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Why civil society elites? 10th of April, 2019

HÅKAN JOHANSSON, PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK,
LUND UNIVERSITY



www.civilsocietyelites.lu.se

Civil society elites? Comparing elite composition, reproduction,
integration and contestation in European civil societies

Research program funded by the
Swedish Foundation of Humanities and Social Sciences (2018-2023)

Who are we?



Team of scholars

- Håkan Johansson (PI) (prof)
- Niklas Altermark (PhD)
- Malin Arvidson (Associate prof)
- Christofer Edling (prof)
- Kerstin Jacobsson (prof)
- Sara Kalm (Associate prof)
- Elzbieta Korolczuk (PhD)
- Jayeon Lindellee (PhD)
- Anna Meeuwisse (prof)
- Roberto Scaramuzzino (Associate prof)
- Anders Uhlin (prof)
- Cecilia Santili (PhD)
- Franziska Böhm
- Simon Stattin
- Carmen Cardenas Elvira
- Group of post docs (to be recruited)

Why should
we care
about
elites?

DEAR 1%,
WE FELL ASLEEP
FOR A WHILE.
JUST WOKE UP.
SINCERELY, THE 99%

#OCCUPYWALLST



A dual academic neglect

Elite research

CS lack substantial resources, power and societal
influence

Civil society research

Egalitarian, inclusive and
'against' state and market.



Recognition
Concentration
Hierarchization
Contestation

Studying civil society elites in Europe – four thematic studies

(I) Composition of CS elites

- How is organized civil society structured in the four countries and at the EU level?
- What qualities, values and networks are associated with leaders of large CSOs?
- Survey, prosopographical study, database with CS leaders in four countries and EU

(II) Reproduction of CS elites

- How are civil society elites formed and reproduced?
- Analyses of recruitment and appointment processes in peak organizations
- Training of and prizes to CS leaders

(III) Interaction and integration of CS Elites

- Do elite groups in civil society interact, or integrate, with other elite groups?
- To what extent, how, and with what consequences are elite groups in civil society integrated with other elite groups?
- Biographical interviews, studies of exclusive arenas for interaction and integration

(IV) Challengers of CS elites

- By whom, on what grounds and with what consequences are civil society elites challenged and contested?
- Case studies looking into anti-gender movements and right-wing populism
- Social media analysis

Contexts for the study of civil society elites in a European context



- Cross country comparisons
- Comparisons across levels
- Sweden, Italy, England and Poland and EU/Brussels

Civil Society Elites? A research program at the Faculty of Social Sciences presents:

Elites and Civil Society Elites

10 APRIL 2019 | RESEARCH SEMINAR | PUFENDORF INSTITUTE | BISKOPSGATAN 3 LUND

10.30-11.00

Håkan Johansson

Why Civil Society Elites? Reflections from a research program

11.00-12.00

Janine R. Wedel

From Power Elites to Influence Elites: Resetting Elite Studies for the 21st Century?

Lunch

13.00-14.00

Trygve Gulbrandsen

Elites in an egalitarian society. Support for the Nordic model

14.00-15.00

Didier Georgakakis

The field of eurocracy, the EU civil service and their transformation

Coffee

15.30-16.30

Mario Diani

Does network centrality imply leadership roles? Exploring civil society collective action fields

16.30-17.30

David Lewis

Elites and civil society boundaries: some reflections

Short break

17.45-18.30

Panel discussion

Elite and civil society research. A happy marriage?



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