



Nordic Centre of Excellence
The Nordic Welfare State – Historical Foundations and Future Challenges

Mobility fellowships for Postdoctoral Researchers

The Nordic Centre of Excellence: The Nordic Welfare State – Historical Foundations and Future Challenges (NordWel) announces mobility fellowships for postdoctoral researchers working within the research themes of the Centre. NordWel is a multi-disciplinary, cross-national research network of seven partner units in Nordic universities. It is financed by NordForsk's Nordic Centre of Excellence (NCoE) Programme on Welfare Research. The Centre is organized around five theme groups gathering researchers from different disciplines of historical and social research:

- 1) Religion, Lutheranism and the Nordic Welfare State Model
- 2) The National Welfare State: Citizenship and Democracy
- 3) Epistemic Communities: Knowledge and Social Interests in the Making of the Nordic Welfare
- 4) The Value Systems and Legitimacy in the Nordic Welfare State Model
- 5) The Normative Charges of Work: The Labour Market and the Welfare State

Research Agenda of NordWel

In the Centre the welfare state is understood as the locus of many intertwining changes. Researchers of the Centre attempt to reach beyond research settings in which “the Nordic model” would be seen merely as a target for new challenges or as a mode of responding to them. Instead, challenges and responses are conceived of as dynamics of change in the welfare states.

For the research on the dynamics of change, the multilayered historicity of the welfare state is a crucial point of departure. How have different historical layers developed and mediated through mentalities, traditions, values and institutions, and how are they present in the rules, norms and practices of the Nordic welfare states? How do historical experiences and institutions influence the ways in which current transformations are conceived of and dealt with? In NordWel, these questions are examined in connection with a wide range of empirical research topics.

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Postdoctoral researcher mobility fellowships

The mobility fellowship covers a 2 – 6 months visit in one of the [institutions participating in the Centre](#). Information on the participating institutions can be found on NordWel's web page.

Postdoctoral mobility fellowships are available for researchers affiliated to a university or research institute in Nordic and other countries. NordForsk guidelines presuppose cross-border mobility, i.e. the visited institution must be in another country than the applicant's home institution.

The fellowship covers a full-time salary in line with the rules of the recruiting institution and country.¹ Fellows with family may apply for an additional family allowance. The family allowance is applied for with a separate application after a positive decision on mobility fellowship.

Researchers with mobility fellowships will be incorporated into the activities of the host institution NordWel supposes that the researchers with mobility fellowships will be active participants at the host institution. The researchers with mobility fellowships are asked to report the results of their visit in a short report within one month after the end of the visit.

Currently open positions

NordWel invites applications for fellowships for the time period between **1 January 2012 – 30 November 2012** in any of the NordWel research groups at the following institutions: *University of Helsinki, University of Jyväskylä, Stockholm University², Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim/University of Copenhagen/Lund University³, University of Southern Denmark, Odense and University of Iceland*. For research profiles please see [presentations of research environments](#). In your application you are asked to list at least two partner institutions in order of preference. Applications for 2 – 6 months will be considered. Applicants that have previously held a NordWel fellowship are eligible.

How to apply

The applicant is expected to have a detailed and defined research plan for his/her stay. Before submitting their applications, applicants must be in contact with the contact person of the institution in question in order to gain an approval of the department head

¹ It is also possible to stay employed by your home institution, in case of which the mobility fellowship will cover the irregular costs incurred by the visit.

² Institute for Futures Studies is not included.

³ Gender and welfare research network coordinated in the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim. See: <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/nord-wel/organisation/partners/ntnu/>. Fellowships can be granted to any of these three universities.

or institute director to work as a postdoctoral researcher at the department or institute in question.

Applications must be submitted by an electronic application form (<https://elomake.helsinki.fi/lomakkeet/29626/lomake.html>). Applicants are to attach a research plan and curriculum vitae to the application form.

The application is addressed to the Nordic Centre of Excellence: The Nordic Welfare State – Historical Foundations and Future Challenges (NordWel). **The deadline for applications is 28 October 2011.**

For further information contact Coordinator Heidi Haggren, [heidi.haggren\(at\)helsinki.fi](mailto:heidi.haggren(at)helsinki.fi), tel. + 358 9 191 24958.

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NordWel's home page: <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/nord-wel/>

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Administration Office