



# Fertility in Flux: Childbearing Intentions and Behaviour in the Nordic Countries

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Final conference of the research project “Fertility intentions and behaviour in Iceland: The role of policies and parenting culture (FIBI)”



18 – 19 September 2025

Nordic House, Reykjavik



## Day 1 – September 18

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**9:30-10:00 – Registration and coffee**

**10:00-10:20 – Welcome and introduction to the FIBI project**

Ari Klængur Jónsson, University of Iceland, Ásdís A. Arnalds, University of Iceland, & Sunna Símonardóttir, University of Akureyri

**10:20-11:10 – Keynote**

**Chair:** Ari Klængur Jónsson

**Gunnar Andersson, Stockholm University:** Swedish Fertility Decline in Motion: Research Progress

**11:10-12:10 – Session 1: Declining Fertility in the Nordic Countries**

**Chair:** Ásdís A. Arnalds

**Ari Klængur Jónsson, University of Iceland:** Fertility Decline in Iceland: Trends and Structures

**Lydia Palumbo, University of Turku:** Young Adults' Fertility Intentions and Self-reported Rationales in Low-Fertility Finland

**Trude Lappegård, University of Oslo:** Disentangling the Relative Importance of Subjective Economic Uncertainty for Fertility Intentions and the Transition to Parenthood in Norway

**12:10-13:10 – Lunch at the Nordic House**

**13:10-14:10 – Session 2: The Changing Landscape of Fertility**

**Chair:** Sunna Símonardóttir

**Gerda Neyer, Stockholm University:** Fertility Development, Fertility Research - What do We Know, Where Should We Go?

**Ann-Zofie Duvander, Stockholm University:** Late First Childbearing in a Changing Landscape: The Role of Education and Work Across Cohorts in Sweden

**Sigrún Ólafsdóttir, University of Iceland:** Parenting Under Pressure: Economic and Cultural Dimensions of Intensive Parenting in Iceland

**14:10-15:00 – Keynote**

**Chair:** Gunnar Andersson

**Daniele Vignoli, University of Florence:** Can We Afford a Child? Income Prerequisites for Parenthood in Western Europe

**15:00-16:00 – Session 3: Migration and Fertility**

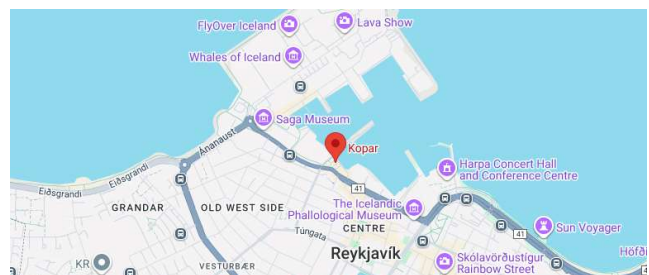
**Chair:** Ásdís A. Arnalds

**Guðbjörg Ottósdóttir & Unnur Dís Skaptadóttir, University of Iceland:** Displaced Decisions: The Impact of Forced Migration on Fertility and Fatherhood

**Solveig Björk Sveinbjörnsdóttir, University of Iceland:** Redefining Gender Roles and Security: Polish Migration Decisions Around Fertility and Childbearing Behavior

**Ólöf Garðarsdóttir, University of Iceland:** Fertility Behaviour and International Migration: The case of Iceland

**19:00 – Dinner at Kopar Restaurant by the old harbor**



## Day 2 – September 19

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### 9:30-10:00 – Coffee

### 10:00-10:50 – Keynote

**Chair:** Sunna Símonardóttir

**Charlotte Faircloth & Zeynep Gurtin, University College London:** Fertile Connections in a Time of Fertility Decline: Thinking Across Assisted Reproductive Technologies and Parenting Culture Studies

### 10:50-11:50 – Session 4: Resisting or Redefining Parenthood

**Chair:** Ari Klængur Jónsson

**Karen Ástu Kristjánsdóttir, University of Iceland:** Making the Right Choice? LGBTQ Mental and Moral Loads in Donor Sperm Selection and the Influence of Responsibilization and Homonationalism

**Sunna Símonardóttir, University of Akureyri & Ásdís Arnalds, University of Iceland:** Parenting Ideals and Voluntary Childlessness in Iceland

**Íris Ellenberger, University of Iceland:** Queering Kinship, Reinforcing Norms: Foster Families as Disruptive Interventions in Family Formation Discourses

### 11:50-13:00 – Lunch at the Nordic House

### 13:00-14:20 – Session 5: Economic Dimensions of Fertility and Family Life

**Chair:** Ásdís A. Arnalds

**Gylfi Magnússon, University of Iceland:** Demographic Change in Iceland: The Role of Fertility and Immigration in Economic Development

**Martin Kolk, Stockholm University:** Wealth and Fertility – Evidence from Swedish Taxation Registers for Men and Women Born 1940 to 1970

**Axel Peter Kristensen, University of Oslo:** The Changing Relationship of Employment and Women's Fertility in the Post-Recession Years

**Anna Thoreson, Reykjavik University:** Women's Labor Market Opportunities and Equality in the Household

**14:20-14:50 – Coffee**

**14:50-16:10 – Session 6: Policies and Parenthood**

**Chair:** Ari Klængur Jónsson

**Ásdís Arnalds, University of Iceland & Sunna Símonardóttir, University of Akureyri:**

How Parenting Norms and Childcare Policies Shape Fertility in Iceland

**Aleksandra S. Dragin, University of Novi Sad, Serbia:** Socio-Demographic Factors and Paid Parental Leave: Shaping Men's Childbearing Intentions and Involvement in Parenting

**Emma Gilland, University of Birmingham:** To What Extent Does Childcare Policy Impact Generation Z Women's Fertility Intentions?

**Sarah K. Cowan, New York University:** A Universal Cash Transfer Increases Fertility: The Case of the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend

**16:10-18:00 – Closing Reception at the Nordic House**