

How did this project come about? A few words about our previous research

The project “Academia and cultural production as ‘postmigrant’ fields in Sweden” received the funding by Riksbankensjubileumsfond (RJ, Dnr. P20-0137), but we are proud to mention that the funding for this project was also offered by the Swedish Research Council (VR, Dnr. 2020-01430).

The application to the Swedish Research Council required an explanation of how the project leader’s previous research led to the project idea. See her reflections below, followed by a selection of former work by the other researchers in the team.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja (2004). “Transnational perspective in ethnology: from “ethnic” to “diasporic” communities’, in *Transnational Spaces: Disciplinary Perspectives*, M. Povrzanović Frykman (ed.), 77–100. Malmö University.

This chapter is based on my ethnographic research-induced rejection of the ‘ethnic lens’ that pre-defines migrants as members of ‘ethnic communities’. I instead looked at how ethnicity, but also generation, education and migration experience, inform their sociabilities. This stance is directly applicable to the research on professional trajectories in our project.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja (2005). ““Experimental” ethnicity: meetings in the diaspora’, in *Balkan Currents*, T. Dulić et al. (eds.), 194–212. Centre for Multiethnic Research.

This text dwells on methodological reflections that are of crucial importance for the project. I criticized the juxtaposition of ‘insider’ vs. ‘outsider’ researchers on migrants, and exemplified the fluidity of positionalities and the negotiations of the meaning of ethnicity in research encounters.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja (2008). ‘Beyond culture and identity: places, practices, experiences’, *Ethnologia Europaea*, 38 (1), 13–22.

Based on my presentation at a workshop on the future of ethnology organised by the journal *Ethnologia Europaea*, this article makes programmatic claims informed by my ethnographic research on migration issues. It points to epistemological benefits of pursuing practices and experiences – a matter at the heart of the postmigrant perspective.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja (2012). ‘Struggle for recognition: Bosnian refugees’ experiences of employment in Sweden’, *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, 31 (1): 54–79.

Research on work-life integration of refugees – some of them skilled professionals like the ones we plan to include in the project – provided me with an insight into the utmost importance of ‘being seen’ by a resourceful person who can help a refugee towards inclusion that is adequate to their professional experience.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja (2015). ‘Neue Geographien von Gemeinsamkeiten und Unterschieden: Materielle Praktiken und Repräsentation von Migration in Museen’, in *Movements of Migration. Neue Positionen im Feld von Stadt, Migration und Repräsentation*, S. Hess & T. Näser (eds.), 163–172. Panama Verlag.

This text calls for focusing in research on similarities between migrants of different origins as well as between people with and without migration experience. The role of such similarities as the bases for professional alliances will be of central empirical interest in our project.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja (2016). 'Cosmopolitanism in situ: conjoining local and universal concerns in a Malmö neighbourhood', *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power* 23 (1), 35–50.

The concept of cosmopolitanism is often evoked in the literature on the 'postmigrant' condition that is central to the proposed project. This article is based on my long-term interest in using cosmopolitanism as a lens for understanding everyday-life encounters in which people engage in common projects and practices across ethnicity or migrant status.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja (2017). 'Conceptual frameworks: reflections on ethnicity, identity, culture, and diversity as they relate to the representation of migrants', in *Museums in a Time of Migration: Rethinking Museums' Roles, Representations, Collections, and Collaborations*, C. Johansson & P. Bevelander (eds.), 93–112. Nordic Academic Press.

This is the text in which I briefly presented the 'postmigrant' perspective as a promising alternative to the mainstream understanding of relational dynamics and representational frames concerning migrants. It summarizes my critical reflections on the uses of the notions of ethnicity, identity, culture, and diversity in migration research, that motivate this project.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja & Magnus Öhlander, eds. (2018). *Högutbildade migranter i Sverige*. Arkiv förlag.

I initiated this book project in order to present in one volume, the state-of-art of research in the humanities and social sciences on highly skilled migrants in Sweden. The book indicates scarcity of research on these migrants in general and on professionals in academia and cultural production in particular. Our project intends to fill this gap.

Povrzanović Frykman, Maja & Katarina Mozetič (2020). 'The importance of friends: social life challenges for foreign physicians in Southern Sweden', *Community, Work & Family* 23(4), 385–400.

This article suggests that social integration of migrant professionals cannot be truthfully accounted for by looking at the numbers and ethnic composition of their social relations. It is the quality of relations – notably friendships – that matters most. The issue of friendship is central for our project.

Hemer, Oscar, Maja **Povrzanović Frykman** & Per-Markku Ristilammi (2020). 'Conviviality vis-à-vis cosmopolitanism and creolisation: probing the concepts', in *Conviviality at the Crossroads: The Poetics and Politics of Everyday Encounters*, O. Hemer et al. (eds.), 1–14. Palgrave Macmillan.

This introduction to the book is based on a balanced effort of the three editors. The theoretical development of the 'postmigrant' perspective in the proposed project will draw on the literature on conviviality, cosmopolitanism and creolisation as concepts that speak of collectives without referring to fixed categories of ethnicity.

Here is a brief selection of former work of direct relevance to the project by the other four researchers in the team.

Narvselius, Eleonora (2019). 'Heritage in Sweden between knowledge, mobilization and moralization: Meeting diversity and otherness with different institutional logics', in *Narrating Otherness. European Heritage as a Discourse of Inclusion and Exclusion*, K. Kowalski & B. Törnquist-Plewa (eds.), 129–168. Peter Lang.

Narvselius, Eleonora and Niklas Bernsand (2018). 'Cultural heritage in Sweden in the 2000s: Contexts, debates, paradoxes', *Politeja* 1 (52), 57–94.

Narvselius, Eleonora and Barbara Törnquist-Plewa (2010). 'Theory of cultural trauma and memories of forced migrations. The case of St Elizabeth Cathedral in Lviv', in *Flerstemte minner*, A. Dessingué et al. (eds.). Stavanger University Press.

Sarrimo, Cristine (2017). 'The press crisis and its impact on Swedish arts journalism: autonomy loss, a shifting paradigm and a "journalistification" of the profession', *Journalism* 18(6), 664–679.

Sarrimo, Cristine (2015). 'The mediatized Zlatan, Made by Sweden. An immigrant's path from provincial otherness to a Western literary space', *Nordicom Review* 36(2), 3–15.

Sarrimo, Cristine (2012). *Jagets scen. Självframställning i olika medier*. Makadam förlag.

Kowalski, Krzysztof, Lucja Piekarska-Duraj & Barbara **Törnquist-Plewa**, eds. (2019). *Narrating otherness in Poland and in Sweden: European Heritage as a Discourse of Inclusion and Exclusion*. Peter Lang.

Kowalski, Krzysztof & Barbara **Törnquist-Plewa**, eds. (2016). *Europeanisation of Heritage and Memories in Poland and Sweden*. Jagellonian University Press.

Törnquist-Plewa, Barbara (2016). 'Eastern Europe, Western Europe, New Europe or just Europe? Changes of identities in post-Cold War Europe', in P. Madsen (ed.), *Challenging Identities. European Horizons*, 185–201. Routledge.

Wessels, Josepha I. (2020). 'Our dream is simple: peace, safe and freedom. regime-critical activism and artistic expression by Syrians in Denmark and Sweden', *Journal of Arab and Muslim Media Research* 13(1): 7-29.

Wessels, Josepha I (2020). 'Cosmopolitanism, activism and Arab documentary film', *Middle East Journal of Culture and Communication* 13: 210-231.

Wessels, Josepha I. (2018). 'From a state of shock to agency in liminality, Syrians and their children on the move', in *Syrian Refugees in the Middle East and Europe: Integrating the Young and Exiled*, M. Pace & S. Sen (eds.). Routledge.