



FORSKNINGSKONFERENS  
18 NOVEMBER / STOCKHOLM

# NYTÄNKANDE SÄTT ATT MÖTA SAMHÄLLSUTMANINGAR GENOM SAMSKAPANDE FORSKNING



**FORTE:**

Forskningsrådet för  
hälsa, arbetsliv och välfärd







Vad händer om vi öppnar upp ett poetiskt rum för byråkrater? Ett rum där byråkratin får kropp, röst och en chans att uttrycka sig bortom myndighetssvenskan. Den här samlingen dikter, skrivna av högre chefer i svenska kommuner, regioner och myndigheter, ger en sällsynt personlig inblick i byråkratens vardagskomplexitet och vedermödor. Samlingen visar att en byråkratpoetisk praktik kan vara en kungsväg till en mänskligare byråkrati och en kunskap som känns.

Texterna vittnar om hoppet, glädjen och stoltheten över att få tjäna det allmänna. Men också om tvivlen, otillräckligheten och skaven mellan systemlojalitet och empati. I prövande tider, när den tysta förvaltningen riskerar att breda ut sig, måste våra byråkrater våga söka dialog och säga ifrån. Det är avgörande för vårt samhälles demokrati och resiliens.

Dikterna är skrivna av deltagare i Offentliga sektorns managementprogram vid Handelshögskolan i Stockholms vidareutbildning SSE Executive Education 2015–2025. Skriften lanseras som en hyllning till det goda ledarskapet i det offentliga tjänst, i samband med programmets 30-årsjubileum 2025. Redaktörer är forskarna och programledarna Susanna Alexius och Pernilla Petrelius Karlberg.

# Att komma närmare det väsentliga genom byråkratipoetisk praktik

- högre chefer i offentlig sektor på Handelshögskolan i Stockholm



# Makten i selektiv uppmärksamhet

"Over the coming century, the most vital human resource in need of conservation and protection is likely to be our own consciousness and mental space"

"What we do with our attention,  
is at the heart of what makes us human"

The Art of Noticing av Rob Walker, förord.



# Närhet ger förhöjd ansvarskänsla

"Ansvarskänslan, som jag hävdar utgör ledarens första realitet, uppstår inte ur abstrakta idéer och instruktioner utan ur **närheten** till människor av kött och blod, deras sårbarhet, utsatthet och beroende."

Julia Romanowska - boken *Schibboleteffekten – ledarskap, konsten och människans ansvar*, s. 12





"We've learned that **quiet**  
isn't always peace  
And the norms and notions  
of what **just is**  
Isn't always just-ice"



"If only we're **brave**  
**enough to see it.** If only  
we're brave enough to be  
it."

Slutraderna i poeten Amanda Gormans  
installationstal för Biden 20 januari 2021

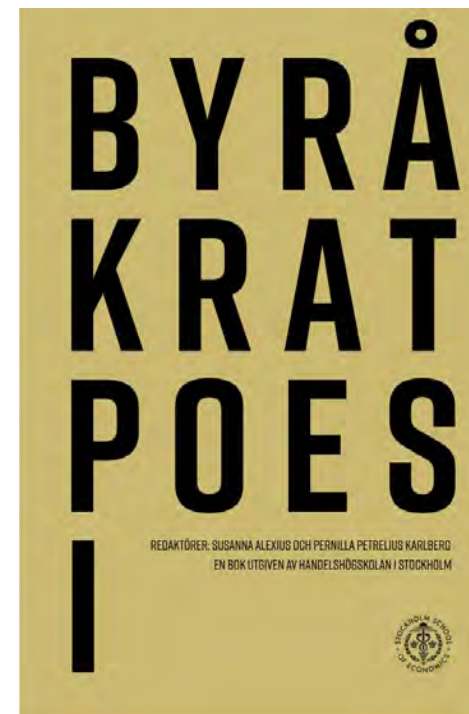
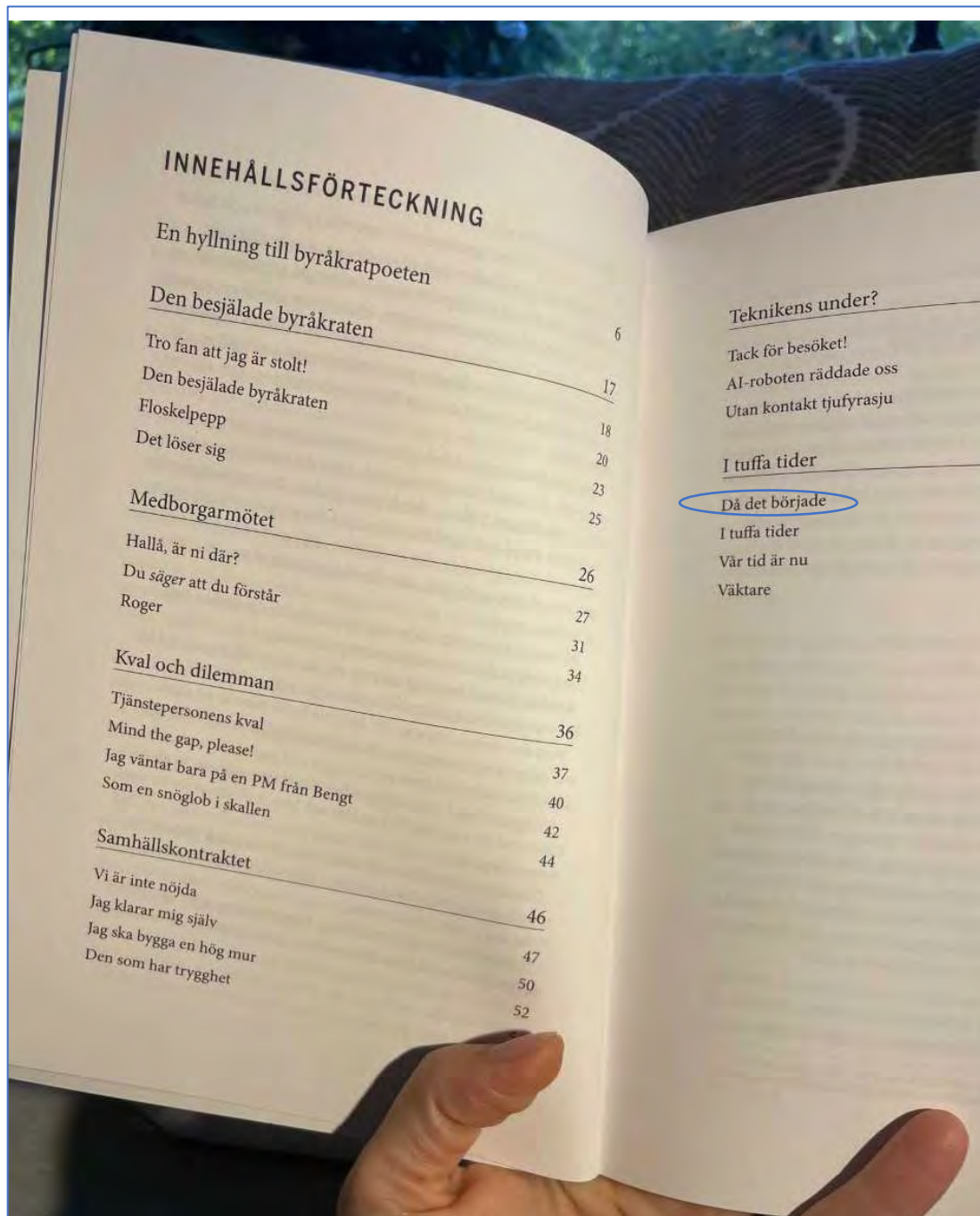
# Utdrag ur dikten "Den som har trygghet" skriven av högre chefer i offentlig sektor

Medmänsklighet, det är inte  
svaghet, det är styrka i dess renaste  
form.

Det är att se människan bakom  
statistiken.

Att höra rösten bakom bruset.

Att förstå att en enda utsträckt hand  
Kan bära tyngden  
av tusen krossade drömmar.



Läs mer, ladda ner eller beställ:  
<https://www.hhs.se/en/about-us/news/gapp/2025/enter-the-bureaucrat-poet-a-celebration-of-public-leadership-in-verse>

Vi skänker intäkterna till Stockholms stadsmission



”If you have the words,  
there’s always a chance that you’ll will find the way.”

Nobelpristagaren i litteratur Seamus Heaney





FORSKNINGSKONFERENS  
18 NOVEMBER / STOCKHOLM

**NYTÄNKANDE SÄTT ATT MÖTA  
SAMHÄLLSUTMANINGAR GENOM  
SAMSKAPANDE FORSKNING**



**FORTE:**

Forskningsrådet för  
hälsa, arbetsliv och välfärd







# MSI ÄR ETABLERAT

# VID SEX LÄROSÄTEN

HÖGSKOLAN  
I BORÅS

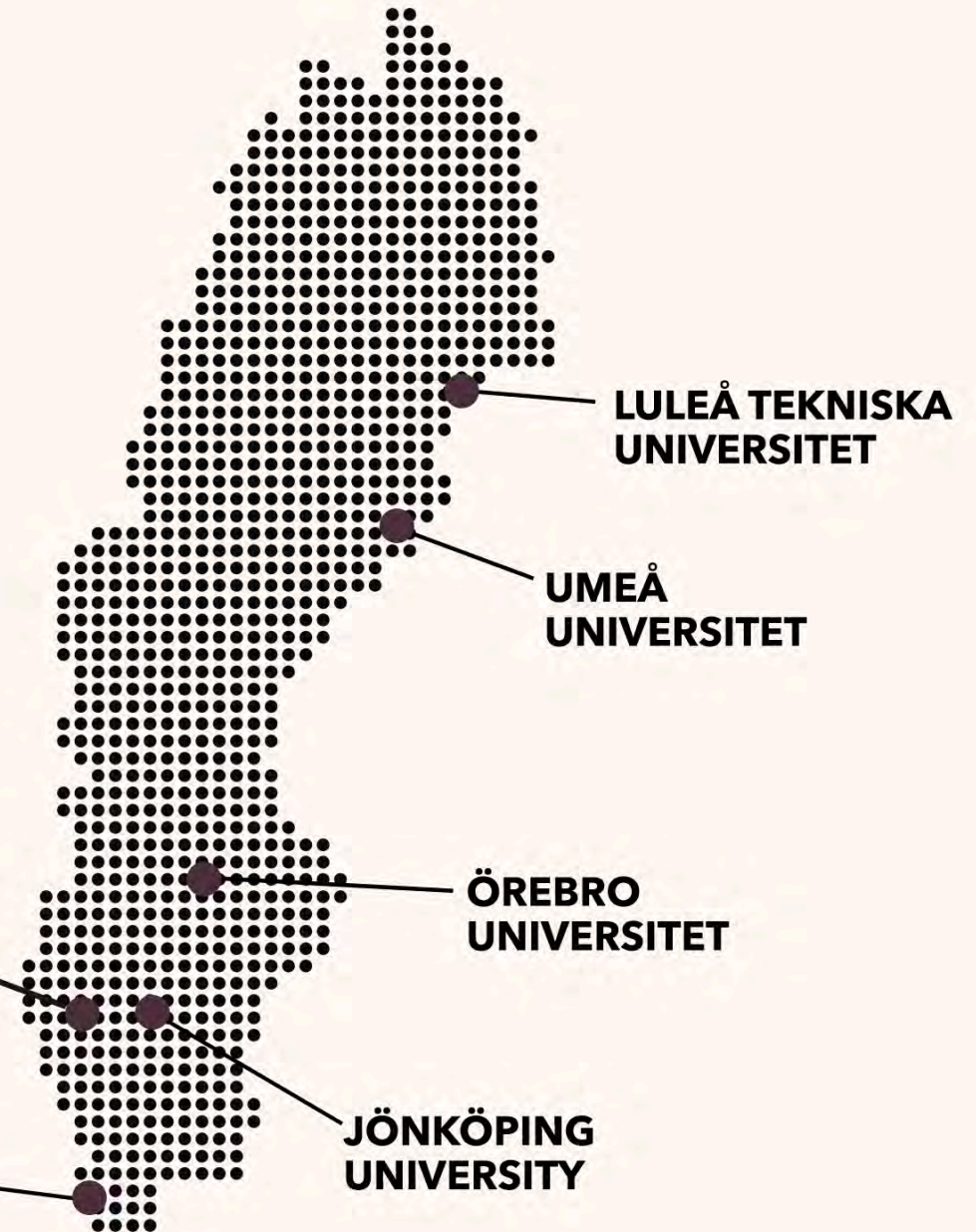
MALMÖ  
UNIVERSITET  
(KOORDINATOR)

JÖNKÖPING  
UNIVERSITY

ÖREBRO  
UNIVERSITET

UMEÅ  
UNIVERSITET

LULEÅ TEKNISKA  
UNIVERSITET





# Program

09:00-09:15 / **Inledning**

09:15-09:45 / **Scensamtal: Varför behövs samskapande forskning för att möta samhällsutmaningar?**

09:45-10:30 / **Keynote: New knowledge, shared perspectives: The role of co-research in social innovation**

10:30-11:00 / **Fikapaus och posterutställning**

11:00-12:30 / **Parallella forskningspresentationer**

12:30-13:30 / **Lunch och posterutställning**

13:30-14.30 / **Parallella workshops**

14:30-15:00 / **Fikapaus och posterutställning**

15:00-16:30 / **Parallella forskningspresentationer**

16:30-16:45 / **Summerande avslutning**



# Program

För konferensens program och lokaler för parallella forskningspresentationer och parallella workshops, scanna QR-koden!

*Pssst! QR-koden finns också på baksidan av er namnbricka.*





# **Scensamtal / Varför behövs samskapande forskning för att möta samhällsutmaningar?**



**Stella Jacobson**

Forte



**Urban Markström**

Umeå universitet



**Ninja Larsson**

Stockholms stad





**FORTE:**

Forskningsrådet för  
hälsa, arbetsliv och välfärd

## KEYNOTE / ANNE PARPAN-BLASER

*Professor i socialt arbete, University of Applied Sciences  
and Arts Northwestern Switzerland*



FORSKNINGSKONFERENS  
18 NOVEMBER / STOCKHOLM

**NYTÄNKANDE SÄTT ATT MÖTA  
SAMHÄLLSUTMANINGAR GENOM  
SAMSKAPANDE FORSKNING**



# New knowledge, shared perspectives

## The role of co-research in social innovation

Prof. Dr. Anne Parpan-Blaser  
School for Social Work FHNW  
Institute for Integration and Participation

Stockholm, Mötesplats Social Innovation  
18 November 2025



# Innovation is a conviction that things could be better

(Rapelang Rabana)



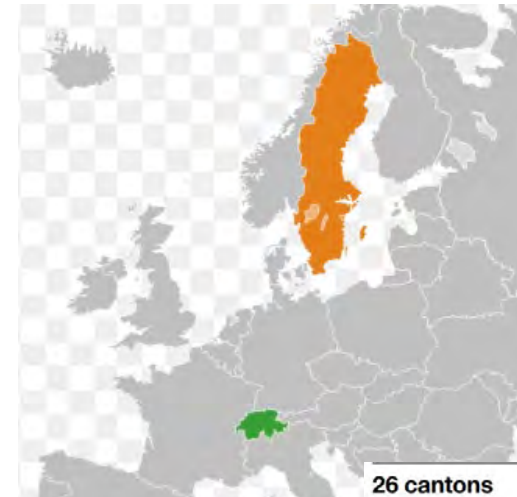
© Johannes Gautier



# Overview

- 1 Perspectives and contexts  
Social innovation as bridging concept
- 2 Co-research and co-creation  
Three key aspects of co-research/co-design in social innovation along three projects
- 3 Points of criticism  
Conclusions

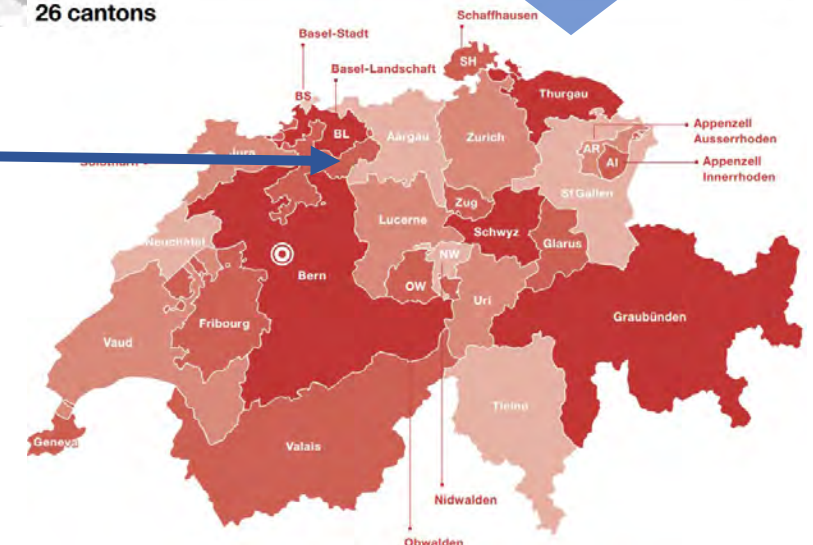
# Contexts and perspective



26 cantons

41'000 km<sup>2</sup>  
9 mio inhabitants  
4 national languages  
federal system  
direct democracy

Olten



# Social work: action-science in the tension field individual – society



- practice-based profession and an academic discipline
- promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment of people.
- follows the principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities.
- is underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous knowledges,
- engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing.

(IFSW 2014)



# Changing relationships between science and society

## Mode 1

truth

basic research, universal validity

disciplinary, hierarchical

context-free knowledge  
production



production of knowledge  
**for** society (transfer)  
research informing practice

(Gibbons et al. 1994, Gibbons 2000)

## Mode 2

robustness, probation

contextualization

transdisciplinary, heterarchical

co-production of knowledge  
together **with** social actors



# Social innovation as ...

... a certain approach to **knowledge** > How do original modifications of knowledge become relevant for practice?

... a development **process** > How can knowledge-based development processes with high potential for change be designed and facilitated (and cushioned - if they fail)?



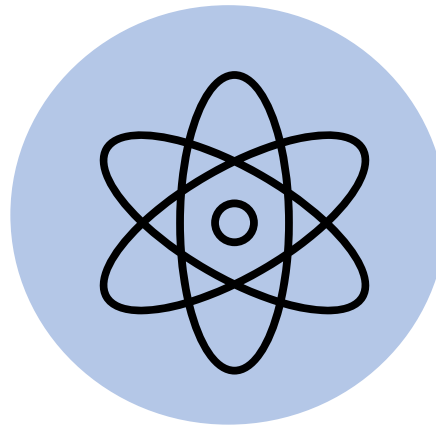
... a certain quality of development **results** > How significant is their novelty (Nicolls/Murdock 2012)? How great is their potential to comprehensively, profoundly, and permanently change current practice? Are they transformative with regard to underlying problems (Evers et al. 2014; Osborne, 1998)?



«There have been concerns on both sides. Practitioners report difficulties in using academic theory [...], academic work being too abstract, too long, too late, or too retrospective for practical application. [...] academic researchers can experience frustration because practitioners appear to want simple frameworks which have clear implications for action, [...] practitioners do not wait for evidence, preferring to seek solutions and make decisions» (Hartley/Bennington 2000: 463/464)

# Co-research and co-creation in social innovation

triad approach (Hartley/Bennington 2000): researcher science, co-researcher practice, subject matter

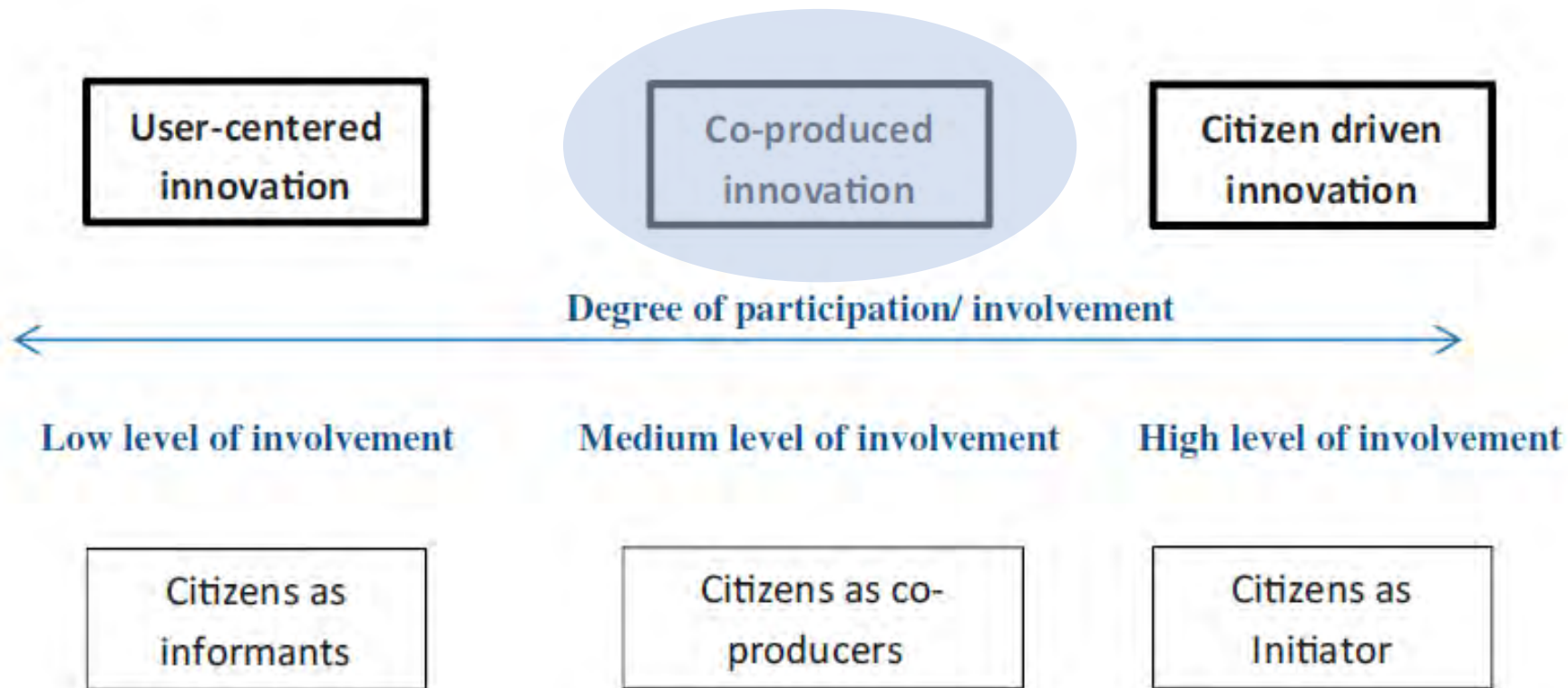


multiple actor approach (Langer et al. 2019): researchers, specialists, users, civil society, politics, administration)

- What are the needs and expectations of all participating with regard to all phases of the process (problem definition, research, design, implementation, evaluation)?
- What is required within the process (research and development) and around it (financing, enforcement, communication)? How is the interplay of both?



# The involvement and role of the user in social service innovations



(Müller/Pihl-Thingvad 2020: 736)

«Co-research and co-creation enable diverse actors to integrate knowledge, resources, and perspectives for collective problem solving and sustainable impact» (Merlin-Brogniart 2022)

«Structural inequalities within institutions and society often limit the realisation of equal partnerships, making the sharing of knowledge and power more aspirational than practical» (Farr et al. 2021)



# Three key aspects of co-research/co-design in social innovation

Knowledge requirements for linking knowledge (content)

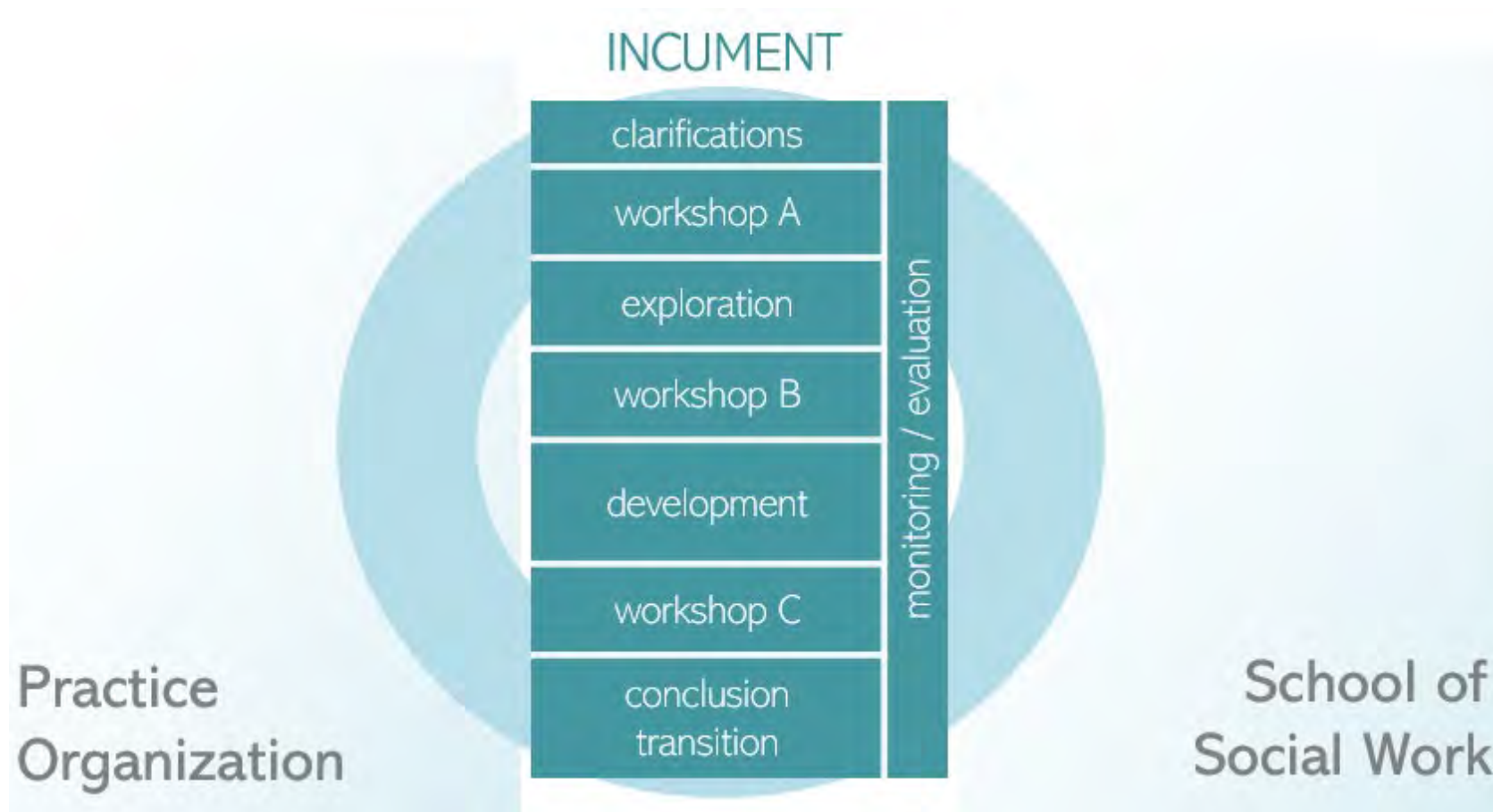
Roles, trust and time (participatory culture)

Creativity and connectivity (structural contexts)



© Valery Brozhinsky/Getty Images

# The innovation program INCUbate social developMENT





# Knowledge requirements for linking knowledge

*All forms of knowledge are considered equally true.*

- Who are the relevant holders of knowledge?
- What is knowledge generated for? Sufficient convergence of interests and objectives
- Key cognitive processes in innovation: access, bridging, learning, linking, building Different forms of representation of knowledge: suitable procedures for preparation, translation, and communication
- Different ways of verbalizing knowledge and making it “available”: role of mediating persons
- Complementarity of knowledge: sufficient difference and sufficient connectivity
- Revision of knowledge, but: risk of favoring participant preferences over scientific rigor
- Connection between cognitive and social processes: What framework conditions (are created)?

(Hargadon 2002 , Hüttemann/Solèr 2018)

# The Innovation Booster



[www.innovationsociale.ch](http://www.innovationsociale.ch)



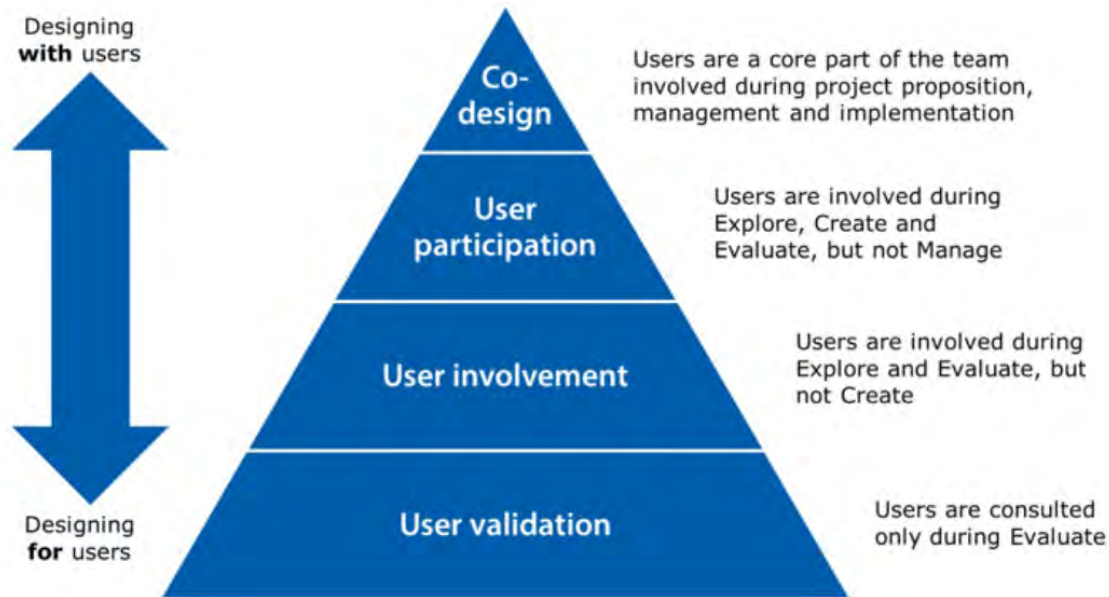
# Participatory culture: roles, trust and time

*“For me personally, participatory culture means moving away from expertocracy, promoting the paradigm shift toward empowerment, and focusing on the needs of those affected” (Fritz 2015: 231)*

- How do people connect around a specific need? Who wants to participate, and how? Direct involvement (of service users) or via interest groups and organisations (as representatives)?
- What tensions between passion and care for the community, a sustainable engagement and limited resources? Compensate for inequalities to not restrict the circle of participants.
- Imbalances of power: integrate an empowering approach, mind the real and imagined gap between ‘us’ and ‘them’, find ways to involve diverse people equally
- Opportunities and spaces for collaboration and dialogue (places, settings, methods). What formats can be used as a reference?

(Center for Social Justice and Community Action 2022, Gustafsson et al. 2025)

# Co-research and co-design involving service users/citizens



Participation from an institutional-professional perspective

Participation from the perspective of citizens



(University of Cambridge: <https://www.inclusivedesigntoolkit.com>)

(Strassburger/Rieger 2019)

# Durchblick – developing visual materials for social services



<https://skos.ch/dienstleistungen/hilfsmittel/visuelle-kommunikation>  
[www.mehrdurchblick.ch](http://www.mehrdurchblick.ch)



# Structural contexts: creativity and connectivity

*Deep co-production is a process involving a gradual, porous and diffuse series of changes undertaken collaboratively (Durham University, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action)*

- Consistently focused on needs and process requirements, able to embrace the unexpected > adjust the methodological approach and schedule, rolling planning > Does this conflict with the financing model and governance structures?
- Strive for the voice of users in a context where users/citizens are not organized collectively, mechanisms of gatekeeping > Accessibility through on-site presence
- Balancing content and structural aspects > ensuring internal and external communication, invest in trust, make as much as possible explicit
- Proximity to implementation contexts is important, but can also be limiting"> openness and connectivity to the implementation context

(Parpan-Blaser 2025 and 2018)

## Co-research/creation in social innovation: points of criticism

*«However, there are also situations where we have chosen not to use co-research methodology, which is also instructive about its appropriateness for the research question and the context»  
(Hartley/Bennington 2000: 467)*

- What kind of co-research and co-creation is appropriate and what is its price?
- What are the interests of those involved? Who pursues which values? Who has which responsibilities?
- Innovation attracts criticism, innovation can fail, organizations have self-preservation instincts: Is “creative destruction” really possible? Does participation give rise to unjustified hopes?
- Innovation builds on what already exists and should not undermine historicity, the state of knowledge and trust in science.

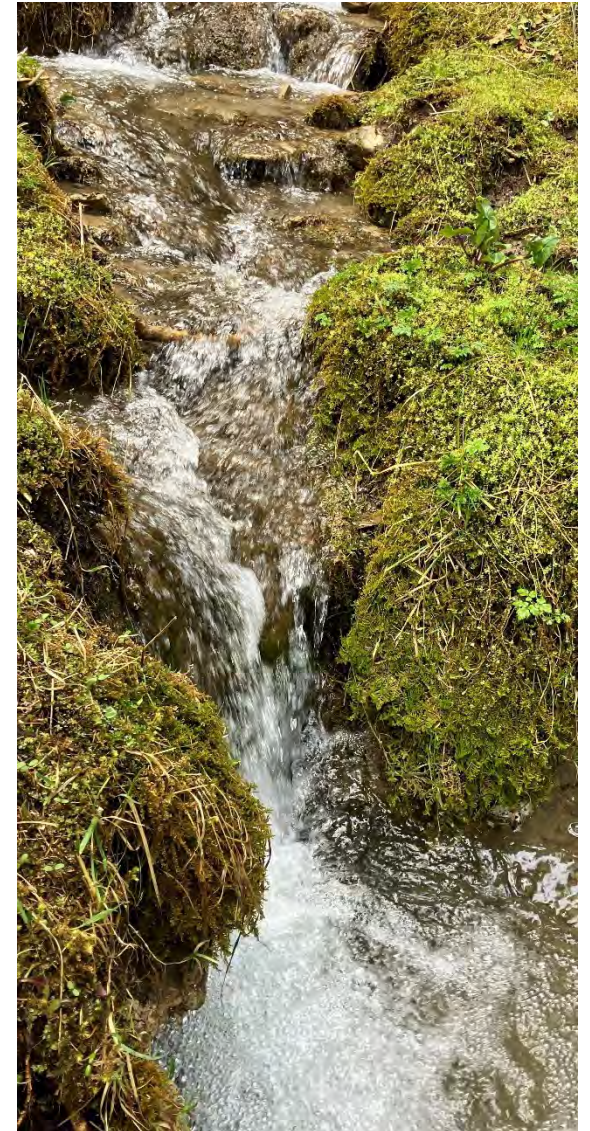
(Ludwig/Boogaard, 2021, Dudau et al. 2019, Steen et al. 2018)

## Co-research in social innovation ...

... is a process of mutual learning, which – in the knowledge that innovation can also fail – should be flexible in its design, well moderated in terms of methodology

... can lead to more robust and more sustainable outcomes if based on clear accountabilities but has its price.

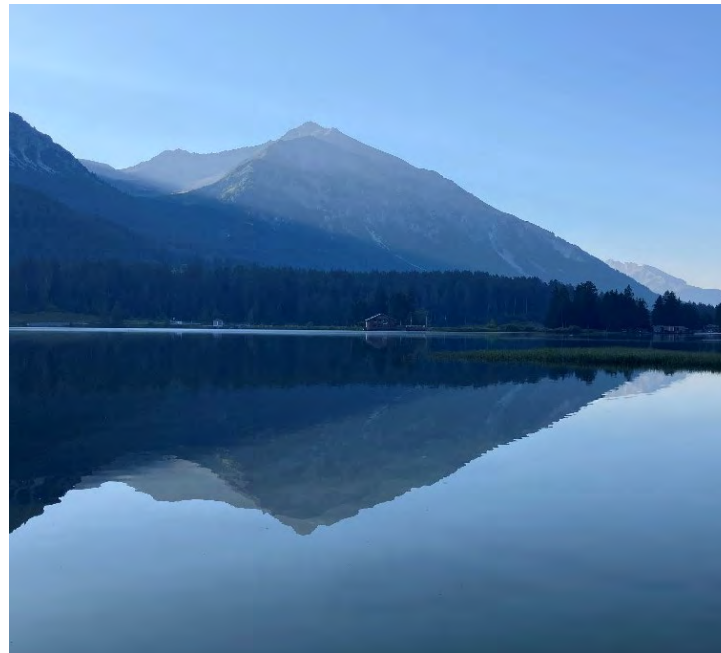
... can have a transformative effect through both its results and its processes.







Stor tack för ert intresse!  
[anne.parpan@fhnw.ch](mailto:anne.parpan@fhnw.ch)



# Literature

- Dudau et al. (2019). Following the yellow brick road? (Dis)enchantment with co-design, co-production and value co-creation in public services. *Public Management Review*, 21(11), 1577-1594.
- Evers, A./Ewert, B./Brandsen, T. (2014). *Social innovations for social cohesion: Transnational patterns and approaches from 20 European cities*. Giessen, Nijmegen: Wilco Project.
- Farr, M. et al. (2021) Co-producing knowledge in health and social care research: reflections on the challenges and ways to enable more equal relationships. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 8(1).
- Fritz, F. (2015). Was können wir von KlientInnen lernen? Potenziale internationaler Modelle der NutzerInnenbeteiligung bei einer Übertragung auf die österreichische Sozialarbeitsausbildung. *Soziales Kapital*, 14, 203-216. Online: <http://www.soziales-kapital.at/index.php/sozialeskapital/article/viewFile/379/695.pdf>
- Gibbons, M. et al. (1994). *The new production of knowledge: the dynamics of science and research in contemporary societies*. London: Sage.
- Gibbons, M. (2000). Mode 2 society and the emergence of context-sensitive science. *Science and Public Policy*, 27(3), 159-163.
- Gredig, D./Schubert, L./Parpan-Blaser A. (2023). Pragmatism: a theoretical framework for social innovation. In: Maeder, P./Chimienti, M./Cretton, V./Maggiori, C./Probst, I./Rullac, S. (Eds.). *Innovation et intervention sociale: impacts, méthodes et mises en œuvre dans les domaines de la santé et de l'action sociale*. Zürich/Genève: Seismo. 29-42.
- Gustafsson, A. et al. (2025). Development and validation of the UserInvolve comprehensive toolkit for evaluating co-production in research. *Research Involvement and Engagement* 11:93.
- Hargadon, A.B. (2002) Brokering Knowledge: Linking Learning and Innovation. *Research in Organizational Behavior*, 24, 41-85.
- Hartley, J./Bennington, J (2000). Co-research: A new methodology for new times. *European Journal of Work and Organisational Psychology*, 9(4), 463-476.
- Hüttemann, M./Solèr, M. (2018). Zur Relevanz und „Relevierung“ von Wissen im Innovationsprozess. In: Eurich, J., Glatz-Schmallegger, M., Parpan-Blaser, A. (eds) *Gestaltung von Innovationen in Organisationen des Sozialwesens*. Wiesbaden: Springer. 225-251.
- International Federation of Social Workers IFSW (2014). Global Definition of Social Work. Online: [Global Definition of Social Work – International Federation of Social Workers](#)
- Langer, A./Eurich, J./Güntner, S. (2019). *Innovation in Social Services: A Systematizing Overview Based on the EU Research Platform INNOSERV*. Wiesbaden: Springer.
- Ludwig, D./Boogaard, B. (2021). Making transdisciplinarity work: An epistemology of inclusive development and innovation. *The politics of knowledge in inclusive development and innovation*. Routledge. 19-33.
- Merlin-Brogniart, C. et al. (2022). Social innovation and public services: A literature review of multiactor collaborative approaches in five European countries. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 182.
- Nicolls, A./Murdock, A. (2012). The Nature of Social Innovation. In: Nicolls, A./Murdock, A. (Eds.): *Social Innovation. Blurring Boundaries to Reconfigure Markets*. London/ New York/ Shanghai: Palgrave Macmillan. 1-30.
- Osborne, S. (1998). Naming the beast: Defining and classifying service innovations in social policy. *Human Relations*, 51(9), 1133-1154.
- Parpan-Blaser, A. (2025). Insights into Transdisciplinary Innovation: Co-Creating Visual Materials in Social Welfare. *Social Enterprise Journal* (accepted)
- Parpan-Blaser, A./Hüttemann, M. (2019). Social innovation in social work. In J. Howaldt, C. Katelka, A. Schröder, & M. Zirngiebl (Eds.) *Atlas of social innovation: 2nd volume: A world of new practices*. Munich: Oekom. 80-83.
- Pohl C. et al. (2010) Researchers' roles in knowledge co-production: Experience from sustainability research. *Science and Public Policy*, 37(4): 267–281
- Steen et al. (2018). The dark side of co-creation and co-production: seven evils. In: Brandsen, T. et al. (eds.) *Co-Production and Co-Creation: Engaging Citizens in Public Services*. London/New York: Routledge. 284-293.
- Strassburger, G./Rieger, J. (2019). *Partizipation kompakt*. Weinheim/Basel: Beltz.

# Program

För konferensens program och lokaler för parallella forskningspresentationer och parallella workshops, scanna QR-koden

*Pssst! QR-koden finns också på baksidan av er namnbricka.*






# Program

## 11:00 Parallella forskningspresentationer

Fyra parallella sessioner med forskningspresentationer:

Session 1...

 11:00 tisdag  1h 30m

 Spelbomskan, Polstjärnan, Bergsmannen och Mimer

[Läs mer](#)

För att visa samtliga sessioner,  
klicka på "läs mer"!

**10:30-11:00 / Fikapaus och  
posterutställning**







FORSKNINGSKONFERENS  
18 NOVEMBER / STOCKHOLM

**NYTÄNKANDE SÄTT ATT MÖTA  
SAMHÄLLSUTMANINGAR GENOM  
SAMSKAPANDE FORSKNING**



**FORTE:**

Forskningsrådet för  
hälsa, arbetsliv och välfärd







[facebook.com/socinn](https://facebook.com/socinn)



[instagram.com/msisweden](https://instagram.com/msisweden)



[linkedin.com/company/msisweden](https://linkedin.com/company/msisweden)



[www.socialinnovation.se](http://www.socialinnovation.se)



[socialinnovation@mau.se](mailto:socialinnovation@mau.se)