

Sociology and Leadership

Sociology at the Swedish National Defence College





SOCIOLOGY AT THE SWEDISH NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE - AN INTRODUCTION

Sociology represents one of the College's core academic disciplines. It is integrated into the Department of Leadership and Management (ILM), which has three professorships in the disciplines of sociology, psychology, and educational sciences.

Sociology studies human behaviour, social interaction and social organisation. Research is conducted in a myriad of ways and is based on a wide array of research methods. Although small in size, the current Sociology Team is involved in a variety of new research projects, outreach activities and ideas. Presently, sociological research and teaching at ILM is primarily related to the following areas:

- Conflict Management and International Peacekeeping
- Multinational Operations and Civil-Military Relations
- Violence and Conflict: Sociological Perspectives
- Leadership under Demanding Conditions
- Security Issues in Contemporary Society

Both research and education are carried out interdisciplinary and in close co-operation with other departments and institutions. Specific research clusters and global networks provide the basic framework for research and training at both graduate and doctoral level.

To read more about our work and activities, please visit www.fhs.se/sociology, where you can, among other things, download the Sociology Team's publications and sign up for the biannual newsletter.

TEAM

PROFESSORSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY



Franz Kernic is a professor of sociology at ILM. Before joining the department in 2008, he was a visiting professor at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada (January 2007-April 2008). He also holds appointments with the Austrian Ministry of Defence (on leave), the University of Innsbruck (Austria), and the University of the German Armed Forces in Munich (Germany). Dr. Kernic has been a visiting professor/scholar and research fellow at various European and American universities and institutions (e.g., Catholic University in Santiago de Chile, Stanford University, Northwestern University, Texas State University etc.). His research focuses on international security, peace and conflict studies, EU external relations and security policy, civil-military relations, and (military) sociology.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS



Photo: Martias Wandler

Marc-André Boisvert has completed a MA in Political Science and a Graduate Diploma in European Integration Studies (Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada). He has spent many years as a journalist and researcher in West Africa and Central Europe and wrote, among others, on socio-political aspects of drug trafficking in West Africa, electoral transition in Guinea-Bissau and Mauritania and post-war recovery in Kosovo. Marc-André's current research interests as a research assistant at ILM are on post-colonial issues, identity and cultural cohesion within peacekeeping missions, sociological aspect of non-traditional warfare, and security in Africa.



Photo: Martias Wandler

Henrik Fürst has an undergraduate degree in Sociology and a Masters degree in Education from Stockholm University. With a general interest in symbolic interactionism, sociology of emotions and social organisations, his previous research has focused on concepts of “expeditionary mindset” and “core values”, on which he has published several papers and co-edited the book *Core Values and the Expeditionary Mindset: Armed Forces in Metamorphosis*. In addition, Henrik has studied social formative aspects of emotions in military units, as well as in social interaction and communication on the Internet.



Lisa Karlborg holds a Masters degree in Social Sciences, Peace and Conflict Studies, from Uppsala University, and a Bachelor degree in Political Science, International Cooperation and Crisis Management, from the Swedish National Defence College. She has been at ILM since 2009, and is currently dividing her time between working part-time as a research assistant at the department, and studying on the PhD programme in Peace and Conflict Studies at Uppsala University.

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Photo: Mattias Wandler



Karin Skelton has been with ILM since 2008 and in academic administration since 2004. With experience from education and research in the UK and Sweden, she has worked in various fields such as English for Foreign Learners, international student relations and e-learning. As project coordinator, Karin is mainly responsible for outreach activities, website development and the Sociology newsletter. During 2011, she will be working part-time for the Sociology Team while pursuing studies in media communications.

ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

All positions in sociology at the associate (docent) and assistant professor (lecturer) level are presently vacant.

AFFILIATED FACULTY AND VISITING SCHOLARS 2010

Bengt Abrahamsson, Professor emeritus and consultant, Sweden.

Howard Balanoff, Professor, Texas State University, USA.

Anastasia Chebakova, PhD student, University of Victoria, Canada.

Anna Katarina Helkama-Rågård, Lecturer, Swedish National Defence College, Sweden.

Christian Leuprecht, Associate Professor, Royal Military College of Canada, Canada.

Weichong Ong, Associate Research Fellow, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

Adrian Ratkic, PhD, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden.

Sanaa Rehman, BA, Uppsala University, Sweden.

Tamara Tawaefi, MA, Karlstad university, Sweden.

Jodok Troy, Lecturer, University of Innsbruck, Austria.

Mattias Wandler, BA Uppsala University, Sweden.

AFFILIATED FACULTY AND VISITING SCHOLARS 2009

Bengt Abrahamsson, Professor emeritus, Swedish National Defence College, Sweden.

Anastasia Chebakova, PhD student, University of Victoria, Canada.

George Glaser, University of Texas, President of the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis, USA.

Anna Paula Jonsson, BA, Pontifícia Universidade Católica, Brazil.

Christian Leuprecht, Associate Professor, Royal Military College of Canada.

Harry Nedelcu, MA, Carleton University, Canada.

Adrian Ratkic, PhD, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden.

Sanaa Rehman, BA, Uppsala University, Sweden.

Tamara Tawaefi, MA, Karlstad university, Sweden.

Patricia Shields, Professor, Texas State University and Editor of Armed Forces and Society, USA.

Peter Tillberg, Researcher, Swedish National Defence College, Sweden.

Jodok Troy, Lecturer, University of Innsbruck, Austria.

Karl Ydén, Researcher, Swedish National Defence College, Sweden.

Alise Weibull, PhD and ERGOMAS chairperson, Sweden.

RESEARCH

The Sociology Team at the Swedish National Defence College is involved in many different inter-disciplinary and international research projects. The group participates in various global social science networks, which particularly focus on questions related to issues of global security and international crisis management, military sociology, violence and war, and peace and conflict studies. Its main research activities aim to identify relevant social and behavioural determinants of leadership and social interaction in complex and demanding situations. Another important focus is the human, social and cultural aspects of international peacekeeping missions and crisis management.

MAJOR RESEARCH AREAS

Sociology of the Military: Organisation and Profession

This research area covers a wide spectrum of issues and topics related to the role and transformation of the armed forces in today's globalizing world, and focuses on new tasks and challenges for the military in contemporary society. It addresses a wide array of sociological questions related to the current transformation of the armed forces, particularly within the context of the European integration process (including the military's new roles and tasks in international conflict and crisis management, peacekeeping, peace enforcement and humanitarian aid). Major research topics include:

- New Missions – New Challenges: Peacekeeping and Crisis Management in the 21st Century.
- Transformation of the Armed Forces: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives
- Mission Abroad - Military Experience from International Operations
- Military Violence

Security in World Society

This area of research focuses on the nexus between society, individuals and security. One key question is how today's emerging world society is – and/or can be – structured and organised in order to provide “security” to its citizens and members. In this context, sociology focuses primarily on individual and collective behaviour and interaction in respect to security, stability and peace, as well as perceptions and identities, societal and organisational structures.

Moreover, sociological research under this umbrella also deals with aspects of today's European integration process and the EU's growing role in international affairs, including its Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). Sociological and political aspects of Europe's security policy are also analysed.

Leadership in Demanding Conditions – Sociological Aspects and Case Studies

Questions of leadership in demanding conditions are the main focus of ILM's research and teaching activities. In this context, sociology contributes primarily to the study of

social and organisational aspects of leadership. In this respect, issues such as why people act as they do in stressful and extreme situations or what constitutes the nexus between leadership/followership, organisations, and culture, etcetera, are addressed.

As such, Sociology adds a special value to ILM's long research tradition in the field, which has for many years almost exclusively concentrated on purely psychological aspects of leadership. Today, sociological research enriches the traditional strand of leadership studies by bringing in both an organisational/societal perspective as well as a new phenomenological sociological approach. Various case studies of leadership challenges in specific emergency situations are carried out in this field of social science research.



INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS AND NETWORKS

The Sociology Team is currently working on establishing a number of research networks in and outside Sweden. In addition, our researchers are involved in several of international research organisations and networks, including the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society (IUS), the International Sociological Association (ISA), the American Political Science Association (APSA), the European Union Studies Association (EUSA), and many others. Sociology has also established a close cooperation framework with other countries, particularly with Canada, the United States, Brazil, China, and numerous European countries.



EUROPEAN RESEARCH GROUP ON MILITARY AND SOCIETY

In 2008-2009, the Sociology Team participated actively in all research activities within the ERGOMAS network, particularly by subsidising the 10th ERGOMAS conference and employing chairperson Dr. Alice Weibull, previous researcher at ILM. The event was hosted by the Swedish National Defence College in June 2009 and turned out a great success with over 150 international participants.



STRATEGIC KNOWLEDGE CLUSTER: CANADA - EUROPE TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE

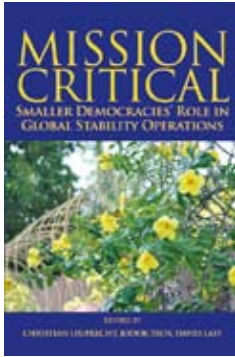
The Strategic Knowledge Cluster was set up in 2004 with the aim of encouraging research on relations between Canada and Europe. Based at the Centre for European Studies at Carlton University, Ottawa, it involves notable scholars from a wide variety of fields. The cluster has identified five research themes, to which the Sociology Team is contributing with the expertise of Prof. Franz Kernic on EU and Canada as global actors in international conflict management and security.

EXCHANGE AND VISITING SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMME

In 2009, the Sociology Team launched a new “Visiting-Scholar-in-Residence”-programme. This programme brings scholars for a short period to Stockholm where they can participate in ongoing research activities. In addition, the professorship is currently working on establishing a number of bilateral exchange programmes with other professorships and departments around the world.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

IN ENGLISH



Mission Critical: Smaller Democracies' Role in Global Stability Operations, Christian Leuprecht, Jodok Troy, David Last (eds.), (McGill-Queen's University Press). To be released in 2010.

Can smaller countries achieve through cooperation what superpowers cannot achieve by force? The military forces of the world's superpower are reluctant to engage in peacekeeping, stabilisation and nation building. The chaotic margins of international order need stabilising if they are not to threaten western and global interests in perpetuity. Herein lies the challenge of expeditionary missions for smaller advanced democracies: Reject the technological fantasy of future war scenarios, come to terms with the social context of violence and the human implications of managing it, and project stabilisation globally in support of a consensus that will survive a changing world order.



European Security in Transition, Gunter Hauser and Franz Kernic (eds.), (Aldershot, England, Burlington, Vt.: Ashgate, 2006).

European Security in Transition provides a historical grounding in the development of the European security system since the end of World War II and through its transition in the post-Cold War era. Individual topics addressed include developments in the relationships between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the European Union



Armed Forces and International Security: Global Trends and Issues, Jean M. Callaghan and Franz Kernic (eds.), (Muenster: LIT and Somerset, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2003).

Designed as a textbook and interdisciplinary reference for the social sciences, this volume examines key issues in the current global security agenda and relationships between armed forces and society around the world.



The European Armed Forces in Transition. A Comparative Analysis, Franz Kernic, Karl Haltiner and Paul Klein (eds.), (Frankfurt/Main: Peter Lang, 2005).

This book focuses on the current reform processes of the armed forces and the recent development of civil-military relations in Europe. Major trends in the development of modern military organisations are examined in detail. The spectrum of the analysis ranges from the abolition of the draft in most European countries to aspects of the organisational design of today's military organisations, the multicultural and multinational framework of future military missions, and the so-called process of «feminisation» of military units.



Mission Abroad - Military Experience from International Operations, Peter Tillberg, Joakim Svartheden, Danuta Janina Engstedt (eds.) (Stockholm: Försvarshögskolan, 2008).

This book presents the personal experiences of Swedish officers and soldiers who have served on missions abroad; giving a first hand account of how they handled the situations they found themselves faced with. Mission Abroad highlights the importance of a number of factors necessary, if one is to achieve a successful and humane outcome to a dangerous and stressful situation, such as automatic response, creativity, balanced risk-taking and professional military expertise. The book is also available in Swedish and English.

IN SWEDISH



“War” and the Career Ladder, (“Kriget” och karriärsystemet. Försvarsmaktens organiserande i fred). Karl Ydén, (Göteborg: Bokförlaget BAS, 2008).

This book analyses the organisation of the Swedish Armed Forces from the view point of naval battalion training. Soldier training is conducted by young officers with local interpretations of “war” and the demands of combat training. Parallel with the combat training, higher officers carry out administration in line with the objectives and methods characteristic for all Swedish public administration. The Swedish Armed Forces constitute a venue where various logicians, practices and value systems meet, which characterise both the everyday life as well as the officer corps’ career ladder. How good does the quality of the training have to be, and who controls it? Questions of military professionalism and military organisation are raised and answered in this study of the Swedish Armed Forces in the 21st Century. The book is only available in Swedish.

IN GERMAN



Sozialwissenschaften und Militär. Eine kritische Analyse, Franz Kernic, (Wiesbaden: Deutscher Universitäts-Verlag, 2001)

Diese Untersuchung bemüht sich um eine kritische Rekonstruktion und Setzungsanalyse moderner sozialwissenschaftlicher Theorien über das Verhältnis von Politik und Militär. Im Mittelpunkt der Untersuchung steht die Tradition militärsoziologischer Forschung von den Anfängen der modernen Soziologie bis hin zu aktuellen Theorieansätzen der gegenwärtigen Debatte um die Risikogesellschaft und die Möglichkeiten einer rationalen Sicherheitspolitik.



Kritik der militärischen Gewalt. Eine gesellschaftstheoretische Analyse zum Verhältnis von Politik, Franz Kernic, (Bern, Brüssel, Frankfurt, New York, Oxford, Wien: Peter Lang, 2003).

Die Möglichkeit des Krieges prägt seit Jahrhunderten das politische Denken der Menschen. Der Autor dieses Buches versucht, im Wege einer umfassenden «Kritik der militärischen Gewalt» den Blick für die Möglichkeit eines Denkens des Politischen jenseits des Krieges und der Gewalt zu erschließen. Er bemüht sich dabei um die Ergründung eines philosophisch-politischen Denkens, das den Krieg weder als die Fortsetzung der Politik mit anderen Mitteln (Clausewitz), noch die Politik als Fortsetzung des Krieges (Foucault) sieht.



Handbuch zur europäischen Sicherheit, Franz Kernic und Gunther Hauser (Hrsg.), (Frankfurt am Main, Berlin, Bern, Bruxelles, New York, Oxford, Wien: Peter Lang 2006).

Dieses Handbuch bietet eine umfassende Darstellung des gegenwärtigen Standes sowie der jüngeren Entwicklung der europäischen Sicherheits- und Verteidigungsarchitektur. Berücksichtigung finden dabei völkerrechtliche, politische, gesellschaftliche, wirtschaftliche, polizeiliche und militärische Aspekte. Schwerpunkte bilden u. a. die theoretischen Rahmenbedingungen der europäischen Sicherheit, die Entwicklung und der Stand der Gemeinsamen Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik und der Europäischen Sicherheits- und Verteidigungspolitik der EU sowie Aspekte der Interaktion zwischen EU, UNO, OSZE und NATO.

SELECTED ARTICLES

Kernic, F. (2009). *Public Opinion and European Security*, in: Kümmel, G., Caforio G. and Dandeker, C. (eds.), *Armed Forces, Soldiers and Civil-Military Relations*. Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften, 211-230.

Kernic, F. (2008). *La producción de inseguridad en la sociedad global*, in: Navajas Zubeldia, C. Iturriaga Barco, D. (eds.), *Crisis, dictaduras y democracia*. La Rioja: Universidad de La Rioja.

Briones Razeto, S., Kammel, A. y Kernic, F. (2008), *¿Buscando un nuevo paradigma? La Unión Europea en busca de un nuevo concepto de seguridad en las Relaciones Internacionales*, in: *Revista Académica de Relaciones Internacionales*, Madrid: number 9 (October).

Hasselbladh, H. and Ydén, K. (2007). *En officerskår för faktiska insatser*, in: Hammarstrand, L. (red.), *Modern militär professionalism - försvaret och Sverige i världen*. En vitbok utgiven av Sveriges Reservofficersförbund, 43-69.

Kernic, F. (2007). *European Security after 9/11*, in: *European Political Science*, vol. 6, no. 4 (December), 377-388.

Abrahamsson, B., Egnell, R. and Ydén, K. (2006). *Effect Based Operations, Military Organization and Professionalization*. Stockholm: Swedish National Defence College.

Abrahamsson, B. and Ydén, K. (2005). *Organizations, Co-ordinated Actions and Network Based Defence*, in: Ydén, K. (ed.), *Directions in Military Organizing*. Stockholm: Försvarshögskolan, 169-184.

Ydén, K. (red.) (2005). *Directions in Military Organizing*. Stockholm: Försvarshögskolan.

Kernic, F. (2005). Chapters *Chile* and *Austria*, in: K. DeRouen, Jr., and U. Heo (eds.). *Defense and Security. A Compendium of National Armed Forces and Security Policies*. Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio.

Kernic, F. (2004). *UN Peacekeeping: The Austrian Experience*, in: Callaghan, J. and Schoenborn, M. (eds.), *Warriors in Peacekeeping. Points of Tension in Cultural Complex Encounters*. Muenster: LIT.

Kernic, F. (1999), *The Soldier and the Task. The Austrian Experience of Preparing Peacekeepers*, in: *International Peacekeeping*, vol. 6, no. 3 (Autumn), 113-128.

THE SWEDISH NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE



On 1 January 2008, the Swedish National Defence College (SNDC) was established as a national university college with the right to issue academic degrees. This implies that the college now offers a wider selection of civilian university programmes than before. SNDC has existed in its present form since 1997. The College aims to be society's main resource of excellence for education and research in the management of civilian and military assets in periods of tension, crises and war. SNDC contributes towards national and international security through research and development, and educates military and civilian personnel in leading positions as part of the contribution to crisis management and security issues. Research is carried out in diverse but inter-related subject areas, and subsequently disseminated to target sectors of society, both nationally and internationally.

DEPARTMENT OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT (ILM)

ILM is orientated towards research on and education of professionals, who fill or will fill leadership positions in the armed forces, civil crisis management, and civil service. The department's work is carried out in an interdisciplinary academic environment, encompassing the whole spectrum of leadership activities from combat or warfare to various forms of conflict prevention, crisis management, stabilising operations, and the reconstruction of states. The main focus is on today's new leadership challenges due to an increasingly complex, multi-dimensional and multi-cultural environment and to the emergence of new types of international military, civilian, and military-civilian operations.

The two primary areas of the department are education and research, with the aim of creating the prerequisites for tomorrow's leadership tasks in an increasingly complex social and cultural environment. Due to the special focus on questions related to the field of leadership in demanding conditions, ILM secures a unique position as an academic department in the field of social and human science (research) as well as a general leadership developer and trainer (education), today and in the future. ILM is located in Stockholm and Karlstad.

Contact us

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