

# Sleeping Rough in Sweden

- An intersectional analysis of homelessness among groups with different residency statuses in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö

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# Policy background

- Increased homelessness among migrants holding different citizenship and residency statuses across Europe (COMPAS 2015; ECRE 2016)
- In Sweden: The 2016 amendment to *Lagen (1994:137)*
- *om mottagande av asylsökande m.fl* (LMA)
- Recent debates on criminalizing begging and in several Swedish municipalities

# Research background

- Stratification and differentiation of welfare rights among people holding different citizenship and residency status (Lundberg, Kjellbom and Wernesjö 2019)
- Welfare regimes instrumentalized for the purpose of migration control (Rosenberger and Koppes 2018)
- Research on street level policy implementation (Lipsky 1980): How do street level officials translate exclusionary policies into practice?
- Our own multi-sited research on street level bureaucracy working on illegalised migration in Sweden (2016-18)

# Empirical background

“They thought the withdrawal of social assistance would make people leave voluntarily. But that’s not the case. Many of them are still convinced that if they return, they will be facing a likely death. Many don’t understand this: that this is their reality, even if it’s not the migration agency’s reality. They are rather destitute here than return to their countries of origin”. (Sarah, Swedish social worker)

“...Especially the North African kids, nobody wants to help them. They are unwanted here, unwanted there, unwanted wherever they go.” (Nadja, Swedish NGO worker)

# Aims of the project

- Analysing how legal residency stratifies access to rights and services, and how these differentiations intersect with gender, class and racialization
- Study how recent policy shifts are translated into practice on the 'street level' and the dilemmas they evoke
- Bridging research gaps by 'demigranticizing' migration research (Dahinden 2016) and study the 'migrantization' of citizenship (Anderson 2011) respectively
- Theorize around social marginalization, banishment and inequality across the citizen-migrant divide

Thank you: Comments, questions and suggestions  
welcome!