



# Nordic Research Council for Criminology

## Nordic Research Council for Criminology (NSfK) Interim Council Meeting

**Date:** 24 October 2024

**Times:** 15:00-16:30 CET

**Venue:** Zoom.

**Present:** *From the Council: Heidi Mork Lomell, Mikko Aaltonen, Arnt Even Hustad, Minna Piispa, Erik Grevholm, Tove Pettersson, Anna-Karin Ivert, Friðrik Árni Friðriksson Hirst, Rannveig Þórisdóttir, Annick Prieur, Maria Libak Pedersen*

*From the Secretariat: Maud Hol, Per Jørgen Ystehede*

**Not present:** *Ragnhild Hennum, Linda Kjær Minke, Helene Huhta, Hanna Rún Sverrisdóttir*

**Minute taker:** *Per Jørgen Ystehede*

### Welcome and introduction with Quorum and agenda

The Chair presented the agenda. Agenda approved. Rannveig Þórisdóttir presented new council member from Iceland: Friðrik Árni Friðriksson Hirst, and the Council presented themselves to the new member. Maria Libak Pedersen, the temporary council member from Denmark replacing Anne-Julie Boesen Pedersen, was also welcomed to the Council.

### Tentative budget for 2025

The Executive Secretary presented the tentative budget for 2025. In the suggested budget there is a buffer of 984 000 NOK This is slightly lower than usual. There may be necessary to make some priorities when it comes to the expenses for the 2025 budget. Earlier NSfK has always had a policy to having 1 million NOK as a buffer in case one of the need for closing the organization. This policy was in place in large parts because of the practice of paying out smaller sums throughout the project period when it came to research projects, but as of 2022 the grantee is paid the full sum which makes it easier to control the budget and unforeseen expenses (i.e. relating to delays in research projects again resulting in changes in payment plans). There is still a need to maintain the earlier policy of at all time

having a surplus. This to cover costs of closing the organisation. Specifically, there is a contractual agreement of 3 months for the Secretary, Contact secretaries, Editor and Co-editor of the Nordic Journal of Criminology, in addition a contractual agreement of giving one year notice to the publisher of journal. Partly unforeseen has the increase of costs for the annual research seminar following the pandemic due to higher costs when it comes to travel and accommodation, which may lead to the Council of revising either the current model of covering all costs for participants and/or the format of the annual research seminar.

### **Policy Briefs, Working Papers and Minutes**

The Chair informed the Council that following the Council Meeting in Copenhagen in March, the reporting of grants to NSfK now includes policy briefs, working papers and meeting minutes. These are published at the NSfK web pages and included in the annual report.

The briefs and minutes present research findings and recommendations from Nordic criminological research funded by NSfK. The opinions expressed are the authors' own and do not reflect the views of the Nordic Research Council for Criminology.

### **New Members of the Council 2025**

As of 2025, Council Member Ragnhild Hennem and Current Chair from Norway, Heidi Mork Lomell, will be leaving the Council. Council Member Arnt Even Hustad informed the Council that the Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security has appointed the following two new members: May-Len Skilbrei, professor of Criminology at the University of Oslo and Jørn Jacobsen, professor of criminal law and legal theory at the University of Bergen. Danish Council Members Anne Julie Boesen and Annick Prieur will also be leaving the Council. Maria Libak Pedersen has been temporarily appointed by the Danish Minister of Justice in Boesen stead as representative from the Danish Ministry and there will shortly be formally appointed new representatives for Boesen and Prieur. The Chair thanked them both for long and excellent service to the Council. The Executive Secretary reminded the council members from the Ministries that new representatives should be in place in November due to the start of evaluating new applications to both the research seminar and for research grants.

### **NSfK Research Seminar 2025**

The Research Seminar will in 2025 be held in Denmark on Fyn on the following dates: 7-9 May 2025. The call is published at the NSfK web pages and the deadline for submission is November 29<sup>th</sup>. The Council members are encouraged to spread the call to relevant persons and institutions.

## **Update on the transition to new management in Iceland**

Rannveig Þórisdóttir oriented that she this week was in the process of hiring a new Executive Secretary. The formal transfer will take place sometime in December of 2024.

### **AOB**

There were no AOB.