

Abstracts

An overview of settlement patterns and motives for migration

Hans Thor Andersen, Research Director,
Danish Building Research Institute,
hta@sbi.aau.dk

Helle Nørgaard, Senior Researcher,
Danish Building Research Institute,
hen@sbi.aau.dk

Major changes have occurred in settlement patterns which have led to two assumptions namely that 1) urbanization will be intensified leading to population growth in the cities, and that 2) declining populations in rural areas over the last decades will continue and be reinforced over time. It is generally assumed that such developments are inevitable and driven by structural forces. Testing these assumptions, we study patterns of settlement and processes of urbanisation in a historical and geographical perspective, focusing on the period from 1980 to 2017. We rather find that migration is less one directional as well as related to economic cycles. We further present an overview of recent Danish studies on migration motives and preferences for housing- and settlement and we point to both economic and sociological understandings and different methodological approaches to

investigating reasons for moving and preferences for settlement.

Map of Denmark for the marginalized: Segregation of long-term benefit recipients 1996-2016

Kristian Kongshøj, post doc,
Institut for Statskundskab,
Aalborg Universitet, kongshoj@dps.aau.dk

If various various groups and social classes increasingly live in separate places, this might have negative implications for social cohesion in general. This article shows how Danes in working age who have spent more than four of the last five years on income benefits are increasingly segregated at the municipal level. In other words, they have become less evenly distributed within the last decade. Particularly in Copenhagen there are fewer long-term marginalized, while their numbers have increased in other municipalities, particularly in Western Denmark. Throughout the period 1996-2016 municipalities with high numbers of long-term marginalized also have relatively few newcomers moving in, but it is an increasing tendency. This indicates increasing social sorting through moving patters.

The paper discusses the causes with a primary focus on increasing regional inequality as a result of geographic dynamics on the modern labour market, as well as consequences for social cohesion.

The location of Public Institutions

Jørgen Goul Andersen, Professor,
Department of Political Science,
Center for Regional Dynamics and
Disparities (REDY), Aalborg University,
goul@dps.aau.dk

Søren Frank Etzerodt, Research assistant,
Department of Political Science, Center for
Regional Dynamics and Disparities (REDY),
Aalborg University, e-mail: sfe@dps.aau.dk

Taking its point of departure in a series of reforms of the public sector with centralizing side effects since around 2005, the article explores the localization of public service institutions in child care, primary schools and secondary education since 1970. As regards primary schools and vocational schools, there has indeed been a centralization with adverse effects for rural and peripheral municipalities. On the other hand, when it comes to child care, high schools and commercial colleges, one could rather speak of a long-term decentralization that extends the welfare state to rural and peripheral areas. From a financial perspective, however, the allocation of jobs financed by state taxes during the last decade has been negative for rural and peripheral municipalities. This holds in particular for employed women. It appears that reforms of the state have contributed to reduce job opportunities for women in the rural and peripheral municipalities.

The Impact of the Danish municipal reform and sanction legislation for the geographic centralization of municipal administration and service

Anders Kamp Høst, PhD student,
Department of Political Science,
Aalborg University, ank@dps.aau.dk

The structural reform in 2007 and the sanction legislation from 2011 opened for a revision of the geographic distribution of resources within amalgamated municipalities. Several town halls and municipal administrations were relocated, but did the administrative centralization and the hardened budget constraints imposed by the sanction legislation affect the geographical distribution of public services within the new municipalities? How does the distribution of political influence mediate the effect of budget constraints on the geographic distribution of public services?

Employing a combination of register and survey data I find that the administrative centralization was implemented as early as in 2007 and that the sanction legislation did not lead to further displacement until 2013. Similarly, the municipal reform reduced the local primary school services in the periphery relatively to the centre in the new municipalities. In contrast, neither the structural reform nor the sanction legislation had any effect on the geographical distribution of service provision within day care and eldercare. In addition, I find that the relative influence of the mayor and the finance committee is associated with a relative strengthening of the primary school services in the municipalities' periphery, while the relative influence of senior executives is associated with a reduction.

Why care about regions in business development policy?

Jesper Lindgaard Christensen, associate professor, Department of Business and Management and Center for Regional Dynamics and Disparities, Aalborg University, jlc@business.aau.dk

Ina Drejer, associate professor, Department of Business and Management and Center for Regional Dynamics and Disparities, Aalborg University, id@business.aau.dk

Over the past few decades, there has been an increased focus – and a debate with contrasting views – in research as well as policy-making on the extent and how regions can enhance growth, institutional change, and industrial development. This paper outlines two different rationales for regional business development policy: a traditional economic rationale based on market failures as the primary reason for intervention, and a systemic view where policy aims at alleviating system failures. The paper links these two rationales to the Danish case with a view to the implications for policy. Innovation policy is applied as an example of business development policy. We argue that the systemic perspective has gradually, since the 1990s, gained some resonance, but is not at all pervasive. Additionally, we identify elements of current Danish policy that severely reduce the role of regions.

Municipal alliances' arguments for changing the Danish municipal compensation system

Søren Frank Etzerodt, Research assistant, Department of Political Science, Center for Regional Dynamics and Disparities, Aalborg University, sfe@dps.aau.dk

Morten Balle Hansen, Professor, Department of Political Science, Center for Regional Dynamics and Disparities, Aalborg University (REDY) and Center for Organization, Management and Administration (COMA), mbh@dps.aau.dk

The debate about the Danish inter-municipal redistribution system has been intense in recent years. The system's *raison d'être* is to offset part of the economic differences between the Danish municipalities in order to ensure that the municipalities can deliver a fairly uniform level of service. The government has for several years analyzed and prepared changes to the system and in February 2018 the Finance Committee's report was published. Seeking to influence the system, the majority of the 98 Danish municipalities organized in three alliances, with opposed proposals for changing the system. First, the article gives a brief historical account of the system's development and literature in the field. Second, a brief descriptive analysis of the course of the policy process is presented from autumn 2017 to autumn 2018. Third, and most comprehensive, a comparative analysis of the three municipal alliances' arguments and views regarding the change of the system.

Voter approval of Danish Prime Ministers and Cabinet Members

Peter Heyn Nielsen, Cand.Scient.Pol., external lecturer, Department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen, peternielsen1@gmail.com.

This article presents the first ever analysis of polls, where Danish voters are asked to rate every minister in the current administration on a given scale. In Denmark these polls date back to 1978. The article provides a substantially more detailed basis for discussing the public opinion of the six latest Danish Prime Ministers and certain ministers. For the Prime Ministers Anders Fogh Rasmussen and Poul Schlüter, positive assessment in these polls was a personal power resource, whereas the opposite was the case for the Prime Ministers Helle Thorning-Schmidt and Poul Nyrup Rasmussen. The next part of the analysis examines whether some cabinet positions have been associated with better scores than others. This part of the analysis suggests a hierarchy between the cabinet positions, where some cabinet positions have been associated with worse assessment than others.

Has Macron reinvented the ideology of liberalism?

Anne-Sofie Dichman, student of political science, Department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen, anne-sofiedichman@hotmail.com rmq786@alumni.ku.dk

In a time of populist EU-resistance, it is important to understand the political change that has taken place after the election of Macron as France's new president. Contrary to analyses by scholars like Jacob Dahl Rendtorff, this review essay argues that Macron's remains squarely within the domain of the liberal ideology. More specifically, the essay argues that the novelty of Macron's political vision does not rest on the alleged transcendence of the ideological poles of liberalism and socialism, but rather that its EU-progressivity has transformed liberalism into an ideology adapting to our current political environment. This feature enables Macron's political project to deliver a range of new answers to some of the most burning questions in contemporary Europe.