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Nordic Model of Governance in Pandemic Times: Comparative historical insights from Finland and Sweden

Bakgrund/Frågeställning

This paper explores the meanings and roles given to the state, public authorities and other key players in politics and society in the extraordinary pandemic times. The focus is especially on Finland with Sweden as a main contrast case Sweden. With an eye on the major differences that were visible in the management of the pandemic threats by state leadership in the two societies, the paper starts with a historically grounded overview of the development and status of non-military crisis management arrangements in Finland as contrasted with Sweden. Observing the many historically established similarities often coined, even hailed, as the globally attractive 'Nordic' model of governance, the paper asks how did the Nordic brand in general, and the main elements of the Nordic praxis of open and legitimate governance fare in times of pandemic? What does this tell us about the rhetorical and institutional power of the notions of Nordicness and/or Europeanness in the management of cross-societal and cross-boundary crises? This paper is connected to the research project *Nordic Pathways of Crisis Management and Recovery?* (University of Helsinki) within the larger, three universities' joint research consortium *Just Recovery from Covid-19? Fundamental Rights, Legitimate Governance and Lessons Learned* (Strategic Research Council/ Academy of Finland 2021-2024).

Metod och Resultat

Konklusion