

Speaker: *Per Jørgen Ystehede*

Presentation title: Police abolitionism, Black Lives Matter and public discourse on crime policies in Sweden and Norway

In the summer of 2020, in the wake of the discussion on racism in the police following the Black Lives Matter protests following the police shootings of amongst other George Floyd – Tatanya Valland, Ida Nafstad and Per Jørgen Ystehede published a series of op.ed.s. in Norwegian and Swedish media. This presentation will be based on the experiences from the reactions to largely “introduce” police abolitionism in a Swedish and Norwegian public debate. The paper will reflect on both the differing reactions in Sweden and Norway as well as to discuss what this may show about challenges and limitations of discussing criminal policies in the media in Sweden and Norway.