



AMID - NEWS

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About AMID

The Academy for Migration Studies in Denmark, AMID, is a consortium consisting of researchers at research centers representing three institutions of higher education and two research institutes supported by the Danish Research Councils of the Humanities and Social Sciences. AMID was established as of January 1, 2001.

The Consortium consists of the following members:

- **Aalborg University**--Department of Sociology, Social Studies and Organization, Department of Economics, Politics and Administration, as well as *SPIRIT* (School for Postgraduate Interdisciplinary Research on Interculturalism and Transnationality and Institute for History and International Studies.
Aalborg University is the host institution and Professor, dr. phil. Ulf Hedetoft the Director of the Academy.
- **The Aarhus School of Business**--CIM (Centre for Research in Social Integration and Marginalization).
- **Aarhus University**--Department of Political Science
- **The Danish National Institute of Social Research** (Socialforskningsinstituttet)
- **The Institute of Local Government Studies** (Amternes og Kommunernes Forskningsinstitut)

In addition three individual research projects are affiliated with AMID. One of these projects is carried out at Aalborg University and two at the University of Southern Denmark.

About AMID-NEWS

This is the first issue of the newsletter of the Academy for Migration Studies in Denmark.

The aim of the newsletter is to serve as a complementary information channel to the Academy's web-site, and also as a forum where everyone can make themselves heard. Therefore, we invite everyone at AMID and other institutions and organizations that deal with migration issues to contribute with information and articles to be published in this newsletter which will also be published on AMID's website:

<http://www.humsamf.auc.dk/amid>

Please send contributions for forthcoming publications to Jesper Poulsen:

jpoulsen@humsamf.auc.dk

Ongoing projects

By May 2001 the following projects have been initiated within AMID:

Senior research projects:

- Associate Professor, Vera Botelho, University of Southern Denmark: *'Migration and Fertility'*.
- Professor, dr.phil., Ulf Hedetoft, Aalborg University: *'Discourses and Images of Belonging: Migrants Between "New Racism", Liberal Nationalism and Globalization'*.
- Associate Professor, Flemming Mikkelsen, Aalborg University: *'The Political Mobilization of Ethnic Minorities in Denmark, - Seen in an International and Transnational Perspective'*.
- Professor, dr.scient.pol., Lise Tøgeby, Aarhus University: *'Immigrants' Citizenship in Denmark. The Forgotten Minority: Greenlanders in Denmark'*.

Post.doc. projects:

- Researcher, Ph.D., Garbi Schmidt, The Danish National Institute of Social Research: *'Social Activism Among Young Muslims in Denmark, with a Comparative Analysis of Similar Trends in Sweden and the United States'*.

Ph.D. projects:

- Camilla Elg: *'Young Female Immigrants and Style'*.
- Lærke Klitgaard Holm: *'The Discourse of Danish Immigration Policy from the 1970s to the Present Day'*.

Several other projects will be launched within the next 3-4 months.

Project abstracts

Lærke Klitgaard Holm, Aalborg University, Ph.D. project: *The Discourse of Danish Immigration Policy from the 1970s to the Present Day*.

This Ph.D. project is based on the fact that immigration and immigration policies in Denmark have loomed large on the public and political agenda over the last 10-15 years and have increasingly developed into one of the dominant media issues. Where studies of media-discourses do exist, hardly anyone has examined discourses of official political texts (laws, regulations, circulars, reports etc.) and the way in which they relate to, perhaps co-produce, public debates on immigration issues as well as factual problems (cultural, economic) that immigration results in.

The aim of the project is to analyze change in discourses on immigration policies on four levels: politics, administration, interest

organizations, and mass media from the beginning of the 1970's to the present day, i.e. the period during which Denmark along with other European countries has maintained a total ban on immigration. Theoretically the project builds to a great extent on a social-constructivistic approach whose purpose is to demonstrate how social reality is reproduced as well as changed by discursive practices in social institutions and in everyday life.

The following questions will be addresses: To what extent is the rising focus on immigration policies an expression of change in the discourse on immigration? What effect does interdiscursivity between social institutions have on public opinion and immigration policies and vice versa? Why do discourses on immigration change?

The intention is furthermore to set the Danish discourse on immigration policies in an international and global perspective in order to establish if the discourse on immigration in Denmark is a discrete phenomenon or if there is a tendency to treat the issue in comparable ways in other countries. Concretely changes in Danish and Swedish political discourses (preferably an additional third country will be included) on immigration will be compared in order to establish why two countries which to a large extent have a similar culture and socio-political tradition have tackled the immigration issue differently. Finally the impact of the EU and other external institutions on the Danish discourse on immigration will be examined.

Camilla Elg, Aalborg University, Ph.D. project: *Young Female Immigrants and Style*. In Denmark we have experienced a quite intensive debate in recent years about the way immigrants dress. To be more specific it has been a debate concerning primarily the headscarfs worn by some female immigrants of varied Muslim background. This focus of a public debate tells us a lot about the cultures of the society where it is taking place. It also

shows that the appearance of other human beings can be understood as an invitation to intercultural negotiations - understood as a mutual emphasizing of identity, differences and possibilities of finding common ground.

The underlying notion, that looks carry cultural meaning, and thus are important parts of our definition of ourselves and the other, is an important perspective in this project. Inspired by the framework in Dick Hebdige: *Subculture: The meaning of style* this project has its starting point in the assumption that clothing, make up, hairdo, movements, activities, social practice and language are stylistically imprinted and concretely performed cultural moderations and negotiations. The aim of this project is to examine the parts young female immigrants play in intercultural negotiations in Denmark. How do they cope with the public focus on their style and appearance?

Kaya Silverman has stated that race and gender are the two kinds of social difference which are the most dependent on visual articulation. How do young women handle the negotiation of these differences? The project aims to analyze and describe the stylistic choices of young female immigrants in this perspective. The research will be based on qualitative interviews with at least 30 women, photographs, video-recordings and observations. The informants will be female immigrants aged 15 - 20 years. They will have varied cultural backgrounds and be familiar with the Danish language.

The theoretical framework is social-constructivistic. Language is considered a mediator between culture and the individual in the analysis of the interviews. The ways informants use, legitimize and transform cultural codings in their discourse will be in focus. Their narratives will not be considered a representation of identity but a production of identity. Thus, style and appearance will not be seen as an expression of identity but as

participating in the production and construction of identity.

Aesthetic productivity and stylistic choices is regarded as crucial in the establishment of the self. Gender is an important theme in this self-performance and will, in this framework, also be understood as negotiated and socially constructed.

AMID Opening conference

The opening conference of AMID will take place August 29 -30, 2001, at Aalborg University, Denmark. The title of the conference is "Multicultural Citizenship and Integration of Ethnic Minorities" and the conference organizers invite paper proposals within the following five sub-themes:

1. Multicultural communities: Limits and opportunities
2. Citizenship and education
3. Integration, gender and ethnicity
4. Immigrants and labour market integration policies
5. Citizenship, transnationalism, and political mobilization of ethnic minorities

The deadline for paper submissions is **June 1, 2001**.

The conference keynote speakers and the titles of the keynotes are:

- Professor, Dr. Tomas Hammar, CEIFO, Stockholm, Sweden: "*Multidisciplinary Studies of International Migration, or the Story about "The Ugly Duckling"*".
- Professor Barry Chiswick, Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, USA: "*But Can They Speak Our Language?: The Linguistic Adjustment of Immigrants*".
- Professor, Dr. Yngve Lithman, IMER, Bergen, Norway: "*Why Integration, and Which?*"
- Associate Professor Bülent Diken, Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK:

"*Justification and Immigration in Network Society - A New Ambivalence*".

For further information about the conference, call for papers and registration--please consult AMID's website. The printed preliminary program is also available on request--please contact Ms Tina Iversen (tive@sprog.auc.dk), or, if later than June 1, Jesper Poulsen (jpoulsen@humsamf.auc.dk)

Activities

CURRENT EVENTS

During each semester presentations of ongoing research will be given within AMID by senior and post.doc. researchers and Ph.D students not only from the Academy but also from other research institutes and institutions in Denmark as well as internationally, e.g. in relation to the Academy's visiting scholar program and invited guest lecturers. These research seminars will normally be of 1 1/2 hour's duration and are open to all interested. Future research seminars will continuously be announced in AMID-*NEWS*, on the Academy's website and on our mailinglists.

CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

The Sixth International Metropolis Conference:

Rotterdam, The Netherlands, November 26-30, 2001.

The conference will focus on four inter-related themes:

- Migration policies: balancing admission and restriction
- Citizenship, equality and diversity
- Local integration policies

- Migration and the cultural transformation of cities

The conference is particularly relevant for researchers, policy-makers and non-governmental organizations interested in immigration and urban processes. Graduate students working in this field are also strongly encouraged to attend as are interested stakeholders in the private sector and in research foundations.

For further information on the International Metropolis Conference--please consult the Metropolis website:
http://www.international.metropolis.net/events/rotterdam/index_e.html

SEMINARS

"Contested Identities: Religion and 'Difference' in Europe.

IMER - Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen, Norway, October 17-19, 2001.

The seminar, doubling as a doctoral course, will focus on issues related to religion and 'difference' in European societies. It will also explore the issue of contested identities related to gender and religion, both at the level of people's daily lives and at the level of social institutions.

Participants are requested to register no later than September 17.

For further information please consult IMER's website at:
http://www.avf.uib.no/sefos/IMER/contested_identities.html

News from the Consortium Partners

The Danish National Institute for Social Research (SFI):

Call for papers: "Family in the Age of Multiculturalism". October 4-6, 2001. The conference will feature three different workshops:

1. Authority in transition: Intergenerational relations
2. Gender relations renegotiated
3. Ethnic minority families in welfare societies.

Abstracts must be submitted by June 1, 2001.

For further information about the conference please contact either Lene Kofoed Rasmussen (ler@sfi.dk) or Connie Carøe Christiansen (ccc@sfi.dk).

News from the Network Partners

CERMOC - The Centre d' études et de recherches sur le Moyen-Orient contemporain has announced the launching of its new research program for 2001-2003. This program will deal with "Migration in the Arab Middle East: Policies, Networks and Communities in the Context of Globalization".

CERMOC is interested in network partners and collaboration arrangements with individual researchers and researchers at the doctoral and post-doctoral levels dealing with one of the following topics:

- Socioeconomic approaches to the question of Western expatriates in the Arab Middle East
- European and North American public policies on migration and their effects on migrants originating from the Arab Middle East.
- Recent migrant communities from the Arab Middle East in the Pacific area around South America
- The social and economic impacts of East Asian migration to the Arab Middle East on the countries/societies of origin.

- Citizens of the former communist block migrating to the Arab Middle East
- The part new communication/information technologies (Internet, mobile phones, satellite TV) play in the maintenance of the relationships between Arab expatriates/diasporas and their countries of origin.

For further information on the program and a presentation of CERMOC a document is available on request / jpoulsen@humsamf.auc.dk

Co-ordination in the initial phase:
Dr. Géraldine Chatelard, associate researcher, CERMOC, Amman. E-mail: gchatelard@yahoo.com, cermoc@nets.com.jo

Scientific direction of the program:
Ms Hana Jaber, program director
CERMOC, PO BOX 830 413, Zahran, Amman, Jordan
E-mail: cermoc@nets.com.jo
Dr. France Méttral, senior researcher
GREMMO-CNRS
Maison de l'Orient méditerranéen 7, Rue Raulin, 69007 Lyon, France
E-mail: france.metral@mom.fr

The Project Coordinator at AMID continuously receives information material such as monthly bulletins from several institutions dealing with migration issues. One of these is CERIS Monthly Bulletin, which is a monthly publication to keep people informed about upcoming events in and around CERIS and the Metropolis Project including seminars, conferences, new research resources etc. You can subscribe to the bulletin by sending an E-mail to: ceris.office@utoronto.ca

We also receive weekly information ("This Week in Immigration") from the Center for Immigration Studies, Washington D.C., about immigration events and fellowships, immigration readings etc. You can subscribe

to the list by going to:

http://www.cis.org/mail_login.html and follow the instructions there. The web-address of the Center for Immigration Studies is: <http://www.cis.org>

IMER Norway/Bergen also continuously informs about new publications, seminars, conferences and other activities via E-mail. To receive this information please send your name and e-mail address to the following address: imer@sefos.uib.no

Publications

The first publication of AMID's Working Paper Series will be available by July 1, 2001. This first publication is in Danish: "Integrationsloven - En case, der illustrerer etniske minoriteters usikre medborgerstatus", by Morten Ejrnæs, The National School of Social Work, Copenhagen. AMID's Working Paper Series is available for DKK 30 each at the AMID secretariat-- please contact Ms Helle Weiergang (weier@sprog.auc.dk)

Publications in English

Jørgen Goul Andersen & Jens Hoff:
Democracy and Citizenship in Scandinavia, Palgrave: London and New York, 2001 (in print)

Hudson, Robert & Fred Réno (eds.): *Politics of Identity: Migrants and Minorities in Multicultural States*, Basingstoke, Macmillan, 2000 - 323 pp.

Kymlicka, Will: *Politics in the Vernacular: Nationalism, Multiculturalism and Citizenship*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2001 - 383 pp.

Hofstetter, Eleanore O.: *Women in Global Migration, 1945-2000: A Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Bibliography*, Greenwood Publishing Group, Westport CT, 2001, 552 pp.

Rath, Jan; Rinus Penninx; Kees Groenendijk & Astrid Meyer: *Western Europe and its Islam: The Social Reaction to the 'New' Religion in The Netherlands, Belgium and the United Kingdom*, Brill Academic Publishers, Leiden, 2001, 320 pp.

Rasmussen, Lars Even: *Mobility out of Socially Deprived Residential Areas*, AKF Forlaget, København, 2001.

Bager, Torben & Shahamak Rezaei: *Immigrant Business in Denmark. Captured in Marginal Business Fields?* Working Paper No. 2001/1 from the University of Southern Denmark, Centre for Small Business Studies (CESFO), Odense.

Publications in Danish

Kornø Rasmussen, Hans: *Dem og os: Det multi-etniske Danmark*, Tiderne Skifter, København, 2000 - 165 pp.

Viby Mogensen, Gunnar & Poul Chr. Matthiessen: *Mislykket integration?: Indvandrernes møde med arbejdsmarkedet og velfærdssamfundet*, København, Spektrum, Viborg, 2001 - 224 pp.

Viby Mogensen, Gunnar & Poul Chr. Matthiessen (ed.): *Integration i Danmark omkring årtusindeskiftet: Indvandrernes møde med arbejdsmarkedet og velfærdssamfundet*, Rockwool Fondens Forskningsenhed Århus, Aarhus Universitetsforlag, Narayana Press, Gylling, 2000 - 489 pp.

Nørskov Madsen, Betina: *En kvalitativ evaluering af integrationsprojektet "Personlig potentialeudvikling" for somaliske flygtninge*, Aalborg, Aalborg Universitet, 2000 - 2 bd.

Gitz-Johansen, Thomas: *Hvad gør de dog der? Etniske Minoriteters bosætning i et alment boligområde*, Center for Forskning i Socialt Arbejde, AKF Forlaget, København, 2001.

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The Director of the Academy is Professor, dr. phil. Ulf Hedetoft.

Editor: Tina Iversen/Jesper Poulsen

AMID
Aalborg University
Fibigerstraede 2
DK-9220 Aalborg East
Phone: + 45 96 35 84 38
Fax: + 45 98 15 11 26
E-mail: Jesper Poulsen
(jpoulsen@humsamf.auc.dk)