

Maj Rørdam Nielsen  
PhD fellow  
PhD programme  
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## Short presentation

### PhD project

My PhD project is entitled "Immigrants' access to employment, healthcare and housing in Denmark - in law and in practise".

The project is part of Silvia Adamo's research project "Law and Private Governance for a New Understanding of Immigrant Integration" (LUII), which aims at examining barriers to integration and the potential for private actors to promote integration better.

My PhD project is socio-legal in its nature and examines effects of the legislation, seen from immigrants' point of view. In the project I use quantitative (survey) as well as qualitative social scientific research methods.

The focus is on the access to work, healthcare and accomodation for newly arrived immigrants in Denmark, in law and in practice. In addition to this, the project looks at the role of private actors, including companies, NGOs, language schools and trade unions, in enhancing integration.

The webpage for the BASE survey, which my PhD rests on, can be found [here](#).

**Supervisor:** Silvia Adamo, Associate Professor, Centre for Private Governance, Faculty of Law

**Co-supervisor:** Signe Smith Jervelund, Associate Professor, Danish Research Centre for Migration, Ethnicity and Health (MESU), Dept. of Public Health, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences

### Background

I have an MSc in Sociology and a BSc in Political Science from University of Copenhagen. In addition, I hold an MA in International Law and Settlement of Disputes from the UN mandated University for Peace.

Prior to commencing my PhD, I have worked in the NGO sector with humanitarian and development aid in a number of countries: Afghanistan, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Iraq to name some. I have also worked with Afghan and Somali diaspora groups in Denmark and held several research positions on sociological survey projects. In my latest job outside academia, I worked for a Dutch NGO, developing methodology and conducting statistical analysis for a survey project on security for civilians in Iraq and South Sudan.

## Qualifications

Sociology, MSc, University of Copenhagen  
Award Date: 16 Aug 2013

International Law and Settlement of Disputes, MA, UN University for Peace  
Award Date: 29 Nov 2012

Political Science, BSc, University of Copenhagen  
Award Date: 30 Jun 2011

Sociology, BSc, University of Copenhagen  
Award Date: 7 Mar 2008

## Employment

### PhD fellow

PhD programme  
København S, Denmark  
1 Sep 2020 → nu

### Program Officer, Human Security Survey

PAX  
Utrecht, Netherlands  
1 Aug 2017 → 1 Aug 2018

### Grants Officer, East Africa and Yemen

Danish Refugee Council  
Denmark  
1 Oct 2015 → 1 Jul 2017

**Admin Grants Officer**

DACAAR  
Copenhagen, Denmark  
1 Jul 2014 → 1 Oct 2015

**Admin Assistant, Diaspora Programme**

Danish Refugee Council  
Denmark  
1 Jan 2014 → 1 Jun 2014

**Student Assistant, Dept for Africa**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark  
København K, Denmark  
1 Feb 2010 → 1 Aug 2011

**Research Student Assistant, Research Group for the Sociology of Food, LIFE**

University of Copenhagen  
Copenhagen K, Denmark  
1 Aug 2006 → 1 Sep 2008

**Research Student Assistant, Dept of Sociology**

University of Copenhagen  
Copenhagen K, Denmark  
1 Dec 2005 → 1 Aug 2006