initiative for research in migration and integration. The initiative, which is administered by NordForsk, brings together research funding bodies in Sweden (Swedish Research Council and Forte), Norway, Finland, Iceland and the United Kingdom, which together announce a call for research funding for Nordic and Nordic-British research projects on migration and integration (see Table 7 in Chapter 5).

However, the Swedish Research Council primarily supports research through its own calls in which grants are awarded to research projects, conferences, etc. The different types of grants awarded by the Swedish Research Council are presented in Appendix 2, broken down into the categories 'Funding to one or more researchers', 'Research environment and collaboration support' and 'Infrastructure and operational support'. These types of grants can all be applied and used for the research programme within migration and integration.

The first group of grants, 'Funding to one or more researchers' refers to project grants, i.e. freely formulated project grants and support for proof of concept, as well as various types of career support funding, i.e. international postdoc, starting grants, consolidation grants, research time grants, and grants for employment as a half-time researcher in clinical environments (see Table 9).

The other group, ‘Research environment and collaboration support’ refers to grants related to research environments, graduate schools, distinguished professors, visiting researchers, network grants, conference grants, and exploratory workshops (see Table 10).

The third group refers to ‘Infrastructure and operational support’. This group contains grants to support research infrastructure, as well as administrative support in the form of operating grants for research coordination and institutes, as well as journal grants (see Table 11).

The choice of which grant type(s) are most suitable for the research programme depends on what needs to be achieved and which areas have the greatest need for support. For example:

- If the programme will focus on promoting highest scientific quality, the grant type “project grant” may be suitable.
- If the programme will focus on supporting the research field, the grant types: “research environment”, “network grant”, “conference grant”, “exploratory workshops”, and/or “operating grant”, may be suitable.
- If the programme will focus on promoting conditions for research, the grant types “research infrastructure” and “operating grant” may be suitable. This could, for example, involve the production of new statistics and databases.
- If the programme will focus on supporting younger researchers, the grant types “graduate school”, “international postdoc”, “starting grant” and “consolidator grant” may be suitable.
- If the programme will focus on promoting international collaboration, the grant types “visiting researcher”, “network grant”, “conference grant” and/or “international postdoc” may be suitable.

There are thus a number of different existing types of support and activities to take inspiration from for the design of the research programme. As yet, programme funding has only been awarded to research projects and research environments. In 2018, the Swedish Research Council decided to introduce a new type of grant: Research time grants, which are intended to give persons working at a clinic the opportunity to conduct research. This type of grant was designed to meet an identified need within the framework for the national research programme in antibiotic resistance. If specific needs are identified, it is thus possible for the national research programme within migration and integration to also develop and suggest new types of grants.

The Swedish Research Council website contains information on the preparation process and the aspects by which an application is assessed (Swedish Research Council 2018f). The applications are assessed by researchers within the same or a neighbouring field (peer review). All participants in the assessment process must follow the Swedish Research Council’s rules and guidelines, including the Swedish Research Council’s gender equality strategy and conflict of interest policy (Swedish Research Council 2018g). For more information on how applications are assessed, see Swedish Research Council (2018f).

3. Challenges and research needs related to migration and integration

Migration is not a new phenomenon. It has always existed, and migrants are now found in every country in the world. Yet while migration is a natural part of society, it affects individuals and society in many different ways and it is almost impossible in such a vast area to give a detailed description of all the different issues that migration can give rise to. This chapter therefore aims to provide an overall introduction of the current challenges and knowledge needs in migration and integration. The chapter focuses on the issues that appear to dominate current public debate, such as migration flows, number of asylum seekers, labour market participation and population projections. The fact that these issues are topical today does not necessarily mean that they are more important than others, however. The review only aims to provide a background to why the national research programme was created and what challenges are often brought up. Research on migration and integration is both needed and conducted in more areas than those that might seem most visible in current public debate. As such, later parts of the chapter also discuss knowledge needs expressed by supranational, international and national organisations, as well as researchers and practitioners in the field.

The chapter consists of six sections: The first section reports statistics and prognoses of migration and integration nationally and internationally in order to provide a broad description of the scope, situation and development. This description constitutes a background for the discussion of societal challenges. This is focused on statistics and prognoses and therefore does not describe e.g. causal links or implications. The description has an emphasis on developments in Sweden. This should not be interpreted as that the research programme is solely focused on challenges and opportunities in Sweden, however. Issues of migration and integration are global and the research programme aims to reflect that.

The second section presents various inputs on research needs in migration and integration presented by national and international actors. The description is structured according to global, European, Nordic and national perspectives. The third section presents the inputs on research needs that emerged from the research programme's 2017 dialogue meeting. The fourth section describes what characterises Sweden-based research on migration and integration. This description is based on the research overview provided in Appendix 3. The fifth section presents input from the Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences and the Committee for Development Research at the Swedish Research Council. The seventh and final section consists of conclusions.

3.1 The current migration and integration situation in Sweden and abroad

In 2015, there were 244 million international migrants in the world, representing about 3.3 per cent of the total global population (a migrant is here defined as someone living in a country other than that in which they were born or in which they are a citizen, UN 2016). Between 1990 and 2015, the number of international migrants increased by 91 million, an increase of 60 per cent. The greatest number of

migrants in 2015 were found in Europe (76 million) and Asia (75 million), followed by North America (55 million) and Africa (21 million); see Table 1.

Table 1: Number of international migrants broken down by origin and destination areas, 2015 (in millions)

Destination	Origin						
	Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America and the Caribbean	North America	Oceania	Worldwide
Africa	16.4	1.2	1.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	20.6
Asia	4.1	59.4	6.9	0.4	0.5	0.1	75.1
Europe	9.2	20.2	39.9	4.6	1.0	0.4	76.1
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.1	0.3	1.3	5.9	1.3	0.0	9.2
North America	2.3	15.5	7.5	24.6	1.2	0.3	54.5
Oceania	0.5	3.0	3.0	0.2	0.2	1.1	8.1
Worldwide	32.6	99.8	59.6	35.8	4.3	1.8	243.7

Source: UN (2016)

Note: International migrant refers to a person who was born or is a citizen in a country other than the country they reside in.

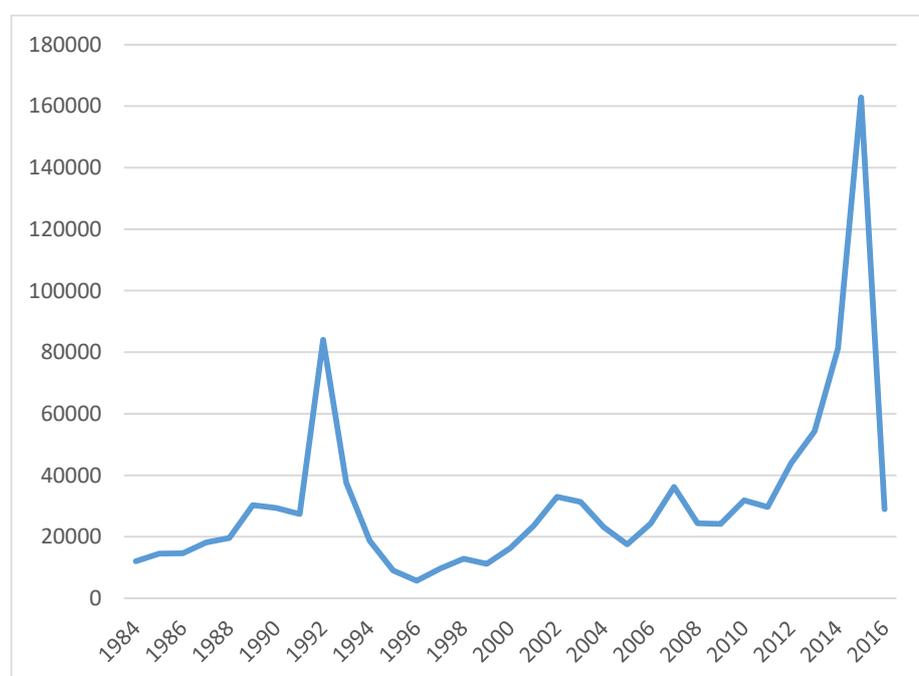
The greatest migration consists of ‘South-South’ migration. Of the migrants who came from a country in the south, 90 million lived in another country in the south and 85 million in a country in the north in 2015. The number of migrants coming from a country in the north and living in another country in the north was 55 million. Migrants living in Europe had primarily come from another European country (40 million), from Asia (20 million) and from Africa (9 million, UN 2016).

As previously noted, the group migrants includes people who migrate for all sorts of reasons. If the analysis is instead limited to only asylum seekers, which has been the main subject of public debate in recent years, the statistics show the following. The OECD countries received 1.7 million asylum seekers in 2015 and 1.6 million in 2016, which was the largest number of asylum seekers since the World War II. The relatively stable numbers of asylum seekers in 2015 and 2016 may be largely due to delayed registration, and the statistics are therefore somewhat misleading. About half of the asylum seekers (first-time applicants) in the OECD countries in 2016

were from either Syria, Afghanistan or Iraq. The percentage of asylum seekers from Syria was 22 per cent in 2015 and 21 per cent in 2016 (OECD 2017).

The number of people seeking asylum in Sweden from 1984-2016 is shown in Figure 2. In 2015, about 163,000 people sought asylum in Sweden. This can be compared with about 81,000 asylum seekers the year before and an average of about 26,000 asylum seekers per year over the 2000-2010 period. The largest group of asylum seekers in 2015 was from Syria, which at 51,000 people comprised 32 per cent of the total number of asylum seekers. The second largest group of asylum seekers that year were from Afghanistan (26 per cent), followed by Iraq (13 per cent), Eritrea (4 per cent) and Somalia (3 per cent). The large number of asylum seekers in 2015 can also be compared with the number of asylum seekers from 1992, which comprised 84,000 people primarily from former Yugoslavia (about 83 per cent).

Figure 2: Number of asylum seekers to Sweden, 1984-2016



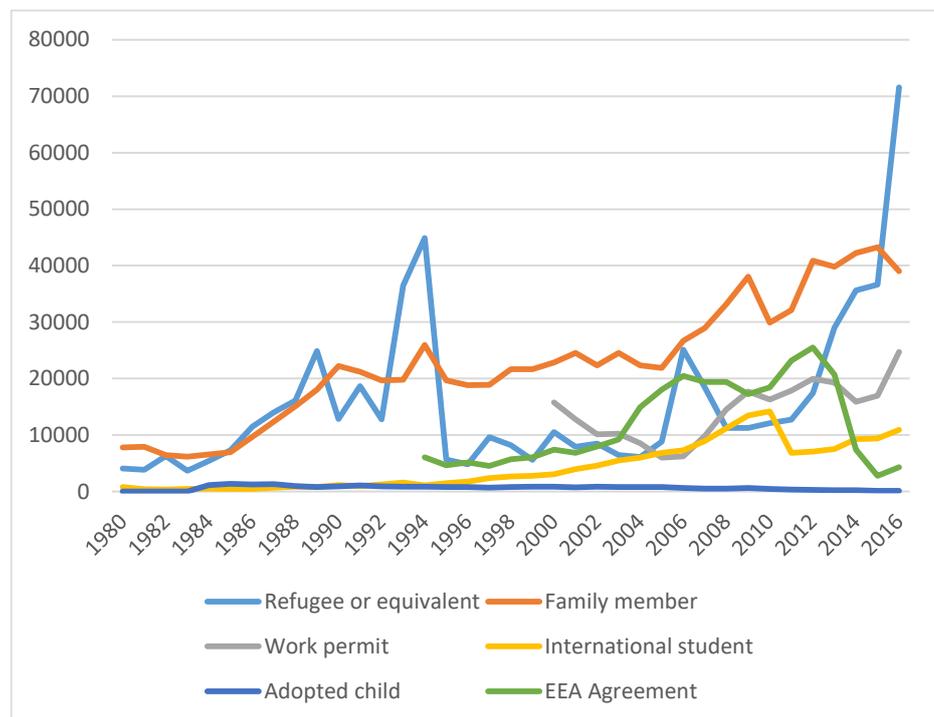
Source: Swedish Migration Agency (2017a)

According to estimates by the Swedish Migration Agency (2017c), between 20,000 and 44,000 people are expected to seek asylum in Sweden in 2019. Levels are thus expected to be on a par with the average number of asylum seekers during the 2000-2012 period. There are many factors that influence developments, however, not only events abroad, but also regulations concerning residence permits, visas, border controls and reception in Sweden and the rest of the EU. A trend toward the upper range in the Migration Agency's forecast is motivated by increasing movements primarily on the Eastern Mediterranean route and through secondary migrations within Europe, where there are many migrants and where several countries are reported to have strained reception systems.

The number of residence permits granted in Sweden for the 1980-2016 period is shown period in Figure 3. The number of residence permits granted for 'refugees or

similar' follows about the same trend as the number of asylum seekers in Figure 2, though with a slight delay. The most frequent reason for a residence permit during the period was having a close family member living in Sweden (i.e. spouse, registered partner, cohabitant or child under 18 years of age). About 20,000 residence permits were granted per year to family members in the 1990s, and between 30,000 and 40,000 a year since 2008. From 2009 onwards, the statistics also include family members of employees and from 2012 onwards family members of international students studying in Sweden.

Figure 3: The number of residence permits granted in Sweden for the period 1980-2016, broken down by reason for permit.



Source: Swedish Migration Agency (2017b)

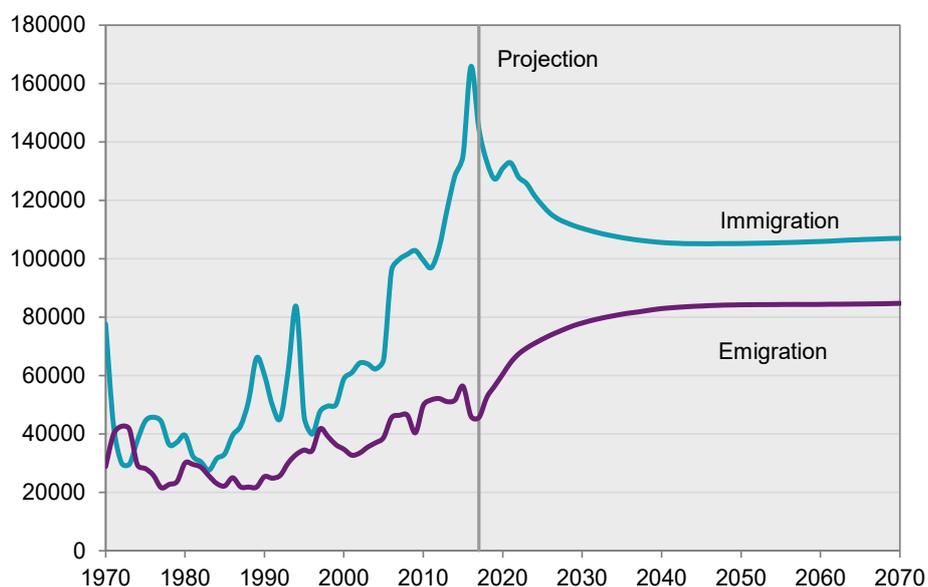
Note: From 2009 onwards, the statistics also include family members of employees and from 2012 onwards, family members of international students. A work permit refers to the permit people from non-EU/EEA countries must have to work in Sweden. From 1 May 2014 onwards, EU citizens no longer need to register their right of residence with the Swedish Migration Agency. The EU/EEA category from 1 May 2014 onwards therefore only contains right of residence and residence permits for third-country citizens.

An EU citizen can live and work in Sweden without needing to apply for any permit. Since 2014, EU citizens no longer need to register with the Swedish Migration Agency. This means that Figure 3 does not give a clear picture of labour immigration. The statistics on work permits only apply to people from countries that are not part of the EU/EEA area and the statistics on permits under the EEA Agreement refer from 1 May 2014 onwards only to right of residence and residence permits to non-EU/EEA citizens who reside in another EU country (Swedish Migration Agency 2017b, 2017d).

A more comprehensive picture of immigration and emigration to and from Sweden can be obtained by studying population development. Migration to and from Sweden during the period 1960-2016, as well as a forecast for the years 2017-2060 is provided in Figure 4. Immigration and emigration have varied considerably over time. As immigration has increased, so too has emigration, although immigration rates have most often been higher. According to Statistics Sweden (2017c), it is difficult to forecast future changes in immigration and emigration because conditions can change quickly and without forewarning. The somewhat more long-term prognosis should therefore be interpreted as an average future level and not as an assumption of the most likely level for individual years. According to Statistics Sweden's prognosis, immigration is assumed to decrease while emigration is assumed to increase, albeit at declining rates (see Figure 4).

Immigration and emigration obviously affect population rates, and uncertainties in forecasting immigration and emigration also mean uncertainty in the population forecasts. In 2016, the population of Sweden was 9.9 million, of which 8.2 million were born in Sweden and 1.8 million were born abroad (17.8 per cent). By 2030, the population is projected to rise to 11.3 million, of which 2.5 million will be born abroad (22.3 per cent), and by 2050, the population is projected to be 12.4 million, of which 2.9 million will be born abroad (23.0 per cent). This means that the number of foreign-born persons in Sweden is expected to increase, both in absolute numbers and as a percentage of the population (Statistics Sweden 2017c).

Figure 4: Immigration to and emigration from Sweden, 1960-2016 and prognosis for 2017-2060.



Source: Statistics Sweden (2017b)

It is also interesting in this context to study the demographic developments with regard to age. The age dependency ratio (i.e. the number of people in the population aged 0-19 and 65 and older, in relation to the number of people aged 20-64) was 0.74 in 2015. The age dependency ratio is expected to increase to 0.83 by 2030 and to 0.85 by 2050. This means that fewer and fewer people of working age will be

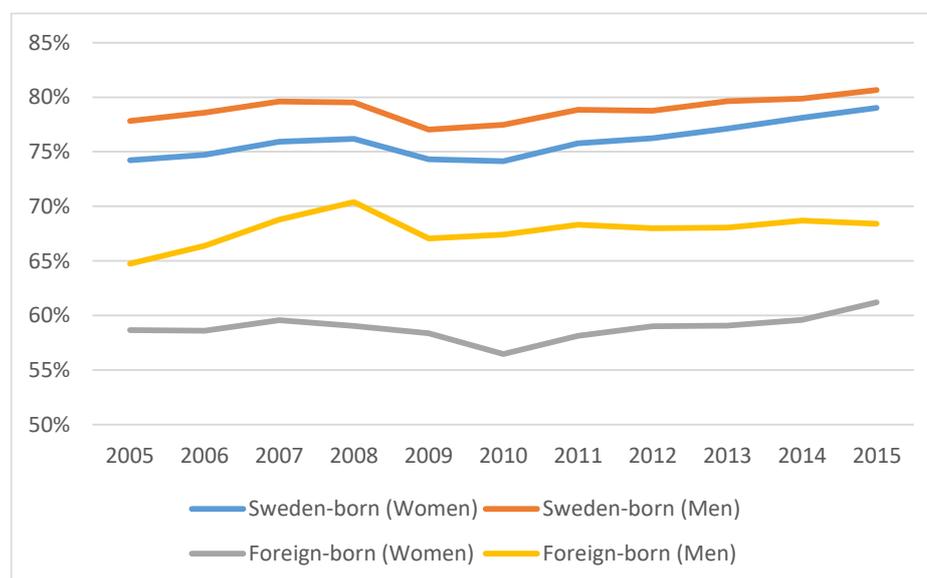
supporting more and more dependents. This will likely put a strain on the welfare system. In 2015, the age dependency ratio was 0.84 for Sweden-born and 0.37 for foreign-born persons. Foreign-born inhabitants are thus mostly of working age (age 20-64). The age dependency ratio is expected to be 1.02 by 2030 and 1.00 by 2050 for Sweden-born and 0.37 and 0.50 for foreign-born. Foreign-born inhabitants are thus expected to be primarily of working age in the future as well. That foreign-born inhabitants are primarily of working age contributes to a rejuvenation of the Swedish population and the age dependency ratio for the country as a whole is expected to be considerably lower in comparison with the age dependency ratio for Sweden-born (Statistics Sweden 2017c). Sweden, Luxembourg, Italy and Norway have higher net immigration rates than other EU countries (here also including Iceland, Norway and Switzerland). This also means that Sweden, Luxembourg, Italy and Norway show a more positive trend in regard to age structure and a greater increase in their working-age population than the other countries in the comparison (Malmberg et al. 2016).

A large number of foreign-born persons requires a functioning system for integration. Integration and establishment in the society can be described and studied in many different ways, e.g. by studying school results, employment, income levels and health (see e.g. Statistics Sweden 2016 and Swedish Work Environment Authority 2012). Since the 1970s, the employment rate (i.e. the proportion of the population that is employed) has been lower for foreign-born than for Sweden-born inhabitants (Statistics Sweden 2016, page 52). In 2016, the employment rate was 81 per cent for Sweden-born and 65 per cent for foreign-born (for the 20-64 age range). Unemployment (i.e. the proportion of unemployed persons in relation to the labour force) was 4.8 per cent for Sweden-born and 15.8 per cent for foreign-born, which is a difference of 11.1 percentage points. Labour force participation (i.e. the proportion of the population that is part of the labour force) was 84.7 per cent for Sweden-born and 77.8 per cent for foreign-born (for the 20-64 age range, Statistics Sweden 2017a). All in all, this means that immigration has contributed to a rejuvenation and thereby an improvement in Sweden's age dependency ratio. To take full advantage of this opportunity, however, the employment rate must be raised among foreign-born inhabitants.

There is also a significant difference with regard to gender. In 2016, the employment rate for Sweden-born men was 81.3 per cent and for foreign-born men 69.3 per cent, while for women, these figures were 81.3 per cent and 61.9 per cent, respectively. These differences between Sweden-born and foreign-born, and between men and women, have been relatively stable during the years 2005-2016; see Figure 5.

Labour force participation in 2016 was relatively evenly distributed among Sweden-born (85.6 per cent) and foreign-born men (83.1 per cent). There was a larger difference among women, however, with an 83.7 per cent labour force participation among Sweden-born women and 72.8 per cent among foreign-born women (for the 20-64 age range). There has been a sharp increase from 2005 to 2016 in labour force participation for foreign-born men and women, however, with a 6.9 increase among foreign-born men and a 4.9 increase among foreign-born women. In terms of unemployment rates between men and women, however, the differences are small: 5.1 per cent (men) and 4.4 per cent (women) for Sweden-born, and 16.6 per cent (men) and 15.0 per cent (women) for foreign-born (Statistics Sweden 2017a).

Figure 5: Employment rate (age range 20-64), for Sweden-born and foreign-born inhabitants, broken down by gender, for the years 2005-2016



Source: Statistics Sweden (2017b)

Differences between Sweden-born and foreign-born in working life are not limited to employment, labour force participation and unemployment. Forslund and Åslund (2016) show that earned income is generally lower for foreign-born than for Sweden-born. This is due to lower wages and less stable employment among foreign-born inhabitants. Foreign-born inhabitants also more often work in professions with lower educational requirements than what corresponds to their level of education. An important question is how the establishment of foreign-born persons in the labour market will change in the future. The UN (2016) reports that foreign-born persons are more often employed in routine jobs than are domestic-born persons, and that an increased rate of automation entails an increased risk of unemployment for these groups.

The Swedish Work Environment Authority (2012) points out that the work-related health status of immigrants generally differs from that of the Sweden-born population. Immigrants appear to be over-represented in high-risk occupations and, in comparison with Sweden-born, more often have unsecured employment, low rates of union representation and a lack of knowledge of current labour legislation. However, the Work Environment Authority (2012) also emphasises that scientific data concerning work-related health status among immigrants is very limited. In terms of health issues, the differences between Sweden-born and foreign-born are naturally not limited to factors concerning work, but also arise in other areas. There is not space to go into this in more detail in this section, but more information on the health of migrants is provided in Appendix 3 to the agenda in the section entitled 'Integration and health'.

In conclusion, this section has reported statistics and prognoses concerning the development of migration nationally and internationally, albeit with an emphasis on Swedish conditions. How migration will affect the development of society in the future is difficult to comment on, however. Migration has affected and will affect society in many different ways, both in Sweden and in the rest of the world. Migration will bring both opportunities and challenges, income and costs in relation

to e.g. social economy (see e.g. Hedberg and Malmberg 2008, Flood and Ruist 2015, and Malmberg et al. 2016), cultural diversity, trust and social cohesion (Delmi 2017d).

3.2 Expressed national and international research needs

This section presents a selection of research needs in migration and integration as presented by various national and international actors. Because issues related to migration and integration are globalised, it is highly relevant to examine the needs for research and knowledge from global, European, Nordic and national perspectives.

The description in this section is based on knowledge needs expressed by a selection of actors both in Sweden and abroad. The selection has been limited to supranational, international and national organisations (UN, EU, NordForsk and Delmi), as well as the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR). This selection is based on two premises: (i) that the selection is limited to a few actors since there has not been space to thoroughly describe the total research needs in Sweden and the world, and (ii) that the selection is based on organisations representing states and local authorities, and can thereby be regarded as recognised and highly reputed and as not representing a special interest.

In discussions conducted in dialogue with researchers and decision-makers in the field, i.e. at the dialogue meeting, in the referral process, in discussions with the programme committee and reference group, as well as in the Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, supplementary questions, perspectives and knowledge needs have been presented. The expressed research needs described in this section should not be considered exhaustive.

3.2.1 Expressed research needs concerning global issues

A global perspective of the research needs in migration and integration is provided in the World Migration Report 2018, which was produced by the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM 2017). The World Migration Report 2018 is a description of regional and global developments and trends, and discusses a number of specific issues. The report thus provides a global perspective of migration trends and identifies key knowledge needs.

The World Migration Report 2018 shows that there are both similarities and differences between migration in different parts of the world. It also finds that there is more knowledge about some places than others, i.e. that there are both quantitative and qualitative differences in knowledge about different regions. There is therefore a need to compile better data and create better conditions for research about global migration flows.

A large portion of the report is dedicated to 'complex and emerging migration issues'. IOM (2017) points out that these issues are both selectively and subjectively chosen, but that they still represent some of the most pressing global issues today. The issues can be grouped into the following areas:

- 1) Governance on the global arena
- 2) Migration and changes in transnational communication
- 3) Migration from the perspective of migrants
- 4) Migration and media reporting
- 5) Migration, extremism and exclusion

6) Migrants and cities

The first area examines the need for an increased understanding of governance at the global level because certain migration issues should be solved at the global level rather than at the national level. The second area is about changes in transnational communication and how these changes affect migration. The third area discusses the importance of studying migration from the migrants' perspective in order to create a better understanding of the causes of migration. The fourth area deals with how media reporting affects the thoughts and actions of people and decision-makers. The fifth area examines the link between migration and extremism and the violent expressions this takes, and raises questions about e.g. why it occurs, if the picture portrayed in the public debate about the link between migration and extremism provides a fair account, and about how to create evidence-based policy for the future. The seventh and final area explores the relationship between migrants and cities, considering that a large percentage of migrants settle in cities.

A global perspective on important issues in migration can also be obtained by studying the global Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2030. The world's leaders have committed to 17 global Sustainable Development Goals aimed at abolishing extreme poverty, reducing inequalities, solving the climate crisis and promoting peace and justice by 2030 (UN 2018b). The 17 Sustainable Development Goals comprise in turn a total of 169 targets. The UN (2015) has shown that 10 targets have a connection to international migration. This is above all an acknowledgement of the relationship between international migration and sustainable development, but can also provide a clue to important areas for research. The 10 targets that the UN identifies as having a connection to international migration are reported in Table 2.

Table 2: Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) related to international migration

SDG 3: Good health and well-being

Target 3.c: Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States.

SDG 4: Quality education

Target 4.b: By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.

SDG 5: Gender equality

Target 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

Target 8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

Target 8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

Target 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

Target 10.c: By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent.

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.

Target 16.9: By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

Target 17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

Source: UN 2018a, 2018b

3.2.2 Expressed research needs related to European issues

The European Commission held a conference in February 2016 on the theme 'Understanding and Tackling the Migration Challenge: The Role of Research'. The purpose of the conference was to explore and demonstrate how European research can support policy-makers in designing effective and sustainable policies and legislation. A summary of what was said at the conference and a compilation of future research needs is provided in the European Commission's report (European Commission 2016).

The future needs for research in migration and integration that were identified were, of course, dependent on the topics discussed and the people who participated in the conference. The identified research needs do, however, show a great diversity and are directed at several different aspects of migration and integration. There is a need for research in several different scientific disciplines (e.g. economics, law, demography, medicine and health) and a need for interdisciplinary research. A need to understand history was also pointed out, as well as better tools and methods for understanding the present and forecasting the future. The European Commission is also calling for research aimed at the State's needs and how policy should be designed, as well as research on how migration and integration are discussed in the media, in politics and in society at large. Research studying migrants' needs and experiences is also being called for. Research needs concern not only specific issues, but also more blanket methodological issues.

A summary of the identified research needs is provided below. The summary is organised according to the conference sessions and topics.

Session 1: Research and Innovation for Evidence-Based Policy

Migration – Facing realities and maximising opportunities

- There is a need for increased understanding of how migration and mobility can be developed, including mobility that is not easily captured through conventional measurement methods and registers.
- There is a need for increased understanding of remittances and not only economic, but also different types of social and political involvement.
- More research is needed on return migration, voluntary and involuntary, what factors influence the decision to return, and what effects return have on the individual and the society.
- More comparative research is needed, including cross-national comparisons.

Looking back: How could research have better anticipated the current migration crisis?

- There is a need for increased understanding of how various geopolitical shocks affect migration flows.
- There is a need for increased understanding of individuals' life cycles and how uncertainty can influence the decision to migrate.
- There is a need for increased understanding of public perception of migration.
- There is a need for increased understanding of the EU system and its rules and regulations concerning migration.
- There is a need for an increased understanding of the challenges and opportunities involved in using research for policy development at the national and international levels.

Looking forward: Future migration trends and research needs for Europe

- There is a need for increased understanding of how various shocks affect migration to Europe.
- There is a need for increased understanding of exploitation and abuse in relation to migration, e.g. trafficking.

- There is a need for increased understanding of how migration is portrayed in public debate, in media and in political discourse. More understanding is also needed on how to counteract misunderstandings and misinformation.
- There is a need for more research examining the migrants' perspectives and experiences, and research examining what happens on site in transit and origin countries.

Session 2: Research and Innovation in Support of Refugees

- There is a need for an increased understanding of how refugees' education and qualifications can be better utilised and matched to labour market needs and needs for continuing professional development.

Session 3: Integration and Societal Impacts of Migration

- There is a need for increased understanding of how issues concerning migration and integration can be discussed, and how this can influence policy framing, etc.
- There is a need for research on historical experiences in order to understand the present and be able to forecast future migration flows.
- There is a need for more statistics and data to conduct longitudinal studies and comparative studies.
- There is a need for increased understanding of the indirect effects of migration, e.g. migration's effects on productivity, working environment and migrants' educational and professional choices.

Session 4: Health and Migration

- There is a need for increased knowledge in order to more rapidly and earlier in the process assess the healthcare needs of migrants so that healthcare providers can provide the right care and adapt resource and infrastructure needs.
- There is a need (and an opportunity) to strengthen data collection to conduct cohorts to e.g. study physical and mental health.
- There is a need for research on migrants' experiences and perspectives (i.e. researching with and not only about migrants).
- There is a need for research about long-term implications of failing to meet healthcare needs within a reasonable amount of time.
- More research is needed on the extent to which healthcare is available for different groups of migrants.

Session 5: Climate Change and Migration

- More research is needed to understand the complex interplay between different factors that can explain migration flows, among other things to enable forecasts of future migration due to climate change. There is a need for a more comprehensive understanding of the drivers of migration, which will likely require an interdisciplinary approach and multiple methods.
- There is a need for research to create strategies and tools to enable societies to better recover from and adapt to climate change.
- There is a need for research to make better risk assessments of areas in the risk zone that may need increased protection.

- There is a need for research on the effects of urbanisation, such as conflicts and over-crowding, which can be caused by climate change.
- There is a need for research about laws and rules related to migration, among other things to protect the rights of migrants.

3.2.3 Expressed research needs related to Nordic issues

NordForsk (2017) has investigated what research themes researchers in the Nordic countries believe will be most important in the future. Table 3 presents the responses of 356 researchers in the Nordic countries to a survey about what research topics Nordic migration and integration research should focus on in the future. The three research themes that received the most votes were 'integration', 'forced migration' and 'labour market'. The research theme 'integration' is of course closely related to other topics, such as 'labour market' and 'education', which demonstrates the difficulty in making strict divisions between research themes. The results also show that research needs are rated equally between migration and integration.

Table 3: Responses from Nordic researchers: future research needs for Nordic migration and integration research

Research theme	Ranking future needs	Ranking current research focus
Integration	1	2
Forced migration	2	10
Labour market	3	1
Governance and law	4	6
Discrimination and racism	5	-
Methodology	6	-
Family and generations	7	3
Gender and sexuality	8	7
Education	9	8
Health and well-being	10	-

Source: NordForsk (2017), own compilation

Note: The topics are ranked from 1 to 10, where 1 is the highest ranking and 10 is the lowest ranking. The ranking is based on how often the different research themes were named by the researchers surveyed. Each researcher might mention several areas (see NordForsk 2017). The research themes listed as current research focus areas but which were not listed as future research needs are 'ethnicity and religion', 'transnationalism' and 'spatial perspectives'.

Table 3 also presents a ranking of current themes in research (based on questionnaire responses, interviews, conference programmes and research grants). Overall, the results show a number of interesting changes concerning current areas of focus and future needs: 'integration' and 'labour market' have a high topicality both now and in the future. The research theme 'forced migration' has moved from tenth place to second place, indicating that the future research need is considered to be significantly higher than the current research focus. The research domains 'discrimination and racism', 'methodology', and 'health and well-being' are themes that only appear on the list of future research needs. It is thus believed that these areas will be of greater importance in the future, in comparison with the current focus areas. NordForsk (2017) interprets the researchers' responses to future research needs as reflecting recent developments with a high proportion of refugee immigration and rising xenophobia.

In conjunction with the survey, NordForsk (2017) conducted interviews with 56 researchers in the field of migration and integration, all of whom work in a Nordic country. The responses from these interviews supplement the questionnaire survey

and aim to provide a more nuanced picture of the future research needs. In terms of methodology, the desire was expressed for theoretical development towards harmonisation of key concepts. There was also a need to better combine quantitative and qualitative methods, and a need for more comparative and longitudinal studies. The interviews also express a need to study issues in new ways, e.g. through increased study of migrants' different backgrounds, migrants' family situations and networks, and migrants' establishment in urban and rural environments. There was also a need for increased understanding of how the media influences e.g. xenophobia.

3.2.4 Expressed research needs related to Swedish issues

Delmi (the Migration Studies Delegation) is an independent Swedish committee that has been tasked by the Government to initiate research studies and convey research findings to provide data for future migration policy decisions and to contribute to the public debate. With this assignment, Delmi can thus provide an example of a Swedish perspective on research needs in migration and integration. Delmi emphasises that migration to and from Sweden is largely influenced by events and processes in other parts of the world, and that migration issues must be illuminated from several different directions, e.g. from the perspectives of the receiving country, the sending country, and the migrants. In order to delimit their mission to a certain extent, Delmi has decided to prioritise studies within the following five overall thematic areas for the 2017-2020 period (Delmi 2017e):

- 1) Migration and development
- 2) Labour market
- 3) Society
- 4) Democracy
- 5) Regulations

The *migration and development* area deals with economic resources, health and education, but also with inclusion, rights and freedom from violence and oppression based on a development perspective. Issues that should be studied further include global labour rights, health and education, aid and migration due to climate and environmental change. More research is also needed on 'circular' migration and migration between low-income countries.

As a common reason for migration is opportunities for better work and income, the second focus area is *labour market*. According to Delmi (2017e), more studies are needed on the establishment of migrants on the Swedish labour market and the labour market effects of immigration. More knowledge is needed on recruitment processes, technological developments and new skills requirements, the importance of work placement training, further education and language skills, and working environment and health. A more long-term perspective is also needed to evaluate the current policy, for example based on population forecasts and employment trends. Conditions in Sweden should also be compared with developments in the Nordic countries and OECD countries, and in relation to the migrants' countries of origin.

The third area, *society*, is about the effects of migration on the society in the form of e.g. mistrust and fear of the effects of immigration on culture, welfare and national identity. Issues prioritised in this area concern overall social aspects of migration, attitudes and values, language and culture, and social inclusion and social

trust, as well as issues concerning diversity and social institutions (e.g. childcare, schools, healthcare, civil society, the leisure industry and religious communities).

The fourth area, *democracy* refers to the link between democracy, political participation and integration. People with foreign backgrounds have a lower voter turnout in national parliamentary elections than other groups, and are also less represented in the political parties and civil society organisations. In this area, issues of election participation, representation, political involvement, democracy and citizenship are prioritised. The area also includes issues of inclusion/exclusion and hate crimes with xenophobic and racist motives. Comparative analyses and differences and similarities between Nordic countries and EU countries would be pertinent.

The fifth and final thematic area is *regulations*, which is important for e.g. the composition and scope of migration and the situations of migrants, but also presents challenges for the legal institutions. In this area, it is important to evaluate policy reforms. Because this area spans the other four thematic areas, it is important to highlight the interplay, coordination and consensus between the different policy areas at national, regional and local levels.

Delmi's prioritisation of studies and projects is based on an assessment of knowledge needs, research situation and relevance to policy. Delmi publishes studies in the five thematic areas above, and compiles and popularises existing Swedish and international research (Delmi 2017e).

From a Swedish perspective, it is also of interest to consider knowledge needs in municipalities, counties and regions, which have a great responsibility for the practical work with the reception of asylum seekers and refugees. The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) has produced an 'Agenda for Integration', which contains 65 items with proposals to the Government (SKL 2017). Several of the items concern the need for research and knowledge. The need for knowledge includes developing reception forecasts, analysing the effects of laws and initiatives such as the Introduction Programme, and following up on mental illness and substance abuse among newly arrived (items 19, 27, 28, 57, 58 and 64). SALAR also argues that funding needs to be allocated for research and development to generate more knowledge about how reception works and how it creates better conditions for successful integration (item 65). According to SALAR (2017, page 32), research should be based on a broad societal perspective and relate to issues that concern local and regional development, initiatives to promote growth, social work, digitalisation, and community development and planning.

3.3 Input from the dialogue meeting organized by the research programme

In November 2017, the Swedish Research Council held a dialogue meeting aimed at taking stock of research needs and research opportunities in the area of migration and integration, in order to provide input to the strategic research agenda.

Representatives from the research community, Government Offices, public authorities and civil society who either conduct research or work out in the field with migration and/or integration were invited to participate in the dialogue meeting. The questions discussed were:

- What are the key challenges in migration and integration, both today and in the future, and in which areas should research be conducted?

- How can research best be communicated to practitioners/people working in the field?
- How can researchers better utilise knowledge from practitioners?

The programme for the dialogue meeting consisted of a presentation of the national research programme within migration and integration and the work with the strategic research agenda. This was followed by presentations by Joakim Palme (Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Migration Studies Delegation), Annika Sundén (PhD in Economics and Chief Analyst at the Swedish Public Employment Service), and Lisa Salmonsson (Senior Lecturer in Sociology and Chair of the IMER Association), under the common theme ‘challenges in the area of migration and integration’. Group discussions and discussions in a plenary session were then held on the challenges and research needs in migration and integration. Presentations, discussions and input collected at the dialogue meeting from researchers, practitioners and panel members have been documented and provided valuable contributions to the work with the research agenda (a brief summary of the dialogue meeting is presented on the Swedish Research Council website: www.vr.se/NFPmigint.) Below is a summary of input on key issues for each question.

3.3.1 What are the key challenges in migration and integration, both today and in the future, and in which areas should research be conducted?

A number of the issues that arose related to the reception system for the new arrivals in Sweden, e.g. questions concerning how the reception should be designed and how the reception affects mental health. Another key question was to what extent the asylum process is legally secure. There is also a need to study mechanisms behind migration, phenomena such as circular migration (i.e. when the migrant does not stay in a country but moves back), and knowledge about the people who choose to come to Sweden. A demand was also expressed for studies of the implications of return, both voluntary and forced. It would also be interesting to compile experiences from the 2015 refugee crisis. Another need for knowledge that emerged, was the effect of regulations on the situation of migrants.

In terms of research on integration and introduction, several emphasised that integration is so much more than establishment on the labour market. It is also about integration in e.g. school and childcare. There is therefore a need to study and evaluate various integration efforts, e.g. school integration, and measures and coordination between the authorities. It is also relevant to study integration in different groups, e.g. women, unaccompanied minors, older persons, HBTQ persons, persons with disabilities or persons who live in vulnerable areas. Other issues raised were how opportunities for integration are affected by discrimination on e.g. the housing market and the labour market, as well as possible discrimination in dealings with public authorities such as the police and social services. One issue that is discussed extensively on social media is migration linked to crime, and there is thus a need for knowledge in this area. Another issue raised was the lower participation of foreign-born individuals in cultural activities and what implications this has for integration and general education.

Regarding methodological issues, questions were posed as to how migration should be defined and how long a person can be considered to be a migrant. It was also expressed that it is difficult to identify and study undocumented migrants and

people who have recently arrived in Sweden. There is therefore a need to develop methods so that the research can cover all groups of migrants.

3.3.2 How can research be communicated to practitioners and how can researchers better utilise knowledge from practitioners?

Several people expressed at the dialogue meeting that there is a need for meetings between researchers and practitioners concerning issues of migration and integration. The civil society, for example, is very involved in migration and integration and also possesses a great deal of knowledge and experience. The Swedish Research Council's dialogue meeting for the research programme within migration and integration is a good example of an arena in which researchers and practitioners can meet. It was expressed, however, that it is important to use the structures that already exist and to develop them. There are actors, Delmi for instance, whose mission is to form a bridge between research and public debate.

From the researchers' perspective, a stronger interaction between researchers and practitioners would likely be able to provide not only suggestions and ideas for research, but also a network of practitioners who could assist with e.g. making contact with undocumented migrants or people who return to the country of origin. It is often difficult for researchers to find out about studies conducted by e.g. civil society, and improved communication may be needed here. One way to increase the interaction between researchers and practitioners could be to exchange or share jobs. Researchers could take a shared or temporary position at a government agency and people who work at government agencies could participate to a greater extent in research projects. Examples of exchanges already exist for e.g. externally employed doctoral students and for employees conducting clinical research.

Practitioners (public agencies, civil society, etc.) often have a need to access research to develop their activities, e.g. on how to counteract exclusion in vulnerable areas. It is therefore not unusual for practitioners to procure reports from researchers. Several practitioners argue, however, that it can be difficult to access research and that there is a need for education and outreach/popular science publications. One concrete proposal was to arrange 'hackathons' or innovation workshops, in which practitioners and researchers are invited to work together to seek solutions to current problems and challenges.

Researchers thereby have a need for interaction with practitioners to get ideas for research, while practitioners can in some instances assist in the carrying out of research. Practitioners in turn need research in order to develop their activities. Examples of initiatives to strengthen the interaction between researchers and practitioners include conferences, networks and joint workshops to seek solutions to societal challenges, and improved communication of researchers' and practitioners' activities, e.g. education and outreach/popular science publications, as well as job exchanges and shared employment positions.

3.4 Current Sweden-based research in migration and integration

This section provides a general description of what characterises Sweden-based research on migration and integration. This description is based on the research overview provided in Appendix 3. The purpose of the research overview is to paint a picture of contemporary migration and integration research in order to get an idea of the extent and diversity of Sweden-based research.

3.4.1 Approach

A number of considerations went into the production of the research overview. One difficulty is that the research domain cannot or should not be further pre-defined, considering that the research programme has the mission of highlighting all aspects of migration and integration. This said, it is impossible from a practical perspective to compile in a short period of time all of the different research areas that may exist. As long as the research overview is able to capture the trends in the research being conducted, however, the objective of the overview has been met, i.e. to provide a general description of the diversity of the research being conducted. The research overview has been limited, however, to Sweden-based research, i.e. research conducted in Sweden. This of course includes research on more than only Swedish conditions and research that is published in international journals.

To survey the Sweden-based research, research environments (research centres and research teams) and the research conducted there were first identified. This was supplemented with various literature searches and with input from experts affiliated with the research programme within migration and integration. The research was subsequently categorised into different themes (taking into account other existing thematisations). The research overview ultimately resulted in the following five themes:

- 1) International migration: causes and effects
- 2) Policy and regulations
- 3) Labour market and housing market
- 4) Public institutions and participation in democracy (incl. school, health, social services and legal system)
- 5) Media, culture and identity.

For detailed information about these themes and their contents, see Appendix 3.

3.4.2 Characteristics of current Sweden-based research

The Sweden-based research on migration and integration is characterised by a great diversity. This diversity is expressed in (i) a multitude of issues studied, (ii) a multitude of scientific disciplines used, (iii) often being very interdisciplinary, (iv) a multitude of methods applied, as well as (v) a multitude of countries being studied. The Sweden-based research thus seems to be relevant to societal challenges in a broad sense.

That the research on migration and integration consists of a variety of different research orientations and issues, is not least evident from the various themes presented above. That the research is interdisciplinary is exemplified by e.g. the occurrence of the research field IMER (international migration and ethnic relations), which comprises its own field of research and also has its own SCB code (standard for Swedish classification of research subject, Statistics Sweden and Swedish Higher Education Authority 2016). Another example is that within research on integration and health, there are researchers in medicine, public health science, demography, sociology and other social sciences. The fact that many different scientific disciplines are represented also testifies to the fact that several different scientific methods are used, both quantitative and qualitative. The access in Sweden to high-quality register data and longitudinal data is an important research infrastructure for the research domain. The domain is also characterised by not being limited geographically, as the research topics are often global.

In a comparison with research published in the international Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies (JEMS), Sweden-based research is also found to make similar thematisations and ask similar questions as in international research.

The area that could be encouraged and developed further is to increase interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary cooperation, and to base analyses to a greater extent on a combination of e.g. quantitative and qualitative methods. This includes making use of the high-quality statistics available in Sweden, which is an asset for the research domain.

3.5 Input from the Scientific Council and committee

The Swedish Research Council has a number of Scientific Councils and committees in which active researchers in a number of different subject areas are represented. The Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences and the Committee for Development Research have provided input to the research agenda. The Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences would like to, in addition to the research needs expressed above, also stress the importance of research on health, history and language. The Council emphasises the importance of different health perspectives, as differences in health status between domestic-born and foreign-born individuals are often considerable, as is health status between different migrant groups. This includes everything from access to healthcare and nursing care to the incidence of illness, diseases and disorders such as post-traumatic stress or depression. The Council also emphasised that historical research can provide insight and perspectives on current migration flows and integration issues as this can shed light on earlier conditions and what influenced a certain outcome at that time. Another research need highlighted by the Scientific Council is research on languages, as there are a number of language ideological aspects to study. This concerns not least how society views language skills and language requirements.

The Committee for Development Research stresses the importance of research on the link between migration and development, on migration between low-income countries, and on the role global organisations can play in issues related to migration. This includes questions about 'push factors', i.e. factors that prompt migrants to leave their countries of origin, and 'pull factors', i.e. factors that prompt migrants to choose a specific receiving country. As concerns what affects migration flows, it is relevant, for example, to study the link between internal and international migration, as well as how migration is influenced by urbanisation, economic transformation and armed conflict. More research is also needed on how climate factors interact with other factors that drive migration. There is also a need for more research on the impact of today's information and communication technology and the use of social media, which provide extensive information to migrants and potential migrants. Other key issues concern diaspora and transnationalism, and how migration can influence development in both the country of origin and the receiving country.

Another big issue is the international cooperation and management of migration. Because migration is a global phenomenon, the issue of handling migration flows and migrants is of current relevance in most places in the world. More research is needed on the actors who are involved in the management of migration and integration and how these actors interact with each other; for example, government agencies (including the police and military) in countries of origin, transit countries and receiving countries, actors in civil society and actors providing information and means of transport along migration routes (including smugglers). There is also a

need for more research on how migration might be governed and managed at the regional or global level. This applies particularly within the UN, whose work on the migration front is extensive.

3.6 Conclusions

This chapter has provided a general overview of the current challenges and knowledge needs in the area of migration and integration.

Based on the research needs expressed by various national and international organisations, and on the research needs that emerged from the research programme's dialogue meeting, it is clear that there is a great need for knowledge and research in a number of different areas. This concerns a multitude of issues, a multitude of scientific disciplines and areas, and a multitude of different types of research in terms of both basic research and more applied and policy-oriented research. Due to this multitude of issues, it is difficult to single out just a few areas that are in particularly urgent need of research. Several research themes are recurrent, however, such as the needs for research into the causes of migration, migration caused by climate change and environmental impact, migrants in the labour market, the health of migrants, causes of xenophobia, and the effects of policies and regulations. There are also a number of recurrent areas as concerns research design: the need for comparative studies (e.g. comparisons of countries), for combining quantitative and qualitative methods, for developing data for e.g. longitudinal studies, and for more extensive study from the migrants' perspective.

Another recurrent area was the need for better data, though in different ways as global data is usually considerably poorer than Swedish data. In light of the differences that exist between both domestic-born and foreign-born as well as between men and women in different parts of society, and in line with the research programme's goal to contribute to gender equality, it can also be relevant to promote research that studies these types of issues.

The Sweden-based research is characterised by great diversity and thus seems to have good prerequisites to tackle the various research needs discussed in this chapter. There seems to be a need to strengthen the field of research in a broad sense, e.g. to further interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary cooperation, and to combine quantitative and qualitative methods to a greater extent. It is also important to further build on the strengths of the research domain, for example by taking advantage of the high-quality statistics available in Sweden.

4. Existing initiatives and actors

This chapter contains an overview of existing funding of research in migration and integration, and of actors working to promote accessibility and dissemination of research in the area. This chapter therefore consists of two sections: an overview of research funding and an overview of actors working to promote accessibility and dissemination of research findings. Due to the broad scope of the research domain, the purpose of the overview is not to provide an exhaustive description of all actors, but rather to get an initial sense of the scope of existing initiatives and actors. Based on this overview, the chapter then examines how the research programme can complement and coordinate with other initiatives and actors in the field. This will enable the programme to avoid unwanted overlaps.

4.1 Research funding

4.1.1 Research funding in Sweden

Private and public research funding bodies

Funding for research on migration and integration can be obtained from several different research funding bodies in Sweden. One way to determine which research funding bodies have funded research in the area in Sweden is to search in the SweCRIS database. The SweCRIS database contains information from twelve different research funding bodies and how they have allocated funding to recipients in Sweden. The database contains the following governmental and private research funding bodies: Swedish Energy Agency, European Union (Horizon 2020, from year 2014), Formas (Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning), Forte (Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare), IFAU² (Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy), Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences, Ragnar Söderberg Foundation (from 2011), Swedish National Space Agency, Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research, the Swedish Research Council, Vinnova and Foundation for Baltic and East European Studies (SweCRIS 2018).

A search in SweCRIS using various keywords for migration and integration in the project title and abstract shows that seven of the twelve research funding bodies have funded research in this area. The following research funding bodies were identified: Formas, Forte, IFAU, the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences, the Swedish Research Council, Vinnova and the Foundation for Baltic and East European Studies (see Table 4). An estimated 52 projects have been funded for a total of SEK 200 million. It should be noted, however, that the migration and integration field of research is extensive and thereby difficult to encircle using single keywords. Research on e.g. immigrants' establishment on the labour market does not necessarily use words such as 'integration' or 'migration' in the title and abstract. The 52 projects identified in the search is thus probably an underestimation

²IFAU works to promote, support and through research perform follow-ups and evaluations. IFAU's activities are funded through government grants that IFAU's personnel compete with other researchers for (IFAU 2018b). IFAU is therefore considered a research funding body.

of the true number of funded projects that have a connection to migration and integration. The results of the search do show, however, that several different research funding bodies have funded research in migration and integration, both public and private. These research funding bodies will likely in the future also fund projects in migration and integration.

Table 4: Estimation of research funding bodies that have financed research in migration and/or integration 2008-2017.

Research funding body	Number of grants in migration and/or integration	Total funding (SEK)
Formas	1	316,600
Forte	19	63,819,000
IFAU	2	540,000
Foundation for Baltic and East European Studies	2	9,581,790
Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences	6	11,916,999
Vinnova	4	3,313,246
Swedish Research Council	18	108,409,810
Total	52	200,746,845

Source: SweCRIS

Note: Search in SweCRIS performed 5 December 2017. Keywords used (Swedish and English): *Emigra%, Etabler%, Flykt%, Gräns%, Immigra%, Integr%, Integra%, Invandr%, Labour migra%, Medborg%, Migra%, Multicultur%, Nyanländ%, Transnational migr% (Transnationell migra%)*. The search included both title and abstract. After reading through the title and abstract, the search results were then manually screened to ensure that the project did fall within the area of migration and/or integration. Possible grant types are: *Project support, Employments and scholarships, Research environments, Infrastructure, International collaboration, EU funding and Unclassified grants*.

The majority of the research funding identified above has not been provided within the scope of calls thematically focused on migration and integration. Of the research funding bodies listed above, Forte has had the most pronounced focus on supporting research in migration and integration. Forte has been tasked by the Government to coordinate national research in international migration and ethnic relations (IMER). This work aims at creating an overview of the research conducted, identifying knowledge gaps and helping to ensure that the research findings benefit society (Forte 2017c). In 2016, Forte also announced a call focused on migration and

integration within the scope of a call for programme funding in strategic research areas (Forte 2018).

The ten-year national research programme

The review of SweCRIS shows extensive support for research on migration and integration. The majority of the research funding was done within calls that are not directly thematically limited to these particular themes. Due to the breadth of the research domain, it is likely that research funding in this area will continue to be provided within the scope of calls focused on other areas, including the other ten-year national research programmes launched in 2017 (Ministry of Education and Research 2017a).

The national research programmes that most clearly adjoin and to some extent overlap with the programme within migration and integration are the programmes on Sustainable Spatial Planning Research (Formas), Climate (Formas), Working Life (Forte) and Applied Welfare (Forte). The most obvious link is with the programme on working life research, in which the Government has highlighted migration and integration as a challenge to the development of working life (Government Bill 2016/17:50, page 92). However, the migration and integration research area has points of contact with all of the national research programmes. Coordination and cooperation between the national research programmes will therefore be of great importance in counteracting unwanted overlaps. Cooperation and coordination are primarily intended between the programme committees and through the group of secretaries general created by Forte, Formas and the Swedish Research Council with the aim of coordinating the different research programmes.

4.1.2 Research funding in Europe

NordForsk

NordForsk is an organisation under the Nordic Council of Ministers which aims to strengthen research in the Nordic countries by funding Nordic research, cooperation and infrastructure (NordForsk 2018). NordForsk's work is funded through an annual allocation of about DKK 120 million from the Nordic Council of Ministers as well as possible additional funding from national sources, primarily from various research councils in the Nordic countries. In addition to funding research, cooperation and infrastructure, NordForsk also produces studies in various areas. One example is NordForsk (2017), which is a study of future needs for research in the Nordic countries in the area of migration and integration.

NordForsk decided in 2017 to fund research in migration and integration and asked a number of research funding bodies in the Nordic countries if they would like to support this initiative. The Swedish Research Council has decided, within the scope of the national programme within migration and integration, to contribute research funding for NordForsk's call (for more information, see Chapter 5).

Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 is the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. The framework programme extends over seven years (2014-2020) and comprises about 80 billion euros in available funding (European Commission 2017a). Horizon 2020 consists of three main pillars: Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges. In addition to the three pillars, there are also programmes outside the main focus areas (Vinnova 2017a).

Research on migration and integration is included in Horizon 2020 in several ways. The European Commission emphasises migration in particular as one of several ‘cross-cutting priorities’, which means that migration will be addressed horizontally within several areas (European Commission 2017b). The programme that is most clearly oriented towards migration and integration is Societal Challenge 6 ‘Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective societies’. The work programme for the 2018-2020 period consists of three calls, the first of which relates to research on migration. The call for migration consists of three topics; see Table 5. The call includes research on migration flows, governance, social and economic effects of migration and unaccompanied minors (European Commission 2017c).

Table 5: Subject areas in Call – Migration, Societal Challenges 6, Horizon 2020 for 2018-2019

MIGRATION-01-2019: Understanding migration mobility patterns: elaborating mid and long-term migration scenarios
MIGRATION-02-2018: Towards forward-looking migration governance: addressing the challenges, assessing capacities and designing future strategies
MIGRATION-03-2019: Social and economic effects of migration in Europe and integration policies
MIGRATION-05-2018-2020: Mapping and overcoming integration challenges for migrant children
DT-MIGRATION-06-2018-2019: Addressing the challenge of migrant integration through ICT-enabled solutions
MIGRATION-07-2019: International protection of refugees in a comparative perspective
MIGRATION-08-2018: Addressing the challenge of forced displacement

Source: European Commission (2017c)

Horizon 2020 is the EU’s eighth framework programme for research and innovation and runs until 2020. At the time the research agenda was written (spring 2018), the first draft of the EU’s ninth framework programme (FP9 – Horizon Europe) had been published. Migration and integration continue to have a prominent role, and this is seen particularly in the cluster ‘Inclusive and secure societies’ (European Commission (2018). It has also been expressed that migration and integration could even be included in ‘missions’ (ALLEA et al. 2017).

NORFACE and HERA

NORFACE (New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe) is a partnership between research funding bodies in Europe to create opportunities for researchers in the social sciences. The organisation consists of national research funding bodies, including the Swedish Research Council, from 19 European countries. NORFACE arranges research programme calls and seminar series. The funding is provided by the various national research funding bodies and

from the European Commission. Because there are a number of co-funders, the European Commission and the participating parties can get more in exchange for their funding (NORFACE 2018).

From 2009 to 2014, NORFACE had a programme for research and intellectual exchange on migration. Migration in Europe: Social, economic, cultural and policy dynamics. The purpose of the programme was to promote excellent research, utilise experiences in Europe, strengthen the field of research and increase understanding of how research can be used in practical applications and in policy development. The programme resulted, among other things, in conferences and workshops, interaction between researchers and practitioners and production of new data, as well as new research. The Swedish Research Council co-funded the programme (NORFACE 2017).

HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area) is a partnership between 24 research funding bodies in Europe aimed at establishing the humanities disciplinary research domain in European research and in the European Commission's framework programme for research. The Swedish Research Council is a member of HERA. HERA's calls are funded by the various national research funding bodies and by the European Commission (HERA 2018a).

HERA has an ongoing research programme entitled 'Public Spaces: Culture and Integration in Europe.' The research programme is aimed at creating a better understanding of the relationship between culture and integration in the public space. The research projects are planned to start in 2019 (HERA 2018b).

Joint Programming Initiative (JPI)

Joint Programming Initiatives are a way for EU Member States to work together on a voluntary basis to address major societal challenges by developing and working under a common vision and strategic research agenda. The programme aims to coordinate national research funding to better utilise Europe's research resources in order to more effectively tackle societal challenges. There are currently ten JPIs and all were launched between 2008 and 2011. None of these are specifically focused on migration and integration (European Commission 2017d).

There have been discussions about starting an eleventh JPI on migration, migrants and integration (abbreviated MMIJPI). These discussions have not yet gained sufficiently broad political support for a new JPI to be started. The most engaged countries³ have therefore begun to explore the opportunities of working together to initiate a smaller form of cooperation, e.g. with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and a call. The aim of this is to begin coordination of MMI research in Europe and to create a platform for possible future JPI (GPC ad-hoc Task Force MMI 2017).

4.2 Promoting the accessibility and dissemination of research findings

The research programme within migration and integration consists of two main focus areas: initiating and supporting the production of new research, as well as making accessible, disseminating and promoting the use of new and existing research. This section therefore contains (i) a description of various initiatives to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings, and (ii) an

³ Italy, France, Sweden, Norway and Greece.

overview of actors working to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings on migration and integration. Due to the scope of the research domain, the overview is not exhaustive. The purpose of the overview is to get an idea of the scope of the actors and to identify potential partners for the research programme.

4.2.1 Initiatives to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research results.

General information about promoting research accessibility and dissemination

‘Accessibility’ means that the research is made available to a larger audience, e.g. through publication in a scientific journal. ‘Dissemination’ means that the research is spread to certain target audiences, e.g. via seminars, conferences, or via newsletters and direct mail. ‘Accessibility’ can thus be seen as a first essential step in making it possible for the research to be read and used, while ‘dissemination’ is a more active pursuit directed at specific target groups.

For research to come to use, it is not enough that it is made accessible and disseminated, however. The recipient must also (i) access the information, (ii) understand its contents, (iii) reflect on its conclusions, and then (iv) act, i.e. use the research. For the recipients to access the research, the recipients must see a need for knowledge and research as a means to e.g. develop policy and practice. In this work, it is important to have an understanding of the recipients’ different needs and possibilities of accessing the research.

Based on the research programme’s mission statement, three main target groups can be identified: policy and administration, higher education and the research community (Ministry of Education and Research 2017a, 2017b). ‘Policy and administration’ refers to practitioners, politicians, decision-makers, government officials, etc. who in one way or another can benefit from research and knowledge in the exercise of their profession. ‘Higher education’ refers to the goal to contribute to a strong research basis in higher education, with the expectation that students will take this knowledge out into society and thereby contribute to addressing societal challenges. ‘Research community’ refers to that research will inspire and give rise to new research. In addition to these three target groups, there are of course other target groups, e.g. civil society and the public. The users are an important part in the chain of causation, not only because they are those who cause the research to be used to meet societal challenges, but also because they can provide feedback and input to generate new research.

Potential initiatives here include facilitating both researchers’ access to specific target groups and practitioners’ ability to communicate their knowledge needs to researchers. Ideally, the communication between researchers and practitioners is a dialogue and not one-way communication. One need expressed at the research programme’s dialogue meeting (see Section 3.3) was for a clearer arena for dialogue between researchers and practitioners, in a format similar to that of the dialogue meeting, for example. One interesting option, which was submitted in the research agenda’s referral process, was to arrange a conference to present the research that had received funding from the research programme. The main channel through which the research findings will reach students in higher education is the researchers themselves, through their publication in journals and books that are available to students, and through their direct encounters with the students through teaching. It is conceivable, however, that in the future the research programme will also make

more targeted efforts to contribute to the link between research and higher education. This can be something that is explored in more detail during an update and augmentation of the strategic research agenda.

In light of the need to promote the accessibility and dissemination of migration research, the Swedish Research Council has made it a requirement in some of the calls under the research programme that the applicant specify how the research will be disseminated. In the call carried out in cooperation with NordForsk in the summer and autumn of 2018, applicants were also encouraged to cooperate with practitioners in particular to reach out with research findings.

The Swedish Research Council's work to promote accessibility and dissemination of research findings

The Swedish Research Council works in a number of ways to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings, e.g. by stipulating that researchers who receive funding from the Swedish Research Council must publish with open access. Open access publishing means that research findings are free to read and download from the Internet. The researchers can either publish their findings in online journals that allow open access or, after publishing in a traditional journal, upload the research to an open and searchable database (for more information, see Swedish Research Council 2018c).

The Swedish Research Council also works to promote accessibility and dissemination of research findings through its work with research communication, which is one of the Council's main tasks and activities (the others are research funding, research infrastructure and research policy). The Swedish Research Council has been given overall responsibility for the coordination of communication about research and research findings, and for communication about research and research findings within their areas (Ordinance 2009:975). In recent years, the Swedish Research Council's research communication has been focused on (Swedish Research Council 2017):

- Cooperating with other major research funding bodies and higher education institutions
- Supporting a number of already established events and journals
- Supporting a number of new events, conferences and seminars
- Driving and developing a number of the Council's own channels and arenas
- Participating in courses and lectures on request.

Examples of activities include: forskning.se (which publishes new research findings), Curie (an online journal on research), Expertanswer (for e.g. journalists wishing to contact Swedish researchers and experts), the International Science Festival in Gothenburg (event to reach out with research to new groups), and arranging seminars to inspire researchers to communicate with the surrounding society (Swedish Research Council 2017).

The Swedish Research Council also works to promote research accessibility and dissemination by arranging seminars and conferences on a number of different subjects. In collaboration with the Institute for Future Studies, the Swedish Research Council holds a series of seminars entitled 'Public Talks' in which researchers and practitioners discuss current research issues (Swedish Research Council 2018b).

The Swedish Research Council thus works in several different ways to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings in general, and an important

question is how the research programme should work to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings on migration and integration. In order to answer that question, we need an overview of existing actors and initiatives, which is discussed in the next section.

4.2.2 Actors who work to promote accessibility and dissemination of research on migration and integration

This section contains an overview of actors working to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings on migration and integration. The section aims to provide an understanding of the scope of the actors in this area and to identify potential partners for the research programme.

A list of actors working to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research on migration and integration is provided in Table 6. The table is based on a list of links on the Delmi website (Delmi 2017c) and then supplemented with national and international actors who were identified in the work with the research agenda, e.g. through the referral process.

Table 6 shows that there are a large number of actors working to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research on migration and integration. The table includes government agencies, research centres and institutes, think tanks and various international organisations. The table contains organisations that work primarily with migration and integration, e.g. Delmi, REMESO and the Swedish Migration Agency, but also organisations whose activities only partly relate to migration and integration, e.g. the Swedish Work Environment Authority, the Public Health Agency of Sweden and the Swedish Research Council for Sport Science. This range of organisations demonstrates that migration and integration is an area that affects large parts of society. It also means that it is difficult to provide an exhaustive overview of the actors in the area. Table 6 makes no claim to being exhaustive either, but instead aims to provide an orientation to actors in the area of migration and integration.

To provide a general introduction to the different actors, they can be grouped as follows:

- 1) Actors that largely work to produce new research (e.g. researchers, universities and colleges)
- 2) Actors that largely work to promote accessibility and dissemination of existing research findings (e.g. networks, forums and think tanks)
- 3) Actors that work to produce new knowledge and compile and disseminate existing research findings (e.g. certain government agencies).

The first group consists of researchers, research institutes, universities, colleges, etc. that have producing research and making it accessible and disseminating it as one of their primary tasks. This research is disseminated to both practitioners and other researchers, and is mainly focused on disseminating the research that they produce themselves.

The second group consists of actors who work to compile and present existing research findings, often with practitioners as their target group. These actors thereby function as ‘bridge-builders’ between researchers and practitioners, and include actors who work with conferences and seminars.

The third group consists of a combination of the other two groups, as they work both to produce new research and to compile existing research, while also focusing

on researchers and practitioners as well as decision-makers. This group includes certain government agencies, whose reports often include research or are based on scientific methods, while also aiming to be used as advice for policy and decision-making. This group thereby works mainly with scientific advice (see e.g. European Commission 2015, OECD 2015b, and Gluckman 2016).

The research programme's work to promote research accessibility and dissemination can be directed at all three groups, though in slightly different ways. For the first group, this is mostly about assisting researchers to promote the accessibility and dissemination of their research. For groups two and three, it is more about identifying who the actors are and investigating how the research programme can complement or cooperate with these actors. The research programme also comprises an arena for bringing together these three types of groups. Through continued dialogue seminars, the interplay between the three groups can be augmented and utilised in both the design of research and in making research accessible.

Delmi is probably the Sweden-based actor listed in Table 6 with the most obvious mission to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research results in migration and integration. Delmi's mission is to initiate studies and communicate research in the area of migration and integration with the aim of enabling research findings to be used as supporting documentation in political decisions concerning migration and to contribute to public debate (Delmi 2017a). Delmi has, for example, arranged the seminar 'The refugee crisis – a regional and global challenge' (Delmi 2017b) and published the report 'The political influence of anti-immigration parties in Europe' (Tyrberg and Dahlström, 2017) and 'Immigration in the media – how did Swedish newspapers report 2010-2015? Report and Policy Brief' (Strömbäck, Andersson and Nedlund, 2017).

Another government agency with a clear mission in migration and integration is Forte, which in addition to funding research also works to disseminate research findings. Examples of activities and publications are the reports 'Research brief: Segregation – What it is and how it can be measured' (Andersson et al. 2017) and 'Newly arrived child immigrants and the Swedish arrival structure' (Zetterqvist Nelson and Hagström, 2016).

In addition to Delmi and Forte, there are a number of other government agencies working to produce information and knowledge on migration and integration. The Swedish Migration Agency, for example, is tasked with analysing, following up and evaluating factors of significance for the agency's activities (Ordinance 2007:996). The Swedish Migration Agency provides e.g. statistics on the number of asylum seekers and the number of granted residence permits (Swedish Migration Agency 2017a, 2017b). Statistics Sweden compiles statistics and analyses on e.g. population projections, including forecasts of immigration and emigration, and information sheets on integration (Statistics Sweden 2016, 2017c). IFAU (Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy) works to evaluate the effects of labour market policy and to disseminate knowledge about the institute's activities (IFAU 2018a). IFAU has, for example, produced a report on the establishment of refugees and close relative immigrants in the Swedish labour market (IFAU 2017). Sida (the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency) works to reduce poverty in the world. Sida works to inform and discuss the role of aid in migration and development (Sida 2018).

In summary, there are thus a great number of different organisations that work in one way or another to promote the accessibility and dissemination of knowledge on migration and integration. This also means that the research programme should

primarily be focused on cooperating with the actors that exist, and that there are many potential partners for the research programme.

Table 6: Examples of actors working to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings on migration and integration

Government agencies, municipalities and county councils

Swedish Public Employment Service
Swedish Work Environment Authority
The Migration Studies Delegation (Delmi)
The Public Health Agency of Sweden
Forte (Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare)
Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy (IFAU)
Swedish Migration Agency
Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency)
Swedish National Agency for Education
National Board of Health and Welfare
Statistics Sweden (SCB)
Universities and colleges
Swedish Higher Education Authority (UKÄ)
Municipalities and county councils, local and regional R&D units

Swedish research institutes and networks

Barnafrid, Linköping University
Children, Migration & Integration (CMI), Stockholm University
Centre for Health Equity Studies (CHESS)
Swedish Research Council for Sport Science
Centre for Multidisciplinary Studies on Racism, Uppsala University
Centre on Global Migration (CGM), University of Gothenburg
IMER Association
Institute for Housing and Urban Research (IBF)
Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society (REMESO)
Institute for Future Studies
The Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI)
Malmö Institute for Studies of Migration, Diversity and Welfare
The Multicultural Centre (MKC)
Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies (Sieps)
Swedish Institute for Global Health Transformation (SIGHT)
Stockholm University Linnaeus Center for Integration Studies (SULCIS)
The Swedish Institute of International Affairs (UI)

Swedish think tanks, forums and meeting places

Arena Idé
Forum for Reforms, Entrepreneurship and Sustainability (Fores)
Global Utmaning (Global Challenge)
Nordic Welfare Centre

Centre for Business and Policy Studies – Forum for Integration Policy (SNS)

International organisations and networks

Environmental Migration Portal

United Nations Population Division

Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD)

Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development

Global Migration Group

International Labour Organization (ILO)

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Network of Excellence in the domain of International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion (IMISCOE)

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

United Nations University Migration Network

World Bank

World Health Organization (WHO)

EU organisations and networks

EMN – European Migration Network

Knowledge Center for Migration and Demography (KCMD)

EUROSTAT

Council of the European Union

European Commission

European Parliament

Research centres and think tanks in other countries

Centre for Advanced Migration Studies (AMIS)

Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM)

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI)

Center for Migration Studies (CMS)

Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration (CReAM)

Centre for Research on Ethnic Relations and Nationalism (CEREN)

Center for the Study of Migration and Diversity (CoMID)

Centre on Migration, Policy & Society (Compas)

Culture and Mental Health Research Unit, McGill University

European Policy Centre

European Research Centre on Migration and Ethnic Relations (ERCOMER)

Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network

Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma

Institute for the Study of International Migration (Georgetown University)

International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

Institute for Migration & Ethnic Studies (IMES)

Institute for Security Studies (ISS)

Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA Bonn)

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)
International Migration Research Centre (IMRC)
International Migration Institute (Oxford)
London Migration Research Group (LMRG)
Maastricht Centre for Citizenship, Migration and Development (MACIMIDE)
Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX)
Migration Policy Centre (MPC)
Migration Policy Institute (MPI)
Nordic Migration Research (NMR)
NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS)
Odysseus Network
Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
PRIO Migration Research Group
Refugee Studies Centre (Oxford)
Sussex Centre for Migration Research

Source: Delmi (2017c) and own compilation

4.3 Conclusions

This chapter contains an overview of existing research funding, and actors working to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research in the area of migration and integration. The chapter aims to investigate how the research programme can complement and coordinate with other initiatives and actors in the field.

There are a number of research funding bodies in Sweden that have funded research on migration and integration. However, there have been few targeted efforts in this area, which is why a research programme within migration and integration will provide a much-needed complement to other research funding. It will continue to be important to cooperate with other research funding bodies and with other national research programmes.

A number of research funding bodies in Europe have funded research on migration and integration and several have also had targeted initiatives. It is important in this regard that the research programme is coordinated and complements existing initiatives in an appropriate manner, and also that potential opportunities for cooperation are explored. Continued monitoring of upcoming calls and programmes are an important part of this work.

As concerns promoting the accessibility and dissemination of research findings in migration and integration, it is important to distinguish between ‘accessibility’ and ‘dissemination’, which may require different activities from the programme. The Swedish Research Council already works in a number of ways to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings, e.g. by stipulating that researchers who receive funding from the Swedish Research Council must publish with open access. The Swedish Research Council also arranges seminars and conferences to disseminate research findings, albeit not specifically focused on migration and integration.

There is also a great number of actors working in various ways to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings on migration and integration.

The research programme could be aimed at various types of actors, but in slightly different ways, e.g. by assisting researchers in finding ways to further disseminate their research, or by arranging seminars in collaboration with other government agencies. The Sweden-based actors with the clearest missions to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings in this area are Delmi and Forte. An important question is how the research programme should be designed to complement and coordinate with existing initiatives. It should be noted in this context that the research programme's dialogue meeting (see Section 3.3) expressed a need for a clearer arena for dialogue between researchers and practitioners.

5. Conclusions and design of the research programme

This chapter contains summary conclusions and an overall description of the future design and focus of the national research programme within migration and integration.

5.1 Summary conclusions

The overall objective of the research programme is to strengthen research within the field and to promote research accessibility and dissemination, thereby creating good conditions for research to contribute to addressing societal challenges related to migration and integration. The purpose of the strategic research agenda is to investigate and analyse how the national research programme should be designed. The research agenda is also intended to provide supporting documentation that can be used for more general discussions and initiatives linked to research and the dissemination of research on migration and integration both within Sweden and abroad. In the Introduction to the research agenda, the following questions were raised:

- What are the current and future societal challenges and knowledge needs in the area of migration and integration?
- What other initiatives and actors are active within the area?
- How should research grants and other initiatives within the research programme be designed, in order to meet the programme goals?

5.1.1 Challenges and knowledge needs

An important starting point for the design of the research programme is to observe current developments and how migration is expected to develop in the future. Immigration to Sweden is expected to decline in the future, though remain at a high level in comparison with previous years, while emigration is expected to rise. This means that the number of foreign-born inhabitants is expected to increase from 1.8 million in 2016 to 2.5 million in 2030 and 2.9 million in 2050. For several years, foreign-born individuals have shown a weaker establishment on the labour market than domestic-born individuals. This weaker establishment includes not only employment rate but also lower income levels and lower health status.

Considering the expected future developments, there will continue to be a need for knowledge about the causes of migration and about migrants' migration patterns. A large number of migrants move within Europe and it will continue to be important to acquire a better understanding and knowledge about them. Emigration is expected to increase, which points to a need for knowledge on various aspects related to return-migration. For Sweden, Europe and the world at large, integration and how migrants and the receiving country adapt to each other will be important topics. There is not only a need for knowledge on migrants' situation and establishment in various forms, but also how migration affects the surrounding society, e.g. in relation to cultural expression, development of international contacts, challenges and

opportunities for the welfare system, as well as how xenophobia develops over time. Research should not only study the current situation, however. There is also a need to increase the general level of knowledge in order to provide a background and history, to give perspective and reference points. Both basic research and applied research are needed. The curiosity-driven basic research is needed because it can lead to ground-breaking discoveries with benefits that can often not be foreseen. There are, in other words, risks associated with a too detailed 'top-down' governance of research.

Based on the wishes expressed by various national and international organisations, and by the participants of the research programme's dialogue meeting, it is clear that there is a need for knowledge and research in a wide range of areas and scientific disciplines. Several research themes were recurrent, such as the need for research into the causes of migration, migration caused by climate change and environmental impact, migrants' establishment in the labour market, the health of migrants, causes of xenophobia, and the effects of policies and regulations. Several actors have also expressed a need for more comparative studies (such as between countries), for combining quantitative and qualitative methods, for developing data for e.g. longitudinal studies and for more research that includes the perspective of migrants.

The Sweden-based research on migration and integration is characterised by great diversity and variation in a number of respects, including participating scientific disciplines and methodological approaches. The research domain is characterised by interdisciplinarity. This suggests that the Sweden-based research is adequately equipped to meet the research needs in the field.

5.1.2 Other initiatives in the area

A number of research funding bodies in Sweden have funded research on migration and integration, although few of these have had targeted initiatives. In Europe, however, several research funding bodies have had targeted initiatives. It will therefore continue to be important that the research programme is coordinated with existing initiatives and that opportunities for coordination are explored. Continued monitoring of upcoming calls and programmes are an important part of this work.

There are also several national and international actors who are working in one way or another to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings on migration and integration. The Swedish Research Council is already working in many ways to promote accessibility and dissemination of research findings. One important question is thus how the research programme should complement and supplement the work that is already being done.

It is important to create an understanding of how research can contribute to the development of policy and practice, and to ensure that there is an understanding of the various possibilities of the participants to access research. These initiatives could, for example, concern facilitating opportunities for researchers to adequately reach specific target groups and for the target groups to communicate their knowledge and their knowledge needs to researchers. Ideally, the communication between researchers and practitioners is a dialogue in which both parties openly share their knowledge. It was expressed at the research programme's dialogue meeting that there is a need for a clearer arena for dialogue between researchers and practitioners.

5.2 Design and focus of the research programme

In terms of the research programme's design of what research should be funded, there are two strategies to choose from – 'top-down' or 'bottom-up'. In a top-down strategy, the issues or topics that will be prioritised are established in advance (with the help of e.g. a programme committee and reference group(s)) and these then determine future calls. A bottom-up strategy instead uses a broader approach in which the researchers themselves find relevant issues and topics, which means that the calls do not specify what topics the research applications must fall within.

Given that there is a great need for research in several different areas, it is difficult to pinpoint what research areas are particularly urgent. There is also a risk associated with a detailed top-down steering of the research focus, as such governance can be misdirected and impede important discoveries. The needs that have been identified not only concern different research themes, however, but also the need to strengthen the conditions for research. In all, this means that there is current support for, at least in the programme's initial phase, directing the programme towards broadly strengthening the conditions for the research domain and using the more comprehensive bottom-up strategy by letting the researchers guide the identification of issues that should be studied. At the same time, it is important that researchers, practitioners and decision-makers are brought together so that the research is informed in regard to the challenges and opportunities identified by practitioners and decision-makers, and that the research becomes more accessible and disseminated. Researchers, practitioners and decision-makers thereby need to maintain a dialogue with each other, not least against the backdrop of existing research.

The national research programme is directed towards research within all scientific disciplines and all aspects of migration, migrants and integration. The research programme focuses on two main measures: (i) to strengthen research within the field, and (ii) to promote the accessibility and dissemination of research findings. The national programme should therefore concentrate on the following:

- 1) To strengthen the research field in a broad sense (such as by supporting research projects, research environments and research infrastructure);
- 2) To promote international collaboration and make Swedish research visible (such as through grants to international postdocs, international research projects and visiting researchers); and
- 3) To support coordination, dissemination and accessibility of research (such as through conference and seminar activities aimed at both researchers and practitioners).

The first focus area aims at strengthening the conditions for research and strengthening the research field in a broad sense. This is achieved through e.g. project grants, research environment grants and funding to research infrastructure, which are important prerequisites for research. This focus largely involves initiatives and support, which the Swedish Research Council has a great deal of experience in handling.

The second focus area, to promote international collaboration and make Swedish research visible, is also a step towards broadly strengthening the conditions for the research field. As migration and integration are to a great extent international issues, international cooperation is very important. This focus area largely includes activities in which the Swedish Research Council has previous experience (e.g.

grants to international postdocs, visiting professors, etc.), but can also include activities and cooperation that require new approaches and routines. It is important in this work to be responsive and flexible to new approaches and ideas.

The third focus area, supporting the coordination, dissemination and accessibility of research, is of great importance to strengthening the contribution research makes to solving societal challenges. The Swedish Research Council has considerable experience in this area, but it will also be important to think outside the box and cooperate with and benefit from actors in the field. Possible collaborative partners include Delmi, Sida and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, which all reach different types of actors working with migration and integration issues. This focus will promote cooperation and dialogue in which researchers and practitioners exchange knowledge and experience. This can be accomplished in a number of ways, e.g. by setting requirements in the call for cooperation between researchers and practitioners or by asking researchers to report how the results will be made accessible and disseminated.

These three areas should constitute the focus of the research programme for at least the initial stage of the programme. However, it is possible that the focus of the research programme may in the future be directed towards more specified and delimited themes or activities, e.g. in order to address specific societal challenges. Through an ongoing update of the research agenda, recurrent follow-ups and evaluations (see next chapter), and ongoing discussions with the committees and groups that are organised in and around the programme, the design and focus of the research programme will be continuously updated and developed.

The next step in the work with the national research programme within migration and integration is to produce an implementation plan setting down the activities and schedule for the research programme. Thus far, the research programme within migration and integration has had the following research funding and activities:

Table 7: Research funding and activities 2017 and 2018

Year	Research funding and activities	Comments
2017	Project grants	As the assignment came in just before summer 2017 and as it concerned funds of under SEK ten million for research, the Swedish Research Council decided that there would not be time for a regular call. Instead, relevant projects were selected from regular project grant calls. Because the applications had already undergone the regular quality assessment process, a task force from the Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences selected the most highly rated applications and determined which had the greatest relevance for the area of migration and integration, after which the Swedish Research Council made the decision to support these. Five research projects were granted within the areas: Social Sciences, Educational Sciences, and Medicine and Health
2017	Dialogue meeting	See Section 3.3

2018	Call for research environment grant within migration and integration.	The purpose of the grant is to create synergy and added value from collaboration in larger groupings than in a normal project, and to create a long-term perspective. The constellation of researchers that apply for the grant should come from different higher education institutions and/or different subjects.
2018	Call for project grant in cooperation with NordForsk	Research funding bodies in Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden (Forte and the Swedish Research Council) and the United Kingdom partnered with NordForsk in 2017 to jointly fund a Nordic call within migration and integration. The Swedish Research Council is of the opinion that a Nordic call is particularly appropriate because the Nordic countries in many respects face similar challenges in the area of migration and integration but have not always chosen to deal with these challenges in the same way. The Swedish Research Council will contribute a total of SEK 5 million over a four-year period to the initiative. NordForsk makes the first call within the scope of the initiative in 2018. The Swedish Research Council is involved in designing the initiative via its programme committee.

Source: Swedish Research Council (2018d, 2018e)

6. Follow-up and evaluation

This chapter describes the approach for following up/monitoring and evaluating the national research programme.

6.1 Introduction

According to the Government's mission statement, the national research programme must be regularly evaluated and continuously followed up. The Government intends to initiate future evaluations, while the follow-ups/monitoring are initiated and carried out by the Swedish Research Council. A report of the progress of the national programme must be reported annually by 1 March to the Government Offices (Ministry of Education and Research 2017a).

Follow-ups aim to use indicators and other data to report what has happened by regularly following up and measuring performed activities, achievements and outcomes. The aim of a follow-up is to provide a factual cumulative overview of the programme's development and outcome. Follow-ups are thus carried out on an ongoing basis and provide only an indication of the programme's development and if it is on the way to reaching its goals (see e.g. Sandberg and Faugert 2012).

The objective of an evaluation is to investigate and assess e.g. the programme's activities, achievements and effects. An evaluation is often something that is performed midway through the programme (interim evaluation) and sometime after the programme (ex-post evaluation; see e.g. European Commission 2011). Follow-ups are carried out continuously, while evaluations are normally done at certain specific points in time and are aimed at evaluating. The information collected in the follow-up can, however, provide important supporting documentation for the evaluation. It is important to ensure at an early stage that it is possible to evaluate the programme. This can involve, for example, making sure that grant recipients can be identified, and that there is a description of the programme's implementation.

6.2 Focus and approach for follow-up

To facilitate an adequate follow-up of a research programme, the programme's goals and programme theory, i.e. how the programme will reach its goals, should be described and reported at an early stage of the programme. A description of the programme's goals and programme theory is presented in Chapter 2. Using the programme's goals and programme theory, the follow-up of the research programme can be carried out in accordance with Table 8.

Table 8 contains three columns, the first of which indicates the relevant part of the programme theory. The programme theory contains four parts: (i) initiating new research, (ii) ensuring that new research is added to existing research, (iii) ensuring that research is accessible and disseminated, and (iv) ensuring that research is used (see Section 2.6). As the purpose of the research programme is to 'strengthen research within the field and to promote research accessibility and dissemination, thereby creating good conditions for research to contribute to meeting societal challenges related to migration and integration', the follow-up does not measure the potential effects on migration and/or integration.

As reported in Chapter 2, the different parts of the programme theory need not necessarily be considered in chronological order or be viewed as a linear process. Rather, this grouping is just a way to divide up the different elements of the process. The follow-up of the programme should be designed to follow up all elements, however.

The second column in Table 8 shows the relevant programme goals. (Numbers in brackets indicate the number of the goal, as listed in Section 2.5.) The third column in the table describes how the reporting and follow-up of the programme will be carried out. The report consists of a description of the programme’s implementation and a follow-up using indicators. The indicators measure either that an activity has been performed or that a result has been achieved. The indicators are primarily intended to be followed up by reports of recipients of programme funding.

The first row in Table 8 refers to goals 6-8. These goals largely relate to how the programme is designed and implemented. These goals have therefore been classified under (i) and (ii) of the programme theory and the follow-up consists of describing how the programme was designed and implemented.

Goal 5, to contribute to gender equality, relates both to ensuring that men and women have equal rights and opportunities to take part in the research programme’s initiatives, and to ensuring that the research, where warranted, relates to issues of gender and gender equality. The goal is followed up by describing the programme’s implementation and through an indicator showing how the gender distribution of awarded grants matches the gender distribution of applicants.

Table 8: Report and follow-up of the national programme within migration and integration

Part of programme theory	Goal	Reporting and follow-up (description/indicator)
(i) and (iii) Programme design, with particular focus on initiating research and on promoting the accessibility and dissemination of research findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the programme is well coordinated with other national and international initiatives and that it creates synergies (6) • To ensure that the programme is adapted and designed to meet the conditions and requirements of the research domains and that it is conducted in flexible forms (7) • To ensure that that the research programme creates conditions for interdisciplinary and cross-sectional cooperation (8) 	Description of the programme’s design and implementation, e.g. possible joint initiatives with other research funding bodies

Part of programme theory	Goal	Reporting and follow-up (description/indicator)
(i) Initiating new research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to gender equality (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description: Report of the programme's design and of the selection process for funded projects Indicator: Gender distribution grant rate (proportion of granted applications in relation to number of applications, and proportion of granted funding for men and women).
(i) Initiating new research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to high-quality research and knowledge-building (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description: Report of selection process Indicators: Number of funded projects and success rate
(ii) Ensuring that new research is added to existing research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to high-quality research and knowledge-building (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicators: (a) Publication in working paper series or similar, (b) Scholarly publication in journal or similar (peer reviewed), (c) Education and outreach/popular science publication or similar
(i) Initiating new research, and (iii) Ensuring that research is accessible and disseminated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to improved dialogue between researchers, practitioners and decision-makers (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description: Activity aimed at promoting dialogue between researchers, practitioners and decision-makers.
(iii) Ensuring that research is accessible and disseminated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To help strengthen the link between research and higher education (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description: Activity aimed at strengthening the link between research and higher education Indicators: number of activities (e.g. workshop), outcome of activities (e.g. number of participants)
(iii) Ensuring that research is accessible and disseminated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to evidence-based policies and administration (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description: Activity aimed at contributing to evidence-based policies and administration Indicators: number of activities (e.g. workshop), outcome of activities (e.g. number of participants)

Part of programme theory	Goal	Reporting and follow-up (description/indicator)
(iv) Ensuring that research is used	• To contribute to evidence-based policies and administration (2)	• Indicator: The research is cited in government agency reports, government inquiries, etc.

Source: Own compilation. The goals refer to the goals listed in Section 2.5.

Goal 1, to contribute to high-quality research and knowledge-building, can be followed up with indicators for the activities that have been carried out (e.g. number of funded projects) and what the outcome of the activity was (e.g. number of publications). A publication in a scholarly journal, monograph or similar, is a measure of productivity. A scholarly publication can also mean that the research has undergone a review by other researchers (peer reviewed), which is an indication of quality. Publication also means that the research has gained a broader dissemination. In addition to these indicators, it is also important to describe and follow up the selection process of which research projects have been awarded funding in order to ensure that the research programme rewards high-quality research.

Goals 2 and 3, to contribute to evidence-based policies and administration, and to contribute to strengthening the link between research and higher education, can be followed up with indicators and/or descriptions of activities carried out to promote research accessibility and dissemination for these groups, e.g. education and outreach/popular science, op-eds, conferences, seminars and courses. The indicator can measure the number of activities carried out or the number of e.g. conference or course attendees, or which organisations participated in the activity.

Goal 2, to contribute to evidence-based policies and administration, could also be followed up by measuring to what extent research on migration and integration is cited in government agency reports, government inquiries, etc. The indicator could thereby measure the number of citations of research that have been generated by the research programme (for examples, see Swedish Research Council 2012). Another alternative is to measure citations of research in government agency reports and similar publications. A weakness of such an indicator, however, is that it is difficult to infer the change in citations as being an effect of the research programme. A strength, on the other hand, is that it provides a picture of whether Swedish migration and integration research is used in government agency reports, government inquiries and similar.

6.3 Focus and approach for evaluation

The evaluation of the research programme aims to develop the programme and to facilitate the design of possible future programmes aimed at addressing societal challenges. The evaluation of the programme should focus on the following areas:

- 1) Initiatives to promote new high-quality research
- 2) Initiatives to promote the accessibility, dissemination and use of research findings in relevant parts of policies and administration, and in higher education
- 3) The programme's design and coordination with other initiatives

The first area deals with evaluating the scholarly quality of the funded research. Initiatives to promote new research should be evaluated with regard to whether new research has been created and whether the research is of good quality. The evaluation of research quality should be carried out with the aid of bibliometrics combined with a qualitative assessment performed by an expert panel, e.g. similar to the Swedish Research Council's evaluation of the ALF agreement, ALF Panel 1 (Swedish Research Council 2018a).

The evaluation of initiatives aiming to promote the accessibility, dissemination and use of research findings should be directed at determining whether the knowledge has reached relevant target groups, whether dialogue has been created, and whether the target groups have used the knowledge. For it to be possible to evaluate this area, it is important to document the specific initiatives carried out to promote accessibility and dissemination (if such initiatives have been carried out), and to require recipients of the research funding to document how they have worked to disseminate knowledge to relevant interested parties. When the evaluation is performed, it will be important to give the funding researchers the opportunity to describe how the research environment has developed, how they have worked with their cooperation and communication strategy, how they have worked to cooperate and communicate their findings outside academia, and how they have impacted e.g. policy and administration. Such an evaluation can be carried out with a well-balanced combination of e.g. surveys, interviews and hearings. A similar approach was applied in the Swedish Research Council's evaluation of the ALF agreement, ALF Panel 2 (Swedish Research Council 2018a). It may also be important to apply a suitable combination of data collection methods to gather statements from interested parties on how they have been affected by research and environments funded by the research programme.

The third area refers to the design of the programme, i.e. whether the programme has maintained appropriate balance and coordination between 1) and 2) above, and if the programme has been able to effectively benefit from other efforts and initiatives in the area. An important question in this context is whether the identified knowledge needs in the research are within the areas in which policy and administration are demanding knowledge, i.e. if research is lacking or if there is relevant research that for various reasons is not being utilised within policy and administration. In the latter case, an important follow-up question is why existing research is not better utilised. It should also be evaluated if the research that has been funded is of high relevance for the area of migration and integration.

One possible procedure is to introduce an interim evaluation after five years, and an ex-post evaluation when the national research programme is completed. Both of the evaluations should focus on all three areas above. The interim evaluation should aim to create insight not only for the continued design of the national research programme within migration and integration, but also for the design and implementation of other national programmes. The results of the interim evaluation should be used in an update of the strategic research agenda. The ex-post evaluation should aim to create insight for the design and implementation of future national research programmes. This approach, with an interim and an ex-post evaluation, as well as the purpose of these, shares many similarities with the structure for the evaluation of Horizon 2020 (European Commission 2011).

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Appendix 1: Consideration of referral responses

Researchers, practitioners and decision-makers have been given the opportunity through a referral process to provide feedback to a draft of the research agenda. This appendix provides a brief description of how the referral process was carried out and how the responses were taken into consideration.

Referral process

The research agenda was sent out for referral on 16 May 2018. The dispatch consisted of a draft of the research agenda (dated 16 May 2018) and a questionnaire containing four questions about the research agenda and four questions about the respondent.⁴ The last day to send in the responses was 11 June 2018 (i.e. the survey was open for three and a half weeks).

The survey and draft of the research agenda were sent to about 70 people and organisations consisting of researchers, practitioners and decision-makers. The research agenda was also sent to the Scientific Council for Humanities and Social Sciences. Responses were received from 35 respondents. Responses were submitted by individual researchers, by people working at the Government Offices, by people working at government agencies, and by people working in organisations and in the civil society. All comments have been taken into consideration and in many cases have resulted in clarifications and/or additions to the research agenda. Some of the comments were of such a nature that we have decided to respond to them in this appendix.

Received responses

Many referral responses were generally positive to the design and contents of the research agenda, while at the same time the responses mainly suggested improvements and additions. The comments could usually be classified as belonging to one of the following categories: (i) comments on the design of the agenda (e.g. length of chapter), (ii) missing research areas, (iii) missing actors, (iv) research agenda's focus (e.g. conclusions), or (v) clarification (e.g. on terms and definitions).

The most frequent comment was that the research agenda needed to be supplemented with a specific research area or a specific issue. It is important in this context to return to the Government's mission statement, which states that the research programme will 'shed light on all aspects of migration and integration'

⁴The survey questions were: (1) Name. (2) Job title. (3) Main workplace. (4) Relation to migration and integration. (5) Content and design – What are your overall views on the content and design of the research agenda? (6) Inaccuracies and need for clarification – Is there anything in the research agenda that you believe is inaccurate or needs clarification? If so, please indicate what. (7) Identification of research initiatives in migration and integration – One goal of the research agenda is to identify relevant research initiatives among the various research funding bodies. Do you think there is any important research funding body or research initiative in the area of migration or integration that is not included in the research agenda? If so, please specify which. (8) Research agenda conclusions – What is your opinion of the research agenda's conclusions? For example, can any proposed activity or initiative have unwanted implications?

(Ministry of Education and Research 2017b, page 1). The national research programme therefore refers to *all aspects* of migration and integration. The research area has thus not been further delimited, except in one respect, i.e. that the programme refers to international migration. Internal migration can also be taken into account in cases where internal migration results in or is preceded by international migration (see Section 2.3).

The research agenda contains a chapter on challenges and knowledge needs (Chapter 3) and a research overview (Appendix 3). There are research areas or issues in these sections that are not given as much space as other areas, or which are even omitted altogether. Because the research area migration and integration comprises many different aspects and scientific disciplines, it is difficult to provide an exhaustive description. Chapter 3 and the research overview therefore did not aim to be exhaustive, and some areas have thus been given less space than others. The referral responses contained, for example, several comments that research on health and on regulations should be given more space. Both of these areas are very important, and are mentioned in several places in the description, albeit briefly. They are also identified in the conclusions as research themes that several actors have expressed that there is a need for research within. There was not room, however, for a longer description of research on health and regulations in the research agenda. This said, it must again be emphasised that research in all aspects of migration and integration are welcome within the scope of the research programme.

Another common opinion expressed in the referral was to draw attention to actors working to promote the accessibility and dissemination of knowledge on migration and integration, but which had not been mentioned in the research agenda or in Table 6. All received suggestions on actors have been included in Table 6. It should again be pointed out though that the table does not aim to provide a comprehensive overview of actors, but rather aims only to provide an overall orientation and to create a general understanding of the scope of actors.

Appendix 2: The Swedish Research Council's types of grants

Table 9: Swedish Research Council's types of funding and grants – funding to one or more researchers

Type of funding	Purpose of type of funding	Type of grant and purpose
Research project funding	Funding to one or more researchers to conduct a specified research project in line with the intentions described in the application.	<p><u>Project grant</u>: Aimed at giving researchers the freedom to formulate their own research idea, method and implementation, and to solve a defined research task within a specific period of time. Rewards research of the highest scholarly quality in national competition. Funds all types of costs related to the project. Led by a researcher who is the project leader/principal investigator.</p> <p><u>Proof of Concept</u>: Aimed at giving (previous) holders of research grants from the Swedish Research Council the opportunity to refine their research findings and conduct activities that pave the way for innovation or commercialisation</p>
Career support funding	Funding to individual researchers aimed at strengthening their academic career opportunities. Career support grants focus on the researcher as an individual in different stages of their career.	<p><u>International postdoc</u>: Aimed at giving researchers who have recently received their PhD (0-2 years after public defence of doctoral thesis) the opportunity to expand their network and enhance their skills by working abroad under secure employment conditions. At least two-thirds of the time must be spent abroad.</p> <p><u>Starting grant</u>: Aimed at giving junior researchers (2-7 years after public defence of doctoral thesis) an opportunity to establish themselves as independent researchers.</p> <p><u>Consolidator grant</u>: Aimed at giving the most prominent younger researchers (7-12 years after public defence of doctoral thesis) the opportunity to consolidate their research and broaden their activities.</p> <p><u>Research time grant</u>: Aimed at giving people in a specific professional group the opportunity to conduct relevant research and establish themselves as independent researchers while concurrently developing their professional skills.</p>

Type of funding	Purpose of type of funding	Type of grant and purpose
		<u>Grant for employment as a half-time researcher in a clinical environment</u> : Aimed at giving clinically active persons the opportunity to conduct research on a half-time basis while concurrently developing their clinical skills.

Source: Swedish Research Council

Table 10 Swedish Research Council's types of grants – research environment and collaboration funding

Type of funding	Purpose of type of funding	Type of grant and purpose
Research environment and collaboration support	Aimed at providing long-term support to a research objective or research domain. Funding to activities in excellent research environments, networks and doctoral programmes, or to build up such activities.	<p><u>Research environment grant</u>: Aimed at creating added value from collaboration in larger groupings than in a normal project, and can be applied for by a constellation of several researchers who are working towards a common research goal in the long term. Collaboration may be demonstrated through research connected to a national or international infrastructure, cooperation between researchers at different universities, or an interdisciplinary focus. The grant is generally larger than those awarded to individual projects.</p> <p><u>Doctoral programme</u>: Doctoral programme grants aim to build up a new research area, strengthen competence within a specific area or increase cooperation nationally and internationally by contributing to doctoral programme activities. Costs that can be applied for under this grant are costs related to third-cycle education such as new courses, coordination, etc. Doctoral student salaries are not normally included. Doctoral programmes can, for example, be connected to a research environment grant.</p> <p><u>Distinguished professor</u>: Aimed at building up a larger research environment, with coherent funding, around a leading researcher.</p> <p><u>Visiting researcher</u>: Aimed at providing universities the opportunity to develop a research area by recruiting an internationally renowned researcher for a short period of time.</p>

		<p><u>Network grant</u>: Aimed at providing researchers the opportunity to create or develop networks in a research domain for a specific period of time.</p> <p><u>Conference grant</u>: Aimed at promoting research collaboration and exchange of experience. Conference grant calls are normally focused on internationalisation and are then a way of giving researchers in Sweden the opportunity to arrange a conference with internationally recognised speakers.</p> <p><u>Exploratory workshops</u>: Aimed at supporting the development of new research areas, research programmes or collaborations. The grant can be used to explore the possibility of creating new research areas or to explore common areas in connection with bilateral agreements.</p>
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Source: Swedish Research Council

Table 11 Swedish Research Council's types of grants – infrastructure and operational support

Type of funding	Purpose of type of funding	Type of grant and purpose
Infrastructure support	Aimed at supporting the coordination, development, construction and operation of research infrastructure of national interest, including Swedish participation in international research infrastructure of national interest. Support for national and international research infrastructure. Can relate to the construction, operation and decommissioning of infrastructure.	<u>Research infrastructure</u> : Aimed at supporting the coordination, development, construction and operation of research infrastructure of national interest, including Swedish participation in international research infrastructure of national interest
Operational support	Aimed at contributing at both national and international levels to the other necessary structures and mechanisms that support research.	<p><u>Operational grant for research coordination and institutions</u>: Aimed at enabling national coordination within a certain area or contributing to an (internationally leading) research environment focused on programme activities.</p> <p><u>Scientific journal grant</u>: Aimed at supporting the development of high-</p>

	quality open access journals based in Sweden.
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Source: Swedish Research Council

Appendix 3: Migration and Integration – a Research Overview

Amanda Nielsen and Per Strömblad⁵

Introduction

This appendix reports and discusses the research overview conducted within the scope of the strategic research agenda. In the following presentation, we attempt to outline contemporary migration and integration research. The overall objective of the overview is to identify and describe the diversity in scientifically founded knowledge production within this extremely broad field of research.

It is precisely because of the vast scope of this field that a multifaceted picture can be expected, both in terms of issues related to the conditions of migration and integration, and in terms of the theoretical and methodological approaches in various scientific disciplines. As demonstrated below, this is also by all appearances a reasonable characterisation of the current situation. The research overview aims to provide a general description of the research being conducted and therefore does not claim to be exhaustive. In future follow-ups it can, for example, be used to illuminate specific sub-areas, and the knowledge needs identified within these, in more detail. It can also be used as a starting point to pose follow-up questions on how the research field can be further developed, not least in terms of opportunities for transdisciplinary cooperation and thereby interdisciplinary cross-fertilisation.

The majority of the research overview is devoted to a thematic description, the key points of which will be explained below. The objective of this was to direct focus towards the overall research areas rather than towards narrowly defined issues. At the same time, we have found that illustration and exemplification still require some space for details of this type. The purpose of these examples is to, within the framework of the chapter, still be able to give a reasonably meaningful description of the type of knowledge that is generated within the research field. Even with respect to a number of critical delimitations, the research cannot be summarised too narrowly.

Pragmatic choices

Right from the start, we would like to explain a pragmatic choice in our work with the research overview, namely that it is based on contemporary research being conducted in Sweden. Unsurprisingly, this general approach is due to resource constraints. At the same time, it is worth pointing out that some form of limitation in space and time is necessary, regardless of overview resources. As described below, research is being conducted on issues related to migration and integration within a great number of scientific disciplines. Similarly, the research findings are being communicated via a wide variety of channels. These include both easily accessible

⁵ This research overview was written by PhD Amanda Nielsen and Associate Professor Per Strömblad at Linnaeus University.

education and outreach and popular science forums, as well as reports in which research is accounted for within the scope of government agencies, as well as provided as supporting documentation for policy-making. But there is naturally also a significant array of pure scientific and scholarly channels, such as international scientific journals, anthologies and monographs. When it comes to publications of this type, however, you are shooting at a rather large target. Migration and integration-related research is published, for example, both in traditional subject-oriented journals and in avowed multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary journals. An academic paper on unequal labour market conditions between immigrant and domestic-born populations may be published in an economics journal. But it could also end up in a publication focused on the research field in general (such as the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, to name just one example)⁶ rather than on a traditional academic subject.

Just what has been mentioned above already indicates a number of potential delimitation problems. But in addition to these, the very theme 'migration and integration' by its nature contains a virtually endless number of origins and group affiliations. Similarly, a theoretically distinguishable collective of migration and integration researchers can obviously not be easily delimited geographically either. The research questions are globalised, just like their researchers.

The general approach that we have chosen to use to navigate this mass of knowledge is thus to, from a purely operative standpoint, take research conducted in Sweden as our point of departure. However, it should be pointed out right away that, all this aside, the research surveyed does not remain only within that country's borders. Studies physically planned and conducted in Swedish research environments might examine migration and integration issues in completely different parts of the world (or of course involve comparisons between regions and countries, including Sweden). There are also researchers working in Sweden who have origins in other countries, while international cooperation involves Sweden-based researchers conducting studies with colleagues abroad. It is a highly reasonable expectation that the risk of an uninformed narrow focus on Swedish conditions is thereby reduced within the variety of research projects being conducted.

Finally, but not least centrally, it should be stressed that the findings from the Sweden-based research have of course also been published internationally, via well-established scientific channels. In addition to the fact that the research is then subject to established and accepted review and inspection by the scientific community, it automatically also becomes part of the international scientific discussion. Regardless of the specific focus and material, this migration and integration research becomes more international than 'Swedish' in its nature.⁷

After this initial summary and description of our position and direction, the chapter is arranged as follows. In the next section, we first present a general introduction to research on migration and integration. In connection with this, we also describe in more detail the data collection approach that forms the basis for other sections. As part of the search for knowledge surrounding this field of research, we then in the following section briefly describe the emergence of the IMER field in Sweden and the discussions that have taken place in relation to this.

⁶ Later in the chapter, a selection of articles from this specific journal will be used in an attempt to relate our overview of the research field to that conveyed by the international research community.

⁷ In an evaluation conducted by an international research group in the early 2000s, the IMER research in Sweden (see below) also received a certain amount of praise for its, already at this time, internationally anchored knowledge and orientation (Vasta et al. 2003).

The subsequent section explores the institutional environments – in the form of research centres and research networks affiliated with Swedish higher education institutions – where contemporary research on migration and integration is conducted. After this is a longer section in which we provide a description based on five general themes of how research in the field is focused on different aspects – and on how knowledge is thereby generated and theories developed and tested. In an attempt to reveal differences, should any clear differences exist, we then attempt in the next section to place Sweden-based research in relation to a selection of internationally published research articles in the field. In the final section, the general picture presented by the research overview is then summarised and discussed.

Approach

A significant complexity is inherent in the terms migration and integration themselves (cf. Beckman 2011). In line with this, there are also themes related to migration and integration in a great number of subject areas and disciplines. In a very rough breakdown, we can separate these into two general types of research. The first is the research conducted using the traditional scientific disciplines as institutional framing. Researchers included in this category identify first with their discipline, and view migration and/or integration as empirical research areas that can be examined based on issues, theories and methodologies within their own discipline. The second type is the research conducted by researchers who tend instead to identify as part of the interdisciplinary research field concerning issues of migration and integration. This type has emerged both in Sweden and abroad in recent decades. In Sweden, as already mentioned, this field of research has come to be designated IMER – an acronym that stands for International Migration and Ethnic Relations.⁸

The research actually conducted in this field is a natural starting point for shedding light on research on migration and integration. At the same time, the research being conducted within the more traditional scientific disciplines must also be included, so as to not risk presenting a distorted picture of the research field. Although IMER is interdisciplinary, it does not rule out some degree of representation of the traditional scientific disciplines among the researchers who are active in the field. This overview of the research field migration and integration thus derives from and charts both the research conducted by more explicitly labelled IMER researchers as well as the researchers in the traditional disciplines.

How do you practically go about compiling information on conducted research projects and research findings? Our first step was to locate the research environments in Sweden. To this purpose, we used previously conducted overviews and reports. To acquire further information, but also to verify what we believed we knew, we then conducted a more systematic review via the websites of Swedish higher education institutions. On these websites, we examined things such as organisational charts and presentations of research centres. In connection to this, we also performed internal searches on websites using the terms ‘migration’ and ‘integration’ in order to find relevant local research environments and research teams.

⁸ The research that has been classified as IMER has been subjected to critical reflection, and for some, the term has come to be associated with a (too) narrow perspective on migration and integration (see e.g. Mulinari 2009; cf. Johansson & Petersson 2013).

So as to arrive in the next stage at the thematic breakdown that we use in the description of migration and integration research later in this overview, we then compiled information from several different sources. First, we studied previously proposed (and actually occurring) thematisations in the named overviews and in existing research environments. Second, we conducted a broad inspection of research projects and publications from the identified environments in order to distinguish more general themes. Third and finally, we then related the preliminary picture of the research field to a systematic review of published migration and integration research by researchers working at Swedish higher education institutions in 2016.⁹

After thus localising the themes, we then in a third and final step conducted additional searches for literature. This time, the objective was to create lists of researchers who had published within each theme.¹⁰ Relevant publications from these identified researchers then formed the basis for a more substantial description of the identified migration and integration research. This data was to some extent then pragmatically supplemented based on feedback during the process from experts affiliated with the national research programme within migration and integration.

Considering the need for delimitation of the research overview, it should be noted that there was very limited space to describe historical research on migration and integration issues. Our focus is therefore mainly on contemporary research. This should thus not be interpreted as that there is a lack of interest in Sweden-based research concerning the history and historical conditions of migration and integration. On the contrary, considerable efforts have been made in just this respect – not least to the benefit of contemporary (and ever-current) public discussions on phenomena such as labour force migration, majority and minority relations, cultural differences, xenophobia and racism.¹¹

IMER field of research

The research field commonly referred to as IMER emerged in the late 1960s and early 1970s. At this point in time, research teams began to be formed and some of the early pioneers in the field completed their doctoral theses.¹² The term IMER did not begin to be used until the 1980s, however, at about the same time as the first interdisciplinary research institute in the field was established (Westin 2009,

⁹ To this purpose, we used the database DiVA (digital scholarly archive), which comprises publications from 47 higher education institutions and other publicly funded research institutes as well as government agencies. The DiVA search portal was supplemented with corresponding local databases for the University of Gothenburg, Lund University and Malmö University (as these are not included in DiVA). The keywords used in these searches were 'migration' and 'integration', which in both cases generated several hundred hits for the single search year (2016), despite the selection of publications being limited to scholarly theses, book chapters and journal articles. After manually sorting in the next stage, however, a large number of overlaps could be eliminated (due to both search terms having been used, and to publications with multiple authors having been listed in multiple entries). Likewise, a fairly large number of obviously irrelevant publications could also be sorted out (for example, medical research dealing with cell migration).

¹⁰ In this stage, however, a longer time period was permitted (2010–2017), as well as more specified keywords (based on each theme) supplementing those previously mentioned.

¹¹ For further reading in this area, we refer readers to a recently published knowledge overview about the history of immigration from the 1900s to the present; see Byström & Frohnert 2017, and therein referenced literature. In addition, historical insights into migration and integration-related issues have been thoroughly illuminated and discussed by e.g. Broberg & Tydén 2005; also see Svanberg and Tydén 1999.

¹² Among those students frequently mentioned are Tomas Hammar, who defended his doctoral thesis in political science in 1964, Eskil Wadensjö who defended his doctoral thesis in economics in 1972, and Charles Westin who defended his in education in 1973 (Westin 2009).

Hammar 2009).¹³ The formation of the IMER Association in 1992 was an important milestone and simultaneously created a focal point for researchers working in different disciplines and at different higher education institutions. The research field was further strengthened during the 1990s with the launch of courses and programmes at both the undergraduate and post-graduate levels. The first undergraduate programme in IMER was started in 1997, at what was then Malmö College. A couple of years later, the first doctoral students in the subject were admitted as part of a collaboration between Malmö College and the newly started Theme Ethnicity Department at Linköping University (Fryklund 2009).

From the very beginning, there were discussions among researchers concerning whether IMER should primarily be understood as a ‘new discipline’ or rather as an empirical research domain. Views on desired future developments also differ. It is possible to discern a development (in Sweden as well as internationally) in which structural elements often associated with one discipline are established – such as independent departments, doctoral programmes, professional associations and journals (Dahlstedt & Neergaard 2013).

Christina Johansson and Bo Petersson, who work in the IMER environment at Malmö University, argue that IMER should actually be considered an ‘interdisciplinary subject and research domain’ (Johansson & Petersson 2013). The focus of this subject, they say, is ‘migration’s national, regional, international and global drives and implications for both origin and receiving societies at different levels, from individual to state’ (Johansson & Petersson 2013). This encompasses a number of different themes, and as such, the subject is naturally enough also characterised by theoretical and methodological diversity.

The focus of the research conducted within the field has changed over time in several different respects. One initial shift occurred concurrently with the altered characteristics of migration to Sweden. When the research field was established in the 1970s, it was characterised by a considerable interest in labour force migration and conditions on the labour market. After this, the focus was broadened. Partly as labour migrants were gradually replaced by new categories of migrants, and partly as researchers began to be interested in how migration affects other arenas in society (Wadensjö 2009). Another shift in focus has taken place as interest in issues related to culture, identity and language were gradually supplemented by an increasing (and public political debate-encouraged) focus on societal challenges related to social exclusion, segregation, discrimination and racism (cf. Andersson 2009).

A rather extensive debate raged during the early 2000s in the wake of severe criticism by a number of researchers to the points of departure and perspectives that dominated in the first decades of IMER research. Some critical voices argued that this research had been marked by a far too narrow empirical focus, and that there had been a tendency to study immigrant groups in Sweden from a ‘Swedish’ perspective (Gustafsson & Jonsson 2009, Mulinari 2009, Åkesson 2009). Other critics said that the research in the field had been characterised by a problematic tendency to produce knowledge about ‘the Others’, meaning migrants and ethnic minorities, based on perceived needs – as these were formulated by politicians and government agencies.

These critics further argued that there had been a tendency to approach issues concerning integration based on the assumption that migrants should adapt (or ‘be assimilated’) and that problems identified as integration failures had their roots in

¹³ The Centre for Research in International Migration and Ethnic Relations (CEIFO) at Stockholm University was formed in 1983 and the Centre for Multiethnic Research at Uppsala University was formed in 1984 (Wigerfelt 2010).

shortcomings among various migrant groups (Kamali 2009, Tesfahuney 2009; cf. Dahlstedt & Neergaard 2013). Such a focus was stressed as problematic as it was considered to obscure the role of the majority society and the obstacles presented by discrimination and racism. The critics further argued that the term ethnicity, as well as the closely related term 'race', which had now been introduced in Sweden, should be understood relationally and studied from a power perspective¹⁴. Ethnicity should, in accordance with this, be understood as the result of difference-creating processes, the implications of which are seen, and can be studied, in a number of different arenas in society (Dahlstedt & Neergaard 2013). In the wake of this criticism, a certain degree of polarisation unquestionably arose within the IMER research community. Those who essentially viewed the criticism as justified were not in agreement with those who opposed what they saw as unwanted politicisation of the research field (cf. Johansson 2009, Fryklund 2009).

Research environments in Sweden

Research on different aspects of migration and integration are conducted, albeit to varying degrees, at most Swedish higher education institutions. Our survey, however, shows that there are certain higher education institutions – and more specifically, certain research centres, departments and research networks – that particularly stand out in regard to volume of publications and projects within this field of research. In the following, we will present a number of these central research environments. We will distinguish between what we designate *research centres* and *research teams*. With the former, we refer to specific institutional units or collaborative forums at Swedish higher education institutions in which research focused on migration and integration is conducted. With the latter, we refer to more informal groupings and networks of researchers. This may concern institutions in which there is a large number of researchers active within this field of research, or more formalised networks comprising researchers active in different disciplines or at different higher education institutions.

Research centres

The research centres in this field in Sweden that stand out as the most prominent are the Malmö Institute for Studies of Migration, Diversity and Welfare (MIM) at Malmö University and the Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society (REMESO)¹⁵ at Linköping University. MIM and REMESO, which were founded in 2007 and 2008 respectively, are both research institutes to which a significant number of researchers are affiliated. Our review of publications shows that researchers who are or were active in these two environments are behind a relatively large portion of the research that has been conducted within this field in Sweden. Another research centre is the Centre on Global Migration (CGM) which was launched in spring 2017 at the University of Gothenburg. CGM is an interfaculty research centre that arranges conferences and seminars and aims to coordinate and support research related to migration.

In addition to these three units, there are also a number of research centres that conduct research oriented to some extent towards migration and integration issues.

¹⁴ It was further emphasised that both ethnicity and 'race' were created in continuously ongoing processes. This is often brought to light through the use of the related concepts of *ethnification* and *racification* (Dahlstedt & Neergaard 2013).

¹⁵ The acronym REMESO stands for Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society.

Two of these are the Hugo Valentin Centre and the Institute for Housing and Urban Research (IBF), both at Uppsala University. The Hugo Valentin Centre is a research centre at the Department of History with research activities partly focused on ethnicity.¹⁶ IBF is a research institute established in 1994 that focuses primarily on research in housing and housing policy issues. Researchers working at the institute have conducted a number of studies over the years on both housing segregation and on integration policy more generally. At Lund University, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute has been conducting research on human rights since 1986. Researchers working at the institute have, for example, studied asylum policy from a human rights perspective.

Two more research centres whose activities are to some extent relevant for this survey are the Centre for Multidisciplinary Studies on Racism (CEMFOR) at Uppsala University and the Segerstedt Institute at the University of Gothenburg. CEMFOR is a newly started research centre in the humanities and social sciences research domain focused on issues related to racism and its implications. The Segerstedt Institute was established in 2015 and is focused on violent ideologies and racist organisations.

In addition to the aforementioned institutes and research centres, there are also a number of research environments that are not directly affiliated with Swedish higher education institutions. These environments conduct activities that are to some extent research-oriented and fund studies and reports within this field of research. The majority of these are funded by the Swedish government at the national level. One important exception, however, is the Multicultural Centre (MKC), which has been operated in the form of a municipal foundation by Botkyrka municipality since 1987. Today, MKC is a platform for research on issues such as discrimination, Swedishness and race, within which there are established collaborations with professionally active researchers. The most prominent government-organised environment is the Migration Studies Delegation (Delmi), a state committee working under the initiative of the Government Offices since 2013. Delmi's mission is to initiate research projects and communicate research findings in order to contribute to public debate. Since its start, the committee has published a number of reports and overviews in a wide range of themes related to migration and integration. Another state research institute relevant in this context is the Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy (IFAU), which falls under the Ministry of Employment. One of the institute's research areas is 'Immigration, school and labour market', and reports have been produced within this scope on the establishment of migrants on the labour market.

Finally, research relevant to the field has also been produced by researchers working in Nordic research institutes. One such institute is the Nordic Welfare Centre, which is funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers and conducts research on welfare and the social sector. Among other things, this includes research on integration and the centre has produced reports on, for example, the reception of unaccompanied minors. Another Nordic institute is Nordregio, which is financed by the Nordic Council. This research centre is focused on issues concerning regional development and community planning and carries out a number of projects within this scope focused on migration and integration.

¹⁶ It can also be mentioned that the activities in the above-mentioned Centre for Multiethnic Research, one of the first research environments in the IMER field in Sweden, was incorporated into the Hugo Valentin Centre in 2010 (Nationalencyklopedin: 'Centrum för multi-etnisk forskning' [Swedish National Encyclopedia 'Centre for Multiethnic Research']).

Research teams

In addition to the research centres and research institutes mentioned above, our survey also showed that there are clusters of researchers in departments at certain higher education institutions who are conducting research focused on migration and integration. Stockholm University is one higher education institution with a particularly high number of such research environments.¹⁷ Several of the university's institutions – namely the Department of Child and Youth Studies, the Department of Human Geography and the Department of Social Anthropology – point out migration when they list their profile areas. The Department of Economics at the same university distinguishes itself nationally through a relatively large number of publications in this field.

In the subject area of law, the survey shows that research in this field is primarily conducted at the universities of Lund and Uppsala. Both of these higher education institutions possess expertise in both asylum law and labour law, and research has been conducted on regulations for both asylum and labour immigration. Researchers at these two institutions have also entered a more formalised cooperation under the Lund/Uppsala Migration Law Network (L/UMIN) with funding from the European Refugee Fund.

Another major cluster – Migration and Ethnicity Research Gothenburg University (MERGU) – is located at the Department of Sociology and Work Science at the University of Gothenburg. Within the subject area of social work, there are also strong research environments at both Lund University and Malmö University. These environments also contain number of researchers who have studied different aspects of irregular migration. Finally, we can note that at the government-funded Institute for Future Studies there is a research programme with the theme 'Discrimination, sexism and racism' aimed at studying the mechanisms of discrimination.

In the field of medical research, Uppsala University stands out in particular. Researchers there at the International Maternal and Reproductive Health and Migration division (part of the Department of Women's and Children's Health) conduct studies of, among other things, the access of different migrant groups to health and medical care.

Research themes and knowledge production within these

The research field migration and integration comprises studies within a number of different scientific disciplines. These tackle the subject from various starting points and theoretical postulations and the research conducted within the field is thus characterised by great breadth. Categorising this (to some extent overlapping) research conducted within a range of disciplines is a virtually endless challenge. An initial fundamental division can be made between research on migration and research on integration. Such a breakdown becomes quite similar to a corresponding breakdown among IMER researchers, which differentiates between research in the field directed at international migration and research directed at ethnic relations (cf. Johansson & Petersson 2013). In an overview conducted by NordForsk (the results of which are also discussed in Chapters 3 and 4 of the strategic research agenda), an argument is presented for dividing the research in the field into three thematic areas, based on whether it focuses on *movement*, *settlement* or *control*.¹⁸ This first category

¹⁷ One explanation for this is likely that the university was previously home to two significant research centres, CEIFO (1983–2011) and SULCIS (2006–2012).

¹⁸ This breakdown was inspired by that done by Kivisto & Faist 2010.

includes research on studies and theorisations about why and how people move, the second on forms of integration of migrants, and the third on states' attempts to control movement (Pyrhönen et al. 2017).

Based on the review we have conducted, we have decided in this overview to divide the research field into five broad themes, which can be said to be pragmatically derived:

- 1) International migration: causes and effects
- 2) Policy and regulations
- 3) Labour market and housing market
- 4) Public institutions and participation in democracy (including health and education)
- 5) Media, culture and identity

According to this division, one theme – the first – focuses on different aspects of migration, while three themes – the third, fourth and fifth – focus on different aspects of integration. This reflects the complexity in the research domain of integration, which in some respects is considerably more difficult to pinpoint as it comprises a very broad set of potential processes and arenas. Because of this, research in the field is more difficult to systematically categorise because there are several possible sorting principles. Many studies in this research domain are based on specific migrant groups and as such, one possibility is to categorise according to the groups that are studied.¹⁹ However, we have instead decided to categorise the research in the field based on the themes that are studied. With this as our starting point, we have identified three broad themes related to integration. These reflect different societal arenas in which processes of inclusion and exclusion of migrants occur. These arenas can also be said to constitute thematic research domains. The other theme, policy and regulations, which focuses on political principles and attempts at governance, relates to both migration and integration. In relation to migration, this deals primarily with laws and principles regulating different categories of migrants and their right to move over borders, while in relation to integration, it deals primarily with the laws and principles that regulate migrants' livelihoods and rights and, ultimately, the possibility of acquiring citizenship. Yet another potential theme could be shaped around expressions for discrimination, xenophobia and racism. We have been able to conclude, however, that these phenomena to some extent cut across all aforementioned themes and we have therefore decided to not discuss this under a separate heading.²⁰

Research on international migration

The research domain international migration comprises studies of causes, processes and consequences related to people's cross-border mobility. The area of causes includes various forms of studies seeking answers to why people choose to migrate and why migration flows go in the directions they do in today's world. Researchers studying migration as a process focus instead on current migration and study the migrants' conditions and strategies in connection with movement. The area of

¹⁹ More possibilities, in turn, present themselves here. Some studies are based on groups that are geographically defined (for example, Somalians, Iranians or Thais), while others in groups defined according to their legal migration status (for example, refugees, labour immigrants, paperless persons). Yet another type consists of groups defined by age (for example, children or elderly).

²⁰ Work is also being conducted in a separate research initiative at the Swedish Research Council on racism.

consequences, finally, focuses on various types of effects that arise in the wake of migration flows. These can be observed in both origin and destination countries as well as in transit countries. Effects can furthermore be studied at different analytical levels – from the individual level up to the global level. Some of the research on the consequences of migration deals basically with the aspects of integration and will accordingly be discussed later in the chapter. A grey zone emerges here, however, in the determination of what should be categorised into each research domain. In this report, we have decided to place the consequences that can be observed on the global arena and in the migrants' countries of origin under this theme. The same applies to research on more general effects in destination countries. The latter can, for example, concern studies of how the economy as a whole, or more limited sectors of society such as labour market and welfare state, are affected by migration.

The research conducted at Swedish higher education institutions in this area has primarily focused on effects of international migration. However, there are also studies that have been directed at causes and processes. With regard to the *causes* of international migration, these have been called studied not least by human geographers. Researchers in this discipline are interested in the spatial aspects of migration and have conducted studies of further migration from Sweden to other countries. Studies have, for instance, investigated the factors explaining why there has been a trend for refugees from Iran (Kelly & Hedman 2016, Kelly 2013) and Somalia (Osman 2012) to move on to other countries after a number of years in Sweden. Among the reasons identified in these studies are that the decision to leave Sweden stems from feelings of a lack of opportunities, discrimination and difficulties finding jobs corresponding to a person's level of education. Similar inequality-generating factors have also been observed in research focused on the structural conditions of the globalised economy. Migrants have often been found to constitute a vulnerable category, a kind of international precariat (Schierup, Ålund & Likic-Brboric 2015).

Research in the area of *processes* would appear to be less common in Sweden. However, there are studies focused on the infrastructure that enables migration. Among these can mentioned studies that have seized on the role that intermediaries play based on an Asian context (Xiang & Lindquist 2014, Lindquist, Xiang & Yeoh 2012) and how asylum seekers from Syria make their way to Sweden (Jörum 2015). There is also some research studying border controls and the strategies developed at national and European levels to prevent people's movement. We will come back to this a little later under the theme policy and regulations. In this context, it can also be noted that a research field has emerged internationally studying various aspects related to irregular migration. Research on this topic has also been conducted in Sweden over the last decade. However, this research has tended to primarily focus on the situation of irregular migrants in Sweden and the regulations and practices underpinning this. Three exceptions can be named here though. The first is a thesis that uses ethnographic methods to follow migrants during their journeys from Ethiopia and Eritrea to Sweden. The focus is on the migrants' strategies and how they navigate around the dangers and control systems they encounter during the course of their journeys (Mengiste 2017). The second is an auto-ethnographic study of irregular migrants, in which the author sheds light on his own and other migrants' pathways to Sweden (Khosravi 2010). The third is a thesis studying irregular migration and the prerequisites for this in the border area between South Africa and Zimbabwe (Tshabalala 2017).

The research area of *consequences* includes, as previously pointed out, a number of different types of effects. One effect of international migration that can be

observed and studied both globally and in the original and destination countries is the establishment of transnational relationships. The term transnationalism has come to be a central reference point in research on international migration in recent decades, and refers to the establishment of transboundary relations that link the countries migrants have left and the countries they have moved to. Transnational relationships comprise a number of different phenomena that can be grouped into the areas of economic, political and socio-cultural transnationalism. Economic transnationalism includes things such as remittances and investments and consumption in the home country. Political transnationalism deals with political participation and political activism directed at the home country. Finally, socio-cultural transnationalism comprises the identification and dreams of returning and the maintenance of transboundary social relationships (King, Frykman & Vullnetari 2013). Researchers active in Sweden have taken an interest in all of these aspects and there are a number of studies analysing different types of transnational relationships.

Transnationalism is also, in both Swedish and international research, closely connected with discussions on migration and development and the creation of diasporic communities (Olsson 2016, King, Frykman & Vullnetari 2013). A significant portion of the research conducted in Sweden on transnationalism focuses on various diasporas and their relationships with their countries of origin. Diaspora is a term that, like transnationalism, has become highly topical in recent decades. The term refers, in this context, to a specific form of community established based on conceptions about a homeland. Erik Olsson, one of the researchers studying diasporas in a Swedish context, points out, however, that the term is often used imprecisely. In a knowledge overview of the research field, Olsson argues that it is misleading to use the term diaspora to denote all groups of immigrating minorities (Olsson 2016). Diaspora should instead be understood as a collective community created through certain types of social practices. This could, for example, include remittances, charity projects or political campaign work.

In recent research on diasporas in Sweden, there have been studies on a number of different groups with varying areas of focus. The majority of these studies focus on different diasporas in Sweden. These include studies of the Chilean (Olsson 2009), Kurdish (Alinia & Eliassi 2014, Zettervall 2013, Khayati 2012, Eliassi 2010, Alinia 2004), Iranian (Kelly 2013, Farahani 2012) and Somalian (Osman 2012) diasporas. However, there are also examples of studies of Swedish diasporas abroad (Olsson 2017). These studies approach diasporas in different ways. Some are interested in migrants' experiences of belonging and home (Eliassi 2010, Alinia 2004), while others focus on political practices (Khayati & Dahlstedt 2014), childhood (Bak & von Brömssen 2010), masculinity (Farahani 2012), generational differences (Alinia & Eliassi 2014) and the role of diasporas in post-conflict situations (Orjuela 2017). One conclusion put forward by several researchers is that identity is created in relation to both the home country and the host country.

In Sweden as well, researchers have taken an interest in remittances and their potential to create development in migrants' home countries. One of these researchers is anthropologist Lisa Åkesson, who has published a number of studies on remittances from different perspectives (Åkesson 2013, 2011a, 2011b). Åkesson stresses that there are a number of factors that make the link between remittances and development a complex issue. One of these is a too-optimistic picture of migrants' opportunities to generate capital to facilitate a successful return to the home country (Åkesson & Eriksson Baaz 2015, Åkesson 2011b). Remittances and their effects have also been studied by several economists. These studies also focus

on the link between remittances and development. The method varies, however, from previously mentioned studies and the focus here is instead on the macroeconomic consequences of remittances in different types of countries (Karpestam 2012).

Finally, there are a number of studies in this research domain that have examined various consequences of migration in destination countries. Here, of course, the border to what might more accurately be called integration research becomes rather fluid. And as already pointed out, there is an overlap here with other research themes, which will be discussed later on.

One research area studying what might be said to be more general consequences includes studies of cultural geography, which have examined how migration affects population composition in Sweden. Among these are studies showing that international migration has come to mean both a repopulating of rural areas and an increase in ethnic diversity in these areas (Hedberg & Haandrikman 2014). Yet another example from this category is a report estimating the effects of immigration on Swedish economy based on an analysis of population development. In a research report produced by Delmi, the authors argue that there is reason to assume that immigration has a positive impact on population composition and thereby on economy and growth. The reason for this link is believed to be that migration leads to a reduced dependency ratio – the ratio between people in ‘dependent’ age groups (children and elderly) and people of working ages – because it leads to changes in the age structure (Malmberg et al. 2016). These conclusions are disputed, however, and critics have argued that it isn’t enough to only look at the age composition of migrants because other factors such as employment rates and the demand for labour must also be taken into account (Lundborg 2017).

In general, macroeconomic analyses of the effects of immigration is a research area marked by both great uncertainty and great disagreement. This type of analysis is based on different types of models and calculations, and there is far from consensus within the research community on which of these is most accurate (see, for example, Engdahl 2016; cf. Flood & Ruist 2015). In addition, the results of these types of studies are highly interesting for a wider audience and are often used in debates by people with various political agendas. The effects of immigration on both the welfare state and the labour market have been the subject of both research as well as extensive debates. Many studies have examined different types of effects on employment. These include a number of studies on employment rates and wages among different migrant categories (Lundborg 2013, Bevelander 2011). Other studies have instead drawn attention to the effects of immigration on the domestic-born population’s employment and wages (Engdahl 2016).

Research on policy and regulations

The research area of policy and regulations includes studies focusing on attempts to manage migration and integration through legislation and other types of political instruments. In relation to migration, this deals primarily with laws and principles regulating different categories of migrants and their right to move over borders, while in relation to integration, it deals primarily with the laws and principles that regulate migrants’ livelihoods and rights and, ultimately, the possibility of acquiring citizenship. Research in this area has been conducted by both normative and empirically oriented researchers. In more philosophically oriented research, there has long been an ongoing discussion about the normative aspects of migration policy and more specifically on how the right to movement and citizenship should be

understood and designed. This said, we have chosen here, as elsewhere in the overview, to direct our focus towards contemporary empirically oriented research.²¹

Substantial parts of the research on policy and regulations have been conducted by researchers working in the disciplines of law and political science. Researchers in this area are primarily interested in the legal aspects of migration in terms of the formulation of laws, how these should be interpreted and what implications they have. Political scientists take a broader approach and are interested in a number of different aspects linked to policy development and legislation in the area of policy. This includes examples of the processes and political conflicts that preceded a certain form of regulation. Another area that has attracted interest among researchers in this discipline are the political principles and considerations that form the foundation of migration and integration policy and how these differ over time and space. In this context, the relationship between national and international regulations is of course relevant to highlight.

EU cooperation in the area of asylum and migration policy holds a special position in this respect. Not least in view of the incompleteness of the common asylum system, which can be assumed in a number of ways to affect both concrete preconditions for migration to and between EU countries, as well as future agreements and policy development (Parkhouse 2016; cf. Andersson 2008). The preconditions for an EU-wide asylum policy have naturally attracted a great deal of interest in light of the strained refugee situation in Europe in recent years (Parusel & Schneider 2017). But this research has for quite some time also called attention to EU-level policy concerning conditions for labour immigration (Hansen 2016; cf. Likic-Brboric, Slavnic & Woolfson 2015, Frank 2014). Policy development is studied in this research at supranational and intergovernmental levels, which also leads to the emergence of goals and political dilemmas that are difficult to reconcile. Officially formulated requests from the European Commission for increased migration of labour to Europe to counteract negative effects of a skewed age distribution among the population are presented concurrently with demands for more effective measures for border control, while at the same time immigrant-critical opinions within EU countries cannot be ignored (Andersson 2016, Jonsson & Hansen 2014).

The legal research in this area can be roughly broken down according to what type of legislation is studied and in what context. Studies in this field have in recent years examined both the parts of migration law relating to regulations on labour migration and those relating to asylum. The research has also taken an interest in both Swedish legislation and European and international law. In a somewhat simplified description, it can be asserted that legal researchers who have analysed labour immigration have tended to focus on Sweden, while legal researchers who have analysed asylum law have tended to have a more international focus. The first category includes studies analysing the effects of the regulations for labour immigration introduced in 2008 (see, for example, Callemann 2015, Callemann & Herzfeld Olsson 2015) and studies addressing the legal aspects of irregular migrants' work (Selberg 2016, 2015, Inghammar 2010). The research on asylum law has in turn varied in terms of both thematic and geographic focus. This includes both studies on age assessments in the asylum process (Noll 2016) and studies on deciding redistribution mechanisms in the EU (Karageorgiou 2016), as well as a

²¹ Normative studies refer here to studies that are purely directed towards fundamental issues and focus on how regulations should be designed. The difference between normative and empirical research is not always obvious, however, and many of the studies that have been classified as empirical are based in normative reasoning and points of departure.

number of studies critically reviewing international regulations and difficulties in actualising the right to seek asylum (Gammeltoft-Hansen & Tan 2017).

The research in the area more oriented towards political science, which focuses on policy and policy development, shows a great range. One example of research in this area concerns the studies conducted on the effects of different migration and integration policy measures and reforms. Current examples that can be mentioned are research on the Swedish activation reform for the establishment of new immigrants and its effects (Qvist 2016, Larsson 2015) as well as research on the effects of the new legislation on labour immigration (Emilsson 2015, 2014). Another example concerns studies focusing on the ideas and principles on which different policy areas are based, and how these have changed over time. These include analyses of continuity and change in relation to Swedish integration and migration policy (Borevi 2014). Many researchers have also worked from a comparative approach and investigated the differences between Sweden and other countries in terms of policy and legislation in various policy areas. Some of these studies have explicitly focused on Swedish characteristics and pointed out how developments in different areas differ from trends identified in other countries (see, for example, Borevi 2015, Berg & Spehar 2013, Andersson & Nilsson 2009). Political scientists have also studied factors that affect the stances and positions of political parties in relation to migration policy (Bucken-Knapp et al. 2014, Hinnfors, Spehar & Bucken-Knapp 2012).

Over the last decade, a number of researchers in different disciplines have also directed attention towards the legislation process, and to the application of legislation in government agencies and courts. Several studies have examined and analysed the preconditions and effects of various reforms. One example concerns the studies focusing on the closure of the Aliens Appeals Board of Sweden (Sw. Utlänningsnämnden) and the transfer of appeals in asylum matters to administrative courts. Researchers have studied both the background to this 'juridification' of the asylum process and its implications (Johannesson 2017, Hedlund, Cederborg & Zamboni 2016). A number of researchers have also studied the impact of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Swedish legislature and in the examination of children's asylum cases. Several studies have, for example, analysed the effects of the introduction of a portal paragraph on the best interests of the child in the Aliens Act (Josefsson 2017, Lundberg & Lind 2017, Hedlund & Cederborg 2015, Andersson 2012). Several more studies have approached the issue of credibility and how narratives and applicants are constructed as credible in the asylum process (Hedlund 2017, Stern & Wikström 2016, Wikström 2014, Wikström & Johansson 2013).

Yet another aspect researched in the field of policy and regulations is the practical application of border control. One example of an area that has interested researchers is the technology and the strategies used to monitor and control border crossings in order to prevent uncontrolled and unwanted migration. Particular focus is once again directed at the EU, given the outer borders that have been created between the Union and the outside world (Andersson 2016, Gammeltoft-Hansen & Sørensen 2012, Gammeltoft-Hansen 2011). In connection to this, the very idea of irregular migration as a threat, within a bureaucracy such as the European Commission, has been studied empirically (Svantesson 2014).

Yet another area researched is the consequences of stricter border control for different categories of migrants. In the last decade, an interdisciplinary field of research has emerged in Sweden focusing on the situation of irregular migrants in the Swedish society (Sager 2015, 2011, Sigvardsdotter 2012, Holgersson 2011).

Researchers have also taken an interest in return policy and how this has developed over the past decade. This includes studies of the conditions in detention centres (Puthooppambal 2016) and studies of different aspects of forced repatriation (Hansson, Ghazinour, & Padyab 2017, Sundqvist et al. 2015, Khosravi 2009).

Labour market and housing market research

The first broad theme we have chosen in order to highlight research on different aspects of integration concerns conditions, in a broad sense, within the labour market and the housing market. In research conducted in Sweden, there is a long tradition of studies in both of these spheres, as well as within a number of different disciplines. The element of economic research is, as expected, significant in terms of conditions on the labour market (with the emphasis here on market). In similar ways, geographers have long engaged in studies concerning the housing market and above all its biases in terms of different types of housing segregation. Below, we describe how researchers have, within these but also within other disciplines, studied integration-related differences with a focus on different forms of discrimination and exclusion, as well as measures to counteract inequalities.

Integration and the labour market

A number of studies have taken an interest in biases in regard to different outcomes on the housing market. In the light of empirical analyses, systematic differences have been observed, in regard to employment rate, unemployment, insecurity in employment terms, perceived influence on the workplace and salaries (Behtoui et al. 2017, Carlsson & Rooth 2016, Aldén & Hammarstedt 2015, Joyce 2015, Eriksson 2011; cf. Olsson & Wadensjö 2017, Schierup & Jørgensen 2016). The diffuse picture in contemporary Sweden of immigrants' relatively more vulnerable position on the labour market is undoubtedly reflected in a lot of the research findings. But with a historical perspective, it has also been pointed out that the link between e.g. origin and employment can manifest in different ways in different time periods (Asplund, Tovatt & Thalberg 2017). In periods of Swedish industry expansion during the post-war era, there was an extensive need for labour immigration, and thereby no such outcome to the detriment of foreign-born people.

The good supply of high-quality register data (which often also includes long time series) in Sweden has enabled rather detailed comparisons between different population categories, based on e.g. country of birth, age, education and time in the new home country. Such data has enabled researchers to shed light on, for example, what role age at the time of immigration plays in abilities to establish on the labour market, and how these vary depending on where the person has emigrated from (Gustafsson, Innes & Österberg 2017). Data of this type has also enabled analyses of how managers' recruitment of employees can be affected by origin – such as whether a person is more likely to employ someone with the same background as their own (Åslund, Hensvik & Skans 2014).²² Further examples can be drawn from studies on how career opportunities on the labour market, in different industries, vary depending on origin (Urban 2013). Comparative studies, which then include register data from other countries, can also be noted here; for example, in relation to differences in employment and wage developments for refugee and close family immigration (Bevelander & Pendakur 2014).

²² A systematic bias in employee recruitment with regard to origin need not indicate the existence of 'preference-based' discrimination, however, and we will return to this issue below.

An over-representation of immigrants among Sweden's self-employed has previously been observed in official statistics (see e.g. SCB 2013; cf. Joonas 2010).²³ A number of researchers have also taken an interest in this ratio. An assumption that self-employment can sometimes be a strategy to avoid unemployment presents itself quite easily here, something that research in the field also indicates (Klinthäll et al. 2016). This seems to be partly a consequence of the considerable broadening of research in this field in recent decades. From an earlier focus on what was perceived to be rather constant properties, based on ethnic or cultural group affiliation, more intricate theories about the conditions of self-employment for immigrants and members of ethnic minorities have been developed and tested (cf. Slavnic 2013).

In this spirit, disparate and complex reasons behind immigrant women's self-employment in the Swedish nursing care sector have been demonstrated and analysed (Hedberg & Pettersson 2012). Furthermore, researchers have attempted to explain self-employment variations with the contemporaneous influence of national origin and regional differences within Sweden (Ohlsson, Broomé & Bevelander 2012); including with regard to the amount of time a person has been in the country, regardless of origin (Andersson et al. 2013). Yet many of the observed differences seem to remain unexplained; conditions and restrictions seem here to be difficult to fully capture in extensive statistical analyses.

One factor that might be expected to have a great significance is loan terms in banks and other credit institutions. Among research on the importance of this are studies of the representation in the bank sector of people of various origins (and possible ethnicity-based networks owing to this). Variations in this regard may in turn be part of virtually inaccessible discriminating structures, if credit-seeking business owners of a particular origin encounter less understanding because of this (Eliasson 2014).

In the search for explanations for the more vulnerable position of immigrants in the labour market, researchers in several social science disciplines have taken an interest in the existence of discrimination. Economists, as well as other social scientists, have developed and tested methodologies for correspondence testing in order to examine the existence of discrimination in different societal spheres. These are based on a sort of controlled experiment in which researchers study things such as employers' responses to job applications in which the applicants have equivalent qualifications but different origins.²⁴

Studies of this type, conducted in Sweden as well as in other countries in the Western world, have indicated that ethnic discrimination does exist (Carlsson & Rooth 2015). Expanded analyses have also examined the significance of business cycles in this respect (Carlsson, Fumarco & Rooth 2017) as well as the existence of both ethnic and gender-based discrimination (Arai, Bursell & Nekby 2015). This latter type of issue has also been analysed using data not based on constructed experiments (and thus founded in fictitious job applications), but instead on actual experiments with anonymised application processes (Åslund & Skans 2012). The findings of these have indicated that ethnic discrimination, but not gender-

²³ Corresponding patterns have also been observed in other countries in the Western world. In recent years, however, earlier differences in self-employment seem to have generally levelled out in Sweden, while significant variations between e.g. different industries and income possibilities remain (Klinthäll et al. 2016).

²⁴ For a discussion of the reliability and usability of this methodology, see Carlsson & Rooth 2015. According to the same logic, the experiment can also involve people with different characteristics actively participating in studies to measure differences in how they are treated in actual situations. This methodology is often referred to as situation testing or practice testing. For further discussion and exemplification, see Molina 2016.

discrimination, is difficult to counteract only via initial anonymity. Doors can also be closed due to the applicant's origin further on in the employment process.

Although unjustified differences due to origin appear in studies of this type, it is important to point out that a question remains that is difficult to answer through research. This concerns whether discriminatory treatment (by all appearances) in itself is not necessarily a result of xenophobic or racist attitudes. This *may* be due to looking down on people belonging to certain groups and therefore wanting to engage in negative discrimination. But it can also be based in what is known as statistical discrimination (Phelps 1972). That is, that representatives of certain population categories tend to be given lower priority (or disregarded entirely) because recruitment managers e.g. lack sufficient information about the individual's productivity and thus proceed based on more or less prejudiced notions of different population groups.

Without exaggeration, it can be asserted that increased integration in the labour market has long been a prioritised goal in Swedish public policy. In light of this, there has also been a desire to evaluate initiatives to facilitate establishment on the labour market for immigrants, not least for those who have relatively recently come to the country. In view of the many complex conditions – measures designed to facilitate this may suit some groups better than others, function as intended in certain places but not in others and so on – it is not surprising that research has found that the effects of such initiatives are difficult to assess (Joyce 2015; cf. Olsson & Wadensjö 2017). Just to name one example, it has been difficult to demonstrate whether stricter measures against discrimination actually can also, as hoped, reduce discrimination in the labour market.

It should also be noted that research on labour market policy measures aimed at reducing exclusion and increasing opportunities for self-sufficiency also encompasses more fundamental critical perspectives. In studies of this type, it is common – though far from always expressed – to problematise the view of work as an obligation, and as the key to integration (Dahlstedt 2013). Researchers have pointed to how employees at government agencies proceed from the assumption that clients must strive to adopt what is perceived to be desirable 'Swedish' attitudes and norms, in order to thereby be incorporated into the social community (Dahlstedt & Vesterberg 2017; cf. Larsson 2015).

Integration and the housing market

If work and the labour market comprise one self-evident focal point in terms of 'integration' (in both research and public policy), conditions on the housing market is an obvious candidate for the other. This naturally has its basis in the often-observed housing segregation – an uneven geographical distribution of different population groups that is clear even in relatively equal welfare states like Sweden. The housing market's distinctive feature of being a 'market' is an important aspect when it comes to segregation patterns. As long as the cities' residential areas show different average housing prices, economic conditions will covary with the geographical distribution of population groups.

Renting rather than buying a home is of course an option for households with fewer financial resources. But in many cases, rental housing is located separately, and can thereby be said to contribute to maintaining housing segregation (Andersson et al. 2017). At the same time, the attractiveness of different rented flats varies depending on where they are located. And even when it comes to right of tenancy, there is room for biases and inequalities. In the same way that discrimination can

affect job seekers, home hunters can be at risk of being screened out for unjust reasons.

Correspondence testing has also been utilised to investigate such cases, and the results have suggested the existence of discrimination (Bengtsson, Iverman & Hinnerich 2012). In this research, such findings have also been linked to local migration policy attitudes. Landlords appear to be more inclined to engage in ethnic discrimination in municipalities in which there is generally more critique towards immigration (Carlsson & Eriksson 2017). The results of more qualitatively oriented field studies, but conducted under the same logic, also suggest that discrimination occurs in encounters with estate agents (Molina 2016). It seems then that even the part of the housing market in which homes are bought and sold is not immune in this respect.

In light of the fact that integration is often discussed based on differences within the labour and housing markets, research has also drawn attention to the link between these spheres. Studies of this type have, for example, explored how living in residential areas with lots of immigrants affects access to valuable contacts in the labour market (Klinthäll & Urban 2016). Other studies, on the other hand, have indicated that segregation with regard to the workplace need not at all be related to segregation with regard to where a person lives (Pendakur, Pendakur & Bevelander 2016). In terms of the prerequisites for getting a job in the first place, for example for newly arrived immigrants, research findings suggest that living in an immigrant-dense area can be a disadvantage, but that such cases can also differ between different cities (Hedberg & Tammaru 2013).

In a number of studies, researchers in human geography as well as economists, sociologists and other social scientists, have used register data to study how population patterns are affected by internal migration over time, that is, how the composition of the population in different residential areas is affected by the (re)locating that takes place continuously. Driving forces behind housing segregation – and the ways in which socio-economic and ethnic segregation covary – have thus been studied based on e.g. how the domestic-born population reacts to an increased representation of foreign-born people in a residential area (Aldén, Hammarstedt & Neuman 2015; cf. Andersson et al. 2017).²⁵ Relocation has also been studied in relation to the importance of business cycles with regard to poverty in a specific area (Andersson & Hedman 2016). Knowledge has furthermore been expanded through comparative analyses, for example of ethnic segregation in Sweden compared with other Nordic countries (Wessel et al. 2017), and in Sweden compared with Italy (Scarpa 2016). In connection to this, studies on what has been called housing policy can also be mentioned (Borevi & Bengtsson 2015). Focus is directed here towards public-sector strategies to influence where newly arrived asylum seekers will be offered housing.

We mentioned previously how research on international migration can be said to explore either causes, processes or consequences. And it may seem obvious to describe research on segregation in a similar way. Not least considering its message that ‘migration’ within cities often just causes segregation. Surely so much attention would not be drawn to this, however – either in research or in public debate – if there was no suspicion of negative implications (cf. Urban 2014).

²⁵ In international research literature, this phenomenon is described as manifest reactions to the area reaching a certain ‘tipping point’.

A very central issue in segregation research concerns just such implications, in the form of what is known as neighbourhood effects.²⁶ Based on a descriptive analysis of prevailing patterns ('what does housing segregation look like?'), a further step has been taken here to an explanatory analysis ('what is the significance of housing segregation?'). In this spirit, researchers in a number of different disciplines have studied how socio-economic differences can affect an individual's opportunities and restrictions in different respects (Andersson et al. 2017). Put simply, this is about attempting to pin down the significance of which neighbours a person has (or had growing up).

An extensive set of specific consequences have been examined and documented in the research literature. Based on statistical association analyses – in which data at the individual level is combined with data at the housing level – researchers have analysed how growth in immigrant-dense and socio-economically disadvantaged residential areas can affect individuals' economic conditions later in life.²⁷ This can be identified through various measures of success and failure, for example in terms of access to higher education or of the risk of becoming unemployed and being forced to live on income support (Gustafsson, Katz & Österberg 2017a, Neuman 2015). That poverty in a specific area can actually affect those exposed to a negative environment like this is indicated in studies of this type. And despite far from unequivocal patterns, this does suggest that segregation in and of itself has adverse consequences for individuals. In light of this, there are also studies that have identified strong links between income level in the area a person grows up in and income level in the area that a person lives in as an adult, even in equality-focused welfare states such as Sweden (Gustafsson, Katz & Österberg 2017b).

Further studies place the perspective above the residential area level, albeit while also studying the consequences of segregation. Knowledge on differences in population composition can be used to characterise a city, for example, as segregated to some degree or another. This in turn has been utilised to analyse variations in outbreaks of unrest across Swedish municipalities (Malmberg, Andersson & Östh 2013).

The primarily human geography research in this specific field has been methodically developed in recent years by means of data management in geographical information systems (GIS). Neighbourhood effects can then be studied without first needing to start from administratively delimited areas, which can likely only very roughly capture individuals' social environments. Studies suggest here that conventional (administratively based) measures may have underestimated the neighbourhood's importance for an individual's level of education (Andersson & Malmberg 2015). This said, there is also research pointing to the difficulties of even attempting to track actual social impact through characteristics in geographically delimited environments. Here it is emphasised, among other things, that an individual's social networks need not necessarily follow the same boundaries (Edling & Rydgren 2012).

Because segregation by definition (as well as figuratively) can be said to be the opposite of integration, research also explores, as might be expected, initiatives to counteract housing segregation. Here, there is a great demand for knowledge from political decision-makers, not least because extensive public action programmes have the aim of counteracting exclusion in vulnerable residential areas in Sweden. In

²⁶ Neighbourhood effects can more generally be said to be a subset of what in social science research is called contextual effects.

²⁷ The need for correspondingly more qualitatively oriented studies – not least to better explain how neighbourhood effects occur – is pointed out by e.g. Andersson et al. 2017.

view of the often both unclear and unrealistic goals concerning how segregation should be counteracted with targeted initiatives (Urban 2014), research has also communicated critical objections and negative messages as concerns the results of pursued policy; in the worst case also resulting in increased isolation rather than increased integration (Bunar 2011, Andersson, Bråmås & Holmqvist 2010).

Research on public institutions and participation in democracy

In a modern welfare state such as Sweden, public institutions manifest themselves to the citizens in an almost countless number of ways. Yet there are certain social spheres and arenas that are relatively prominent. The extensive integration research that we have attempted to characterise under this broad theme relates in various ways to conditions and practices as concerns equality and equal treatment irrespective of origin.

Integration and schools

Integration researchers have devoted a great deal of attention to the school environment. This is hardly surprising considering the formal and real importance of the educational system – both for the individual's living conditions and for economic development in society at large. Differences in manifold conditions in schools, which in various ways can be connected to origin, is a natural focal point. Formal rights do not seem to have attracted as much attention, in comparison with how rights in reality can be capitalised on, for example in the communication of knowledge. The research contains a complex web of individual experiences among children and youths with a history of migration and the institutional structures they encounter (cf. Brunar 2012). In the light of a legitimate concern for school failures, when immigrant pupils have to acquire knowledge in a new language, attempts have been made to identify how favourable school cultures for learning can be developed and maintained (Trondman et al. 2012; cf. Lund & Lund 2016). Here, particular emphasis is placed on the relation between pupils' living conditions outside of school and the school's ability to convey knowledge equally.

With an integration perspective, researchers from a number of different disciplines have posed questions on how professions in the school confront challenges in the multicultural society. In addition to long-observed differences in school results between immigrants and domestic-born pupils in Sweden (cf. SCB 2016, SCB 2013), studies have in different ways shed light on how school curriculum objectives can conflict with aims to create inclusive social environments (cf. Bunar 2012).

School researchers who focus on integration have also taken an interest in immigrant pupils' experiences of how education goals and expectations change in light of the migration experience (Folke 2017; cf. Bethoui 2017). The relationship between school and parents has also been analysed. A sort of cultural training element has been observed in the contact between educators representing the majority population and immigrant parents of schoolchildren (Lunneblad 2017, Lozic 2016; cf. Bouakaz 2012).

The school's normative assignment as conveyor of democratic values is also drawn attention to in different ways in the research. Examples of this can be found in the work against honour violence that the school as an institution has a particular responsibility for trying to identify and combat (Darvishpour & Lahdenperä 2014). A kind of side effect has been observed, here as well as in similar contexts where good and fair values are more or less spontaneously seen as expressions of the

majority culture (Gruber 2011). Projects of this type can thus assume the guise of a sorting mechanism between the ‘Swedish’ and the ‘foreign’.

A large number of studies on integration and education have been based on ethnographically oriented methods, with information collected via e.g. observations and interviews in the schools’ local communities. Approaches and concrete strategies for manoeuvring in complex realities have thereby been analysed with the help of voices from primary school teachers (Obondo, Lahdenperä & Sandevärn 2016, Wedin 2014), preschool teachers (Lunneblad 2017), study counsellors (Herzberg & Sundelin 2014), and even educational leaders (Norberg 2017). Challenges undoubtedly emerge here in connection to diversity, such as language confusion and cultural differences in expectations, but also in how supportive and flexible strategies can be developed. At the same time, a demand has been expressed for further methodological breadth (Trondman et al. 2012). A reasonable expectation here is that qualitative analyses can be reconciled with statistically based conclusions for mutual cross-fertilisation.

With a direct parallel to the neighbourhood effects discussed above, social environments in schools (and in classrooms) have been studied based on the same logic, and in this case preferably with quantitative analysis techniques and register data.²⁸ If, for example, pupils with different origins tend to be unevenly distributed across the schools in a municipality – in ways similar to that of housing – the differences that arise in ethnic and socio-economic composition may also affect the conditions of individual pupils. What most immediately suggests itself here is perhaps to study such school effects on conditions for learning and school performance in general. But research with this focus has also studied conditions for social relationships (Plenty & Jonsson 2017), and the risk of delinquent behaviour among immigrant and non-immigrant adolescents (Svensson et al. 2012).

In light of the significance of segregation, researchers have also taken an interest in the driving forces behind school segregation. In a country such as Sweden, there is still a strong connection between housing segregation and school segregation, but the opportunity to freely choose schools within the Swedish school system has been highlighted in this context. Findings here suggest that rules concerning school choice in Sweden at least to some extent promote an unequal distribution of pupils with foreign backgrounds between schools (Böhlmark, Holmlund & Lindahl 2016, Hansen & Gustafsson 2016; for a critical discussion, also see Lund 2015).

Integration and health

Another part of the broad theme surrounding societal institutions concerns research on differences in health (in a broad sense) and access to healthcare. It is not difficult to argue for the importance of health and health-promoting initiatives as concerns the total quality of life of a society. But to begin with, possible differences in this respect – to what extent people in different parts of the population suffer from ill health – may be assumed to lie outside the reach of integration policy. An extensive interest in the research on health differences that can be associated with origin is of course motivated by the fundamental importance of health for an individual’s living conditions. If integration is interpreted as generally equal conditions irrespective of origin, the prerequisites to prevent and counteract illness are fundamental (cf. Mood, Jonsson & Låftman 2016).

²⁸ For a detailed discussion on contextual analysis based on differences in pupil composition between schools, see Almgren 2006.

At the same time, there is also research specifically linking differences in health status between immigrants in the Nordic countries to integration policy (Krasnik 2017). The welfare states in this part of the world are in many ways institutionally and socio-economically similar. But poorer perceived health among immigrants in Denmark compared with Sweden has been linked to a positive impact resulting from the more multicultural tone of Swedish policy.

This also has a bearing on what in the research literature has been called the ‘healthy immigrant effect’ (cf. Hemminki 2012, Johansson et al. 2012) and the ‘healthy immigrant paradox’ (cf. Juárez & Revuelta-Eugercios 2016). Cross-national studies have noted good average health among the immigrant population (at least initially after migration), despite the fact that the opposite may have been expected considering that migration has often taken place from more socio-economically disadvantaged to more resource-rich countries. One explanation for this is based on a sort of selection effect, that is, that the ‘selection’ of migrants consists to a greater extent of physically and mentally strong and resourceful persons. The successful migration in itself to a more or less unknown environment requires a capacity that is also health-promoting.

However, the reality would seem to be much more complex than this. Average good health among relatively recent immigrants can deteriorate over time in the new home country (Hemminki 2012; cf. Krasnik 2017). The results vary depending on which immigrant groups are studied in which countries of immigration, and depending on which specific health indicators are studied (Honkaniemi et al. 2017, Juárez & Hjern 2017, Johansson et al. 2012). Among important identified explanatory factors for health status are position in the labour market and length of stay in the new country, the impact of which, however, has been found to be different for immigrant women and immigrant men in Sweden (Johansson et al. 2012; cf. Mittendorfer-Rutz 2017). At the same time, other research findings have been interpreted as that poorer perceived health in certain immigrant groups could be due to the fact that differences in working conditions are difficult to identify in large-scale studies (Rostila & Dunlavy 2013).²⁹

Within this vast field, we can observe disciplinary-wide studies, in which researchers with medical, health sciences and public health sciences orientations cooperate with demographers, sociologists and other social scientists. The good opportunities to achieve increased knowledge by utilising high-quality Swedish register data for epidemiological studies have been emphasised (Johansson et al 2012). In other studies, however, a broad set of more qualitative methods come to use, such as focus groups and observation studies. Being able to base analyses to a greater extent on a combination of methods seems potentially fruitful.

Researchers in the field highlighting differences of relevance from an integration perspective have taken a particular interest in differences in mental and psychological health. This can to a certain extent be linked to the significant refugee immigration that has been taking place for many years to developed welfare states like Sweden. People who have moved from their countries of origin have often suffered threats and violence and it is a natural assumption that traumatic experiences can lead to mental illness (Mittendorfer-Rutz 2017, Sigvardsdotter et al. 2016, Wångdahl et al. 2014). Research based on surveys in Sweden have also shown differences in psychological anxiety between people who have immigrated due to refugee reasons and people who have immigrated for other reasons (Johnson et al. 2017). Problems of this type are reported to a higher extent among the former of

²⁹ This sort of difficulty not only affects register-based studies, but also survey-based studies (cf. Rostila & Dunlavy 2013).

these groups and a disheartening finding in relation to this is that a longer stay in the new home country in itself could not counteract this; the lack of supportive social networks is an explanation to this that has been supported by research.³⁰

This said, there are also examples of survey studies conducted in several countries (including Sweden), whose results indicate that children and young people with immigrant backgrounds show comparatively lower rates of mental illness (Mood, Jonsson & Låftman 2016, Dekeyser et al. 2011). When specific children with immigrant backgrounds have been studied based on contact with psychiatric care, however, a low degree of contact has also been interpreted as possibly being due to the existence of structural obstacles (Barghadouch et al. 2016).³¹ It is conceivable that both psychiatric and other care is perceived to be less accessible, for both parents and children with refugee experiences. This may also entail difficulties interpreting information about rights and understanding how rules and regulations work. Studies on what is known as ‘health illiteracy’ among people who have come as refugees to Sweden have also indicated significant shortcomings (Wångdahl et al. 2014; cf. Pacheco, Jonzon & Hurtig 2016).

More research has been requested on how conditions can be improved in this respect (cf. Löthberg et al. 2012). In this spirit, integration-related studies on the accessibility of care have also directed focus on, for example, the need for interpreting assistance in elderly care (Hadziabdic, Lundin & Hjelm 2015). This said, there is also research pointing to the importance of doctors’ attitudes and treatment of immigrant patients (Akhavan & Karlsen 2013).

Integration and social service

Attitudes and treatment can of course be expected to be a central aspect even in other societal institutions besides health and medical care. In the educational system, as discussed previously, examples of this can undoubtedly be manifold. Another relevant sphere here is social care. Integration-related research in Sweden has taken particular interest in social service activities in municipalities and in government agencies (Eliassi 2015, Söderqvist, Bülow & Sjöblom 2015, Forsell & Torres 2012). In studies within this research field – often based on qualitative interviews, but also on analyses of e.g. policy documents – researchers have studied how employees attempt to navigate between the needs of the person seeking help and requirements for efficiency and legal certainty.³² A professional category such as a social service caseworker can be said to represent the welfare state’s ‘street-level bureaucrats’, when caseworkers in direct contact with clients constitute the very link between regulations and recipients (Boccagni & Righard 2015, Ottosson, Eastmond and Schierenbeck 2012).³³ It is here, as in corresponding roles in other professions, that public policy is tangibly expressed to members of society.

When applied specifically to social work with immigrant clients, researchers have observed that more or less unconscious preconceptions of cultural differences can affect handling and decisions (Jönsson 2013, Eliassi 2015). In connection with this,

³⁰ The study referred to above (Johnson et al. 2017) also observed significant gender differences; among the refugees studied, men were generally more affected than women.

³¹ Such obstacles would be assumed to have an even greater effect on paperless migrants, who live under very vulnerable and mentally stressful circumstances even in a traditionally equality-focused nation like Sweden (Ascher & Smith 2017).

³² It should be noted, however, that researchers in the social work discipline also conduct studies based on quantitative methods and data. These include, for example, analyses of differences in reception of income support between immigrants and domestic-born (for an overview, see Gustafsson 2013).

³³ The term ‘street-level bureaucracy’ was coined by the American political scientist Michael Lipsky (1980). In Swedish translations, the actors have been referred to as ‘local bureaucrats’ and ‘front-line bureaucrats’.

researchers have pointed out that social problems risk being ‘culturalised’; needs and shortcomings are interpreted as deviations from the ‘normal’ in the majority culture and its rules and regulations. An inability to recognise this problem among employees in social services may also, according to critically interpreted research findings, put the preservation of discriminating structures at risk (Eliassi 2017). In connection to this, there are also studies problematising a routine demand for cultural competence (Gruber 2016). Employees with origins similar to that of, for example, adolescents in compulsory care have to fill a role as cultural experts, but can at the same time be suspected of a lack of professionalism.

There are furthermore studies that in Sweden have directed focus towards social service caseworkers and care administrators, and their work with unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors (Söderqvist, Bülow & Sjöblom 2015; cf. Brunnberg & Hart 2016), migrants without residence permits (Jönsson 2014), young people who have been subjected to honour-related violence (Wikström & Ghazinour 2010) and towards the special needs that may exist in older immigrants’ support requirements (Torres, Olaison & Forssell 2015). At the same time, more research has been requested on how extensive migration and increased ethnic diversity in Europe actually affect the conditions for social service in the welfare states (Boccagni & Righard 2015; cf. Righard & Boccagni 2015). In this context, the need for more transnational comparative studies has been particularly highlighted.

Integration and the legal system

Further examples of public institutions in which integration researchers have taken an interest in reception and treatment, as well as in problems relating to equal treatment, can be taken from research relating to the legal system. In studies of main hearings in Swedish courts, researchers have through observations and interviews found that interpretation between different languages can put immigrant immigrants at a disadvantage and contribute to mutual distrust (Elsrud, Lalander & Staaf 2017, Elsrud 2014, Torstensson & Sullivan 2011). The rituals of a judicial process can also be perceived as particularly difficult to decode for persons originating from a vastly different part of the world. Alongside this, however, these studies also note how cultural stereotypes can impair the possibilities for equal treatment.

From a professional comparative perspective, the ways in which social service caseworkers mentally deal with difficult tasks in combination with deportation cases is compared with similar situations for police officers (Sundqvist et al. 2015; cf. Hansson, Ghazinour & Padyab 2017). With regard to the Swedish police’s recruitment work aimed at increasing diversity, historical analyses have contributed to the research (Furuhagen 2015). A need for similar studies in other countries has also been identified here.

In criminologically oriented integration research, there are analyses seeking to explain differences in criminality between different population groups (Beckley 2015a, 2015b, Hällsten, Szulkin & Sarnecki 2013). In addition to socio-economical differences, studies of this type based on register data have also highlighted the significance of citizenship and the consequences of housing segregation (see section on housing above).

With a more comprehensive legal sociology perspective, developments in Europe in the wake of extensive forced migration and increased demands for border control have also been analysed under the heading ‘cimmigration’ (van der Woude, Barker & van der Leun 2017). The overall idea here is that states’ increasing need for security and safety mean that conceptions of crime control and immigration control become largely confluent.

Integration and participation in democracy

In the broad theme of how integration research in a number of different ways is focused on societal institutions, we will conclude by touching upon studies relating to politics and participation in democracy. In Sweden, as in other democratic welfare states, there has long been an interest in differences in terms of utilisation of political freedoms and rights between different population groups. In this context, political-sociological researchers have attempted to describe and explain why people with foreign backgrounds have lower voter turnouts in public elections (Bevelander & Spång 2017).³⁴ Similar divides in democratic participation have also been identified in other types of political participation, such as contacting elected officials or organising petitions.³⁵

Explanations for such patterns have with some success been sought in both socio-economic differences and in regulations. The acquisition through citizenship of at least formal integration has been highlighted in several studies as a positive factor (Bevelander & Hutcheson 2017, Bevelander & Pendakur 2011). Negative consequences of housing segregation have also been emphasised in this context, but also how engagement can be counteracted by the feeling of not really having access and being able to influence, for example within political parties (Soininen & Qvist 2017). The research in this field has also taken an interest in initiatives to even out differences in voter turnout, for example via municipally organised projects (Spång 2017). Although there is some support that outreach activities can promote interest in voting, more research is needed here, not least in relation to the effectiveness of different initiatives.

The civil society has traditionally enjoyed a position of great importance in a country such as Sweden. In light of this, it is not surprising that integration researchers have also studied non-profit associations and organisations, including through in-depth case studies. A natural focus here has been activities in organisations that specifically target immigrant groups, and the overall conditions of these (Bengtsson & Hertting 2016, Ålund et al. 2013, Scaramuzzino 2012). Studies based on survey data have also indicated that association affiliation can be a bridge to political involvement, and that this applies particularly for immigrant members (Myrberg 2011). Moreover, the research also contains examples of critical analyses of integration projects conducted in collaboration between the public sector and associations (Ekholm & Dalhstedt 2017).

In regard to integration issues and political views, significant research interest has been directed at xenophobia and support for immigrant-critical political parties. Political scientists, sociologists and other social scientists have in this context studied both variations within Sweden (Rydgren & Ruth 2013), and between European countries (Bohman & Hjerm 2016, Bohman 2015). With a particular focus on parties of this type, their mutual relationships have also been studied, including through case studies in the Nordic region (Jungar & Jupskås 2014). Furthermore, studies have also demonstrated the importance of local organisation for national electoral support, including for this type of party (Erlingsson, Loxbo & Öhrvall 2012). In connection to this, studies in recent years have also shed light on a gender perspective, both via comparative survey studies focusing on explaining why fewer

³⁴ A specific interest in differences in political participation related to origin can be seen in Sweden at least from the reform that gave foreign nationals (under certain provisions) the right to vote in municipal elections in 1976 (for an early analysis, see e.g. Bäck & Soininen 1998).

³⁵ Political scientist Gunnar Myrberg (2007) has shown, however, that the pattern in this respect is not clear-cut in Sweden. For certain forms of political participation, reported activity rates (based on a survey) were higher among immigrants than among native Swedes. A similar trend has also been observed in relation to exercising the right to vote in general elections (Berg 2017).

women than men vote for immigrant-critical parties (Harteveld et al. 2015), and via in-depth interviews with women active in this type of party with the aim of examining the role of gender equality given a xenophobic agenda (Mulinari & Neergaard 2015).

Research on media, culture and identity

A final theme crystallises in this review, in which we have attempted to include research that in a broad sense can be said to deal with interpretations and representations.³⁶ How reality is described – and what with varying degrees of subtlety is identified as problematic or desirable – can be expected to have implications both for political opinion as well as for overall patterns of interpersonal trust in a society (cf. Meltzer et al. 2017). In an often difficult-to-survey and conflict-ridden discursive landscape, messages and images are disseminated via mass media as well as via social media and other digital platforms.

Conceptions about multiculturalism, and of the majority and minority cultures, are propagated in a political climate that integration researchers have characterised as both ‘medialised’ and ‘racified’ (Dahlstedt 2014; cf. Schierup, Ålund & Neergaard 2017). In parallel with the overall societal analyses in this respect, this area also encompasses research that through close-up studies at the microlevel investigate perceptions and expressions of identity and belonging in the multicultural society.

Media and communication researchers, along with other social scientists, have from at least the early 2000s been studying how issues concerning immigration and integration are portrayed in the mass media. This said, there are relatively few major studies based on news media in Sweden (Strömbäck, Andersson & Nedlund 2017). In contrast to a suspicion raised in the public debate, that established mass media does not give enough attention to the negative consequences of immigration, a recent study finds that, if anything, the opposite is true. According to this multi-year study of news reporting in Swedish newspapers, immigration is portrayed as both positive and negative, though the latter is more common (Strömbäck, Andersson & Nedlund 2017). Yet there is other current research, based on survey data, that indicates a relatively large mistrust of the mass media’s reporting on immigration (Andersson 2017).

Media research further comprises studies that use content analyses and discourse analyses to shed light on: accounts of political activism in favour of asylum seekers (Persson 2016); positions of political leaders in issues concerning migration and integration in televised election debates (Idevall 2016); and media descriptions of the need for ethnically profiled elderly care in newspapers (Jönson, Harnett & Nilsson 2017, Torres, Lindblom & Nordberg 2014).

Media researchers furthermore study what is known as ‘alternative media’, in which often very strong critical views concerning immigration and integration are published and commented on (Holt 2016a, 2016b; cf. Hellström & Lodenius 2016). There are also examples of studies on how people perceive and interpret messages in the media. Via in-depth interviews with immigrant media consumers, researchers have shown how media in Sweden can be perceived as exclusive and contribute the perpetuation of a feeling of otherness (Sjöberg & Rydin 2014). There are also examples of comparative media studies, in which differences and similarities in

³⁶ Humanistic and artistic research perspectives on migration and integration issues, however, fall outside of this framework. Notwithstanding resource restrictions, which also have significance in this respect, we are forced to admit that our methodology for identifying and selecting material failed to cover research on art forms or culture in a more aesthetic sense.

representations of ‘us and them’ are analysed in Arab and Western news media (Ezz El Din 2016).

At the micro-level – with support in ethnographically oriented observations and interviews rather than content-based analyses of mass media – focus is also directed towards how individuals form conceptions of cultural differences in relation to their own identities.³⁷ Research in Sweden in this area includes, for example, studies on how young people relate to stereotypical categories such as ‘immigrants’ (Trondman 2006). With similar questions, narratives of adult students with immigrant backgrounds have also been analysed (Dahlstedt et al. 2017). In studies of this kind, it emerges, for example, how Swedish citizenship can be perceived as something formal, rather than indicating a natural affiliation. Other studies have focused on adolescents belonging to the category portrayed in politics and the media as ‘unaccompanied children’ (Herz & Lalander 2017). These studies reveal, among other things, a frustration over ascribed identities with presupposed characteristics.

An international scientific journal as reference point

Initially, we discussed our delimitations for the now-presented overview of contemporary migration and integration research. The considerations and trade-offs made here were also based on the assumption that a rather narrow temporal selection of Sweden-based research would provide a fairly reasonable picture in comparison with a theoretically (albeit hardly practical) conceivable corresponding global compilation of the research situation.

However, in order to be able to relate the picture that emerged above to some reference point, we have used material in the form of published articles in the international *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* (JEMS).

In our initial exploration here, we had hoped to include at least a small number of relevant journals for comparison. But considering the amount of information that would need to be processed, we were forced due to resource constraints to limit ourselves to one volume of JEMS. The choice of this particular journal could be justified in terms of both breadth and depth. The intention here was to choose a scientific channel with a high standing in the research community, but also with a large thematic range within the migration and integration research field. An important aspect of the latter was to avoid a preponderance of certain disciplines; correspondingly, certain theoretical perspectives or methods should also not be prioritized over others. Supported by data in the InCites database, JEMS stood out as the most suitable journal for our purpose.³⁸

More precisely, the 2016 volume of JEMS was selected, which at the time the research overview commenced was the most recent complete volume.³⁹ This volume contained 135 published articles and we compiled and studied the abstracts of these.⁴⁰

³⁷ Studies with similar questions surrounding the importance of, for example, ethnic identities have also been based on significantly larger samples, and thus a need for more extensive analyses (cf. Svensson, Berne & Syed 2017; Parameshwaran & Engzell 2015).

³⁸ Using search tools and categories in InCites’ ‘Journal Citation Reports’ (Clarivate Analytics), it was determined that the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* was the journal that for our purposes could best combine thematic range with a high citation frequency (calculated via the established measure ‘impact factor’).

³⁹ The year 2016 comprised volume 42 of the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*.

⁴⁰ The search tools in InCites were also used to sort out abstracts along with basic information on titles and authors.

There is not space here to describe the contributions of individual articles. We will, however, place the overall picture they convey in relation to our research overview above and its themes. Allowing for the necessity of toning down nuances, the following three observations can be made:

(1) As could be expected, a significantly larger geographic breadth could be noted in the data analysed in the articles in JEMS.

Although, for example, theories tested in the Sweden-based research are of a more universal nature rather than geographically delimited, there is still a preponderance of empirical data collected within Sweden's borders. Even in comparative case studies and other international comparisons, Swedish conditions quite obviously emerge as a subject of study. Similarly, data is also often collected and analysed in other countries where the researchers in question are active. But in the international selection of articles that JEMS publishes, dissemination naturally becomes much greater. It is worth noting that many empirical studies in the compilation are focused on countries and regions in Asia and (albeit to a lesser extent) in Africa.

(2) Nevertheless, the overall thematisation on which the survey is based is still a reasonably sustainable depiction, even for articles in JEMS.

A number of contributions – concerning everything from transnationalism and remittances to discrimination in the labour market, differences in death rates depending on origin, socio-cultural integration of Muslims and electoral support for right-wing populist parties – can be rather easily sorted under the headings with which we have attempted to categorise different types of migration and integration research. This said, there are examples of contributions that are more difficult to categorise, which indicates that the thematisation does not capture everything. This applies, for example, to linguistically oriented analyses of language use, and to more moral philosophy theoretical contributions on integration and multiculturalism.

(3) Certain types of questions subjected to analysis in JEMS articles appear as less likely in research based in Sweden (and this apart from the geographical dissemination of empirical data named in observation 1 above).

This JEMS volume contains six special issues, each with a specific theme, and one of these is focused on the significance of immigration in states with a high degree of regional self-governance and local patriotic movements.⁴¹ Focus is directed here towards completely different aspects of trust and loyalty than what this normally concerns in centrally governed nation-states such as Sweden. Other examples of studies that would likely be considered unexpected in Sweden-based research include studies of particularly privileged immigrant groups (such as migrants with European backgrounds in Australia, for instance). The benefit clearly emerges in cases like these of continually exploring conceptual frameworks and points of departure in migration and integration research also for how questions are asked and answered.

Conclusions and discussion

In this research overview, we have aimed to outline contemporary migration and integration research. The overall objective was to identify and describe the diversity of the research field, and initial expectations regarding diversity have not been refuted (though the practical delimitation of research based in Sweden, which seemed

⁴¹ This special issue is entitled *Friends or foes? Migrants and sub-state nationalists in Europe*.

necessary to obtain a reasonable amount of material to handle, should be kept in mind).

As we have been able to note in the compilation above, migration and integration research in Sweden is distinguished by a striking multidisciplinary interest. In a seemingly (and long-standing) continuous growth of theory-developing and theory-testing studies, researchers who are primarily anchored in their traditional university disciplines, as well as more pronounced transdisciplinary IMER researchers, contribute to in-depth insights on migration and integration. In parallel with this, a rich set of scientific methodologies are used, and methods are developed in which epidemiological, ethnographical and experimental approaches are refined and benefit from new types of data and new techniques for data processing.

Scientifically well-motivated issues are combined with studies of circumstances of tangible importance to people's living conditions and to societal development as a whole. This can also be illustrated with some observations that can be made based on the overview:

- Research on how legislation and regulations are designed and applied – with regard to both *migration* control and to *integration*-promoting activities – encompasses an extensive catalogue of studies on relevant decisions and processes. Particularly apparent here is the need to study policy development in parallel at supranational and intergovernmental levels.
- Research on different types of discriminating actions and structures has shown ethnically based inequality (even in a strongly equality-oriented democratic welfare state like Sweden). At the same time, discrimination mechanisms seem to be neither unequivocal nor fully explained.
- Research has shown that ethnically and socio-economically based housing segregation covaries and tends to be reproduced, despite public-political ambitions to the contrary (Sweden stands out as a very clear case here). Explaining prevailing patterns seems to be considerably easier than in policy-oriented research proposing measures that are both realistic and effective.
- Research on how people with different origins are treated as clients in welfare state institutions of various types have contributed extensive insight into how more or less unconscious notions or preconceptions in different professions can lead to a lack of legal certainty and the reproduction of inequality.
- Research on differences in physical and mental health from an integration perspective show partly contradictory results in different studies, and this is the case in comparisons both within and between countries, even in the Nordic region. At the same time, the access to high-quality register data in the Nordic countries is highlighted as a path to increased insight and understanding.
- Research on attitudes to issues related to migration, integration and the multicultural society branch out into studies of xenophobia, interpersonal trust and trust in societal institutions, among other things. In this field as well, there is a need to explain contradictory results between studies based on different selections (within and between countries, and between different population categories).
- Research on the importance of information dissemination in both traditional channels as well as in social media has, for good reasons, emphasised the need for continued studies on how media depictions of migration and integration affect opinions and perceptions of reality.

Overall, an image emerges of the breadth of Sweden-based research on migration and integration, both within and outside the scientific community. This likely also indicates a strength in this multifaceted research collective. The image is also not disturbed in any crucial way by the results of our attempt to relate the overview to international research on migration and integration reported in the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. Although this comparison was by necessity brief, there is little to indicate a provincial bias in issues, theories and methods in Sweden-based research, despite the fact that migration and integration researchers, not least for pragmatic reasons, often seek empirical information in the country they are most familiar with.

Are there any significant weaknesses in Sweden-based research on migration and integration? This question is rather difficult to answer based on the research overview conducted here. The extensive mass of knowledge we have attempted to review necessarily leaves significant gaps, considering what could potentially have been contained in a research overview with fewer constraints. This calls for humility. It is considerably easier to communicate what has actually been studied – based on what is known given a specific selection – than to argue what should have been examined instead. Our methodology has also not allowed for any systematic analyses of identified knowledge needs.

Nevertheless, there are indicators that transdisciplinary cooperation, and thereby interdisciplinary cross-fertilisation, could be fostered and developed to a much greater extent. By and large, we can expect that migration and integration researchers work under basically the same conditions as researchers with other interests within the scientific community. This likely means that there are incentives to identify niches, in which individual researchers get a lot in exchange for their efforts. Yet the diversity of complex issues related to migration and integration might very well require the building of more and sturdier bridges between different disciplines and traditions within this vast field of research.

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Strengthening research to meet societal challenges

The Swedish Research Council has been tasked by the Government to establish a national research programme on migration and integration. The purpose is to create good prerequisites for research to contribute to meeting major societal challenges.

This strategic research agenda seeks to examine and analyse how the national research programme should best be designed. It deals with questions such as:

- What societal challenges and knowledge gaps relating to migration and integration exist today and may arise in the future?
- What other initiatives and stakeholders are active in this research field?
- How should research support and activities best be designed to meet the aims of the programme?

The research agenda will be continually updated during the course of the programme.

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The Swedish Research Council has a leading role in developing Swedish research of the highest scientific quality, thereby contributing to the development of society. Besides research funding, the agency advises the government on research-related issues and participates actively in the discussions to create understanding of the long-term benefits of research.