



European
Social
Network

Anna Gärdegård

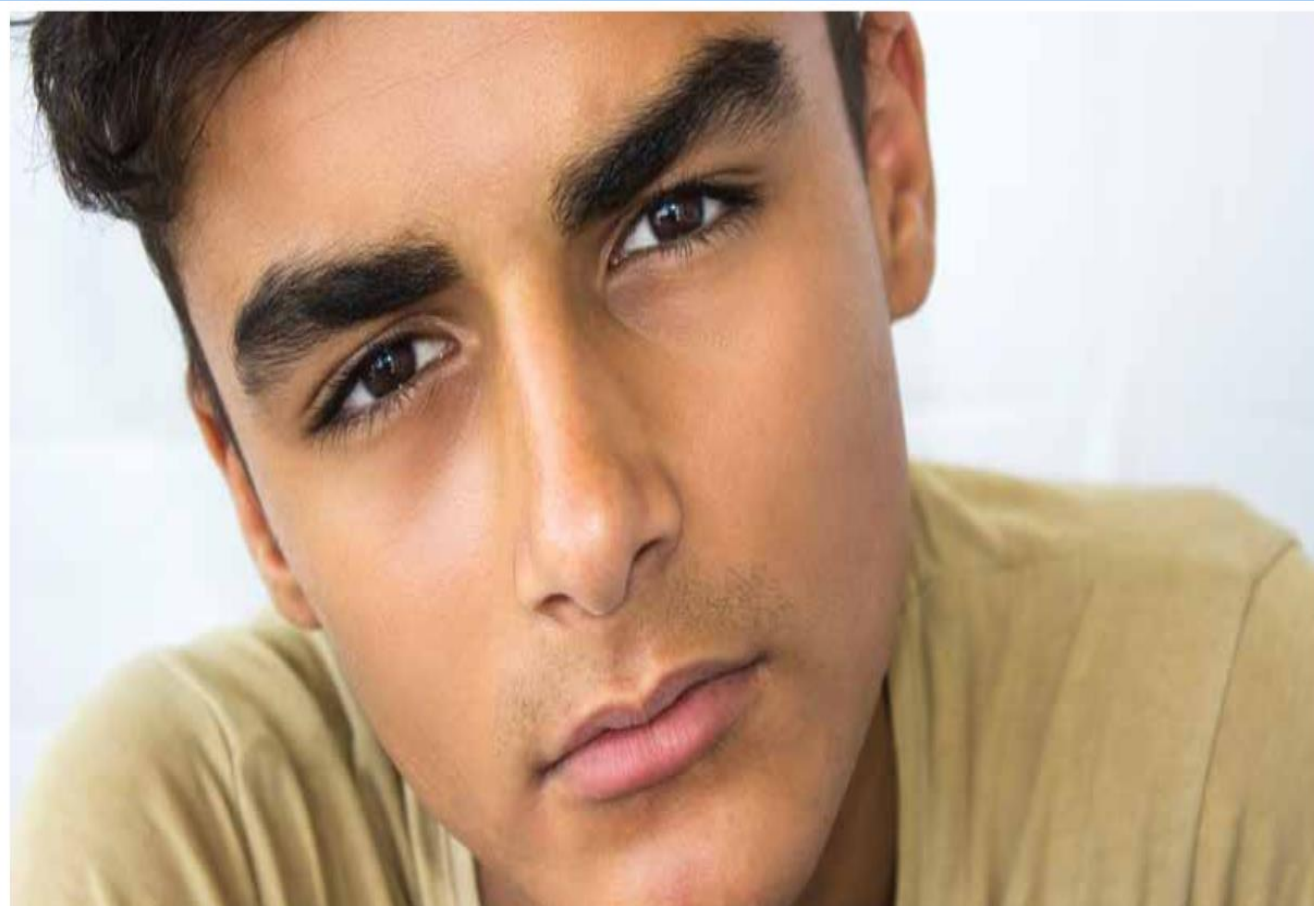
Project Leader, Nordic Welfare Centre



Organised in cooperation with:



Reception and integration of unaccompanied children in the Nordic countries



ENSAMKOMMANDE UNGA I NORDEN

UNACCOMPANIED MINORS IN THE NORDIC

Nordic Welfare Centre

- An institution under the Nordic Council of Ministers
- Offices in Stockholm and Helsinki
- 30 employees



This presentation..

- The situation in the Nordic countries
- Major similarities and differences between the countries
- Main lessons learnt up to now in the reception and integration of migrant children



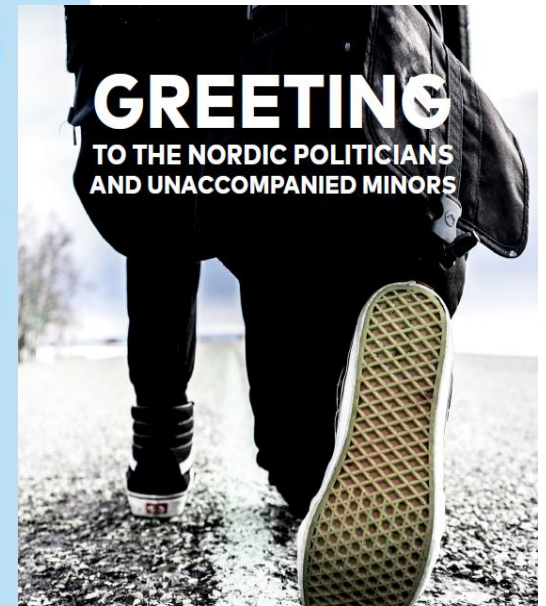
How have the countries arranged for the reception and care for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children?

- The asylum process
- Rights to social services, school, healthcare and leisure time
- What happens when turning 18?
- Measures and routines for children who disappear
- Similarities and differences between the countries
- 👁️ Some learning examples

Samhällets mottagande
av ensamkommande barn
i Norden

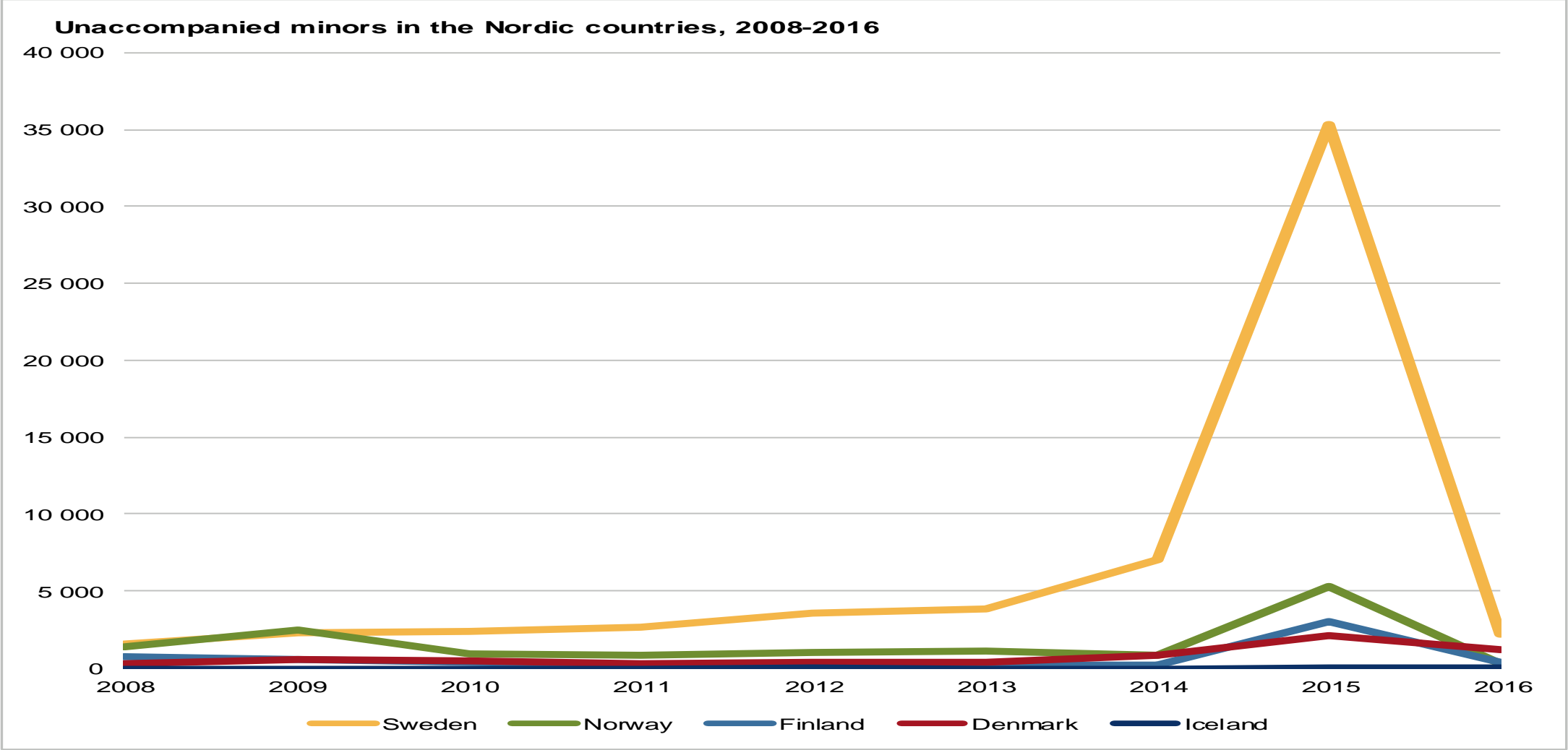
En kartläggning

Nordens
välfördscenter



Nordic Welfare

2008-2016 Unaccompanied children in the Nordics

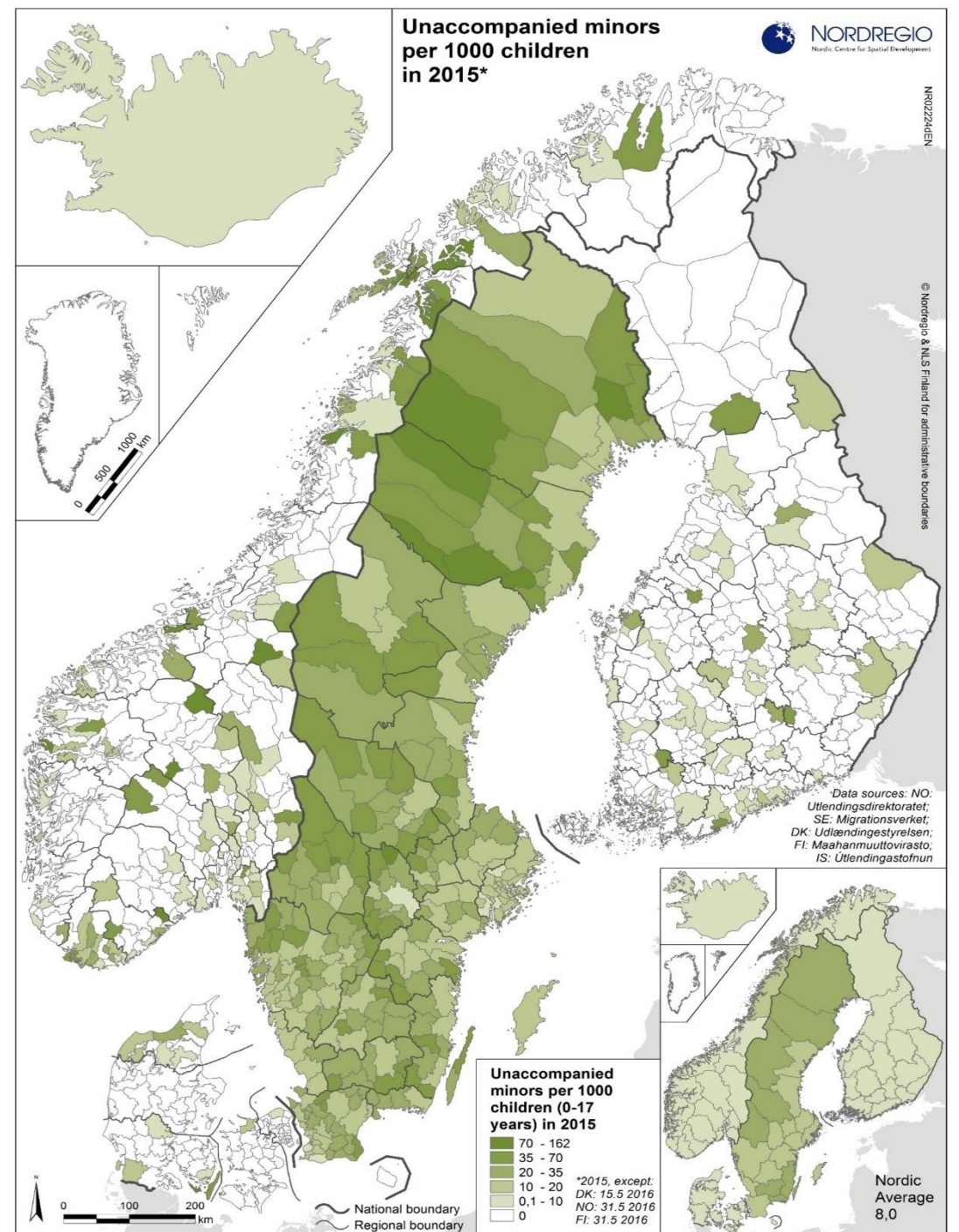


Major differences

Where unaccompanied children seek asylum

Differences in reception policies

Daily care, accomodation and school



Major similarities

- A decreased in the inflow of asylum seekers - mainly due to European countries agreement with Turkey and Libya
- Several new laws in all countries – towards more restricted policies (except for a new law in Sweden gives possibility to stay during upper secondary school)
- Temporary residence permits
- Foster homes are not common for accommodation and care, mostly given to younger UC, shortage of foster homes (before 2015 there was a shortage) Expt Iceland
- The possibility of family reunification is difficult
- No national measures or routines for children who disappear. Expt Norway. Work is ongoing



Main lessons learnt up to now in the reception and integration

Local data, learning examples

- Structured support for school, housing, labour market and support after 18 gives results
- Cooperation between social services, school, NGOs
- Combination classes in upper secondary school

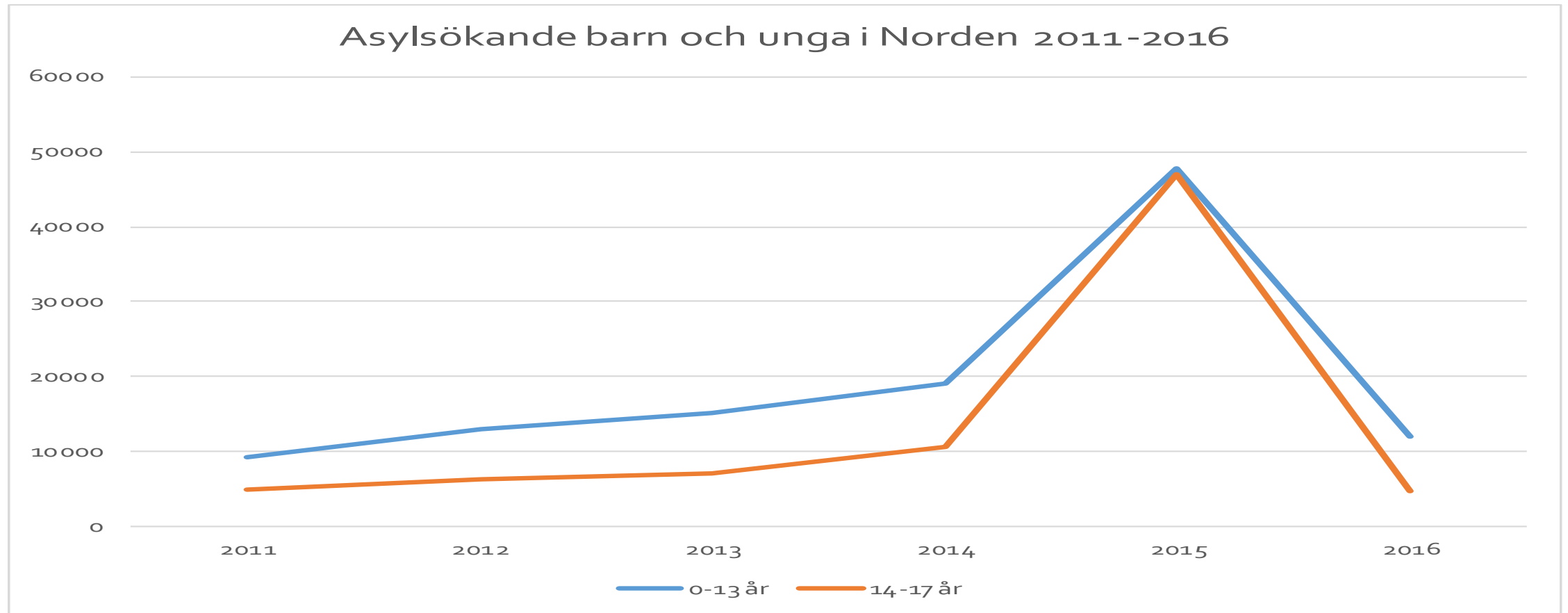
E.g. Örebro Sw, Larviksmodellen

 *Norw*

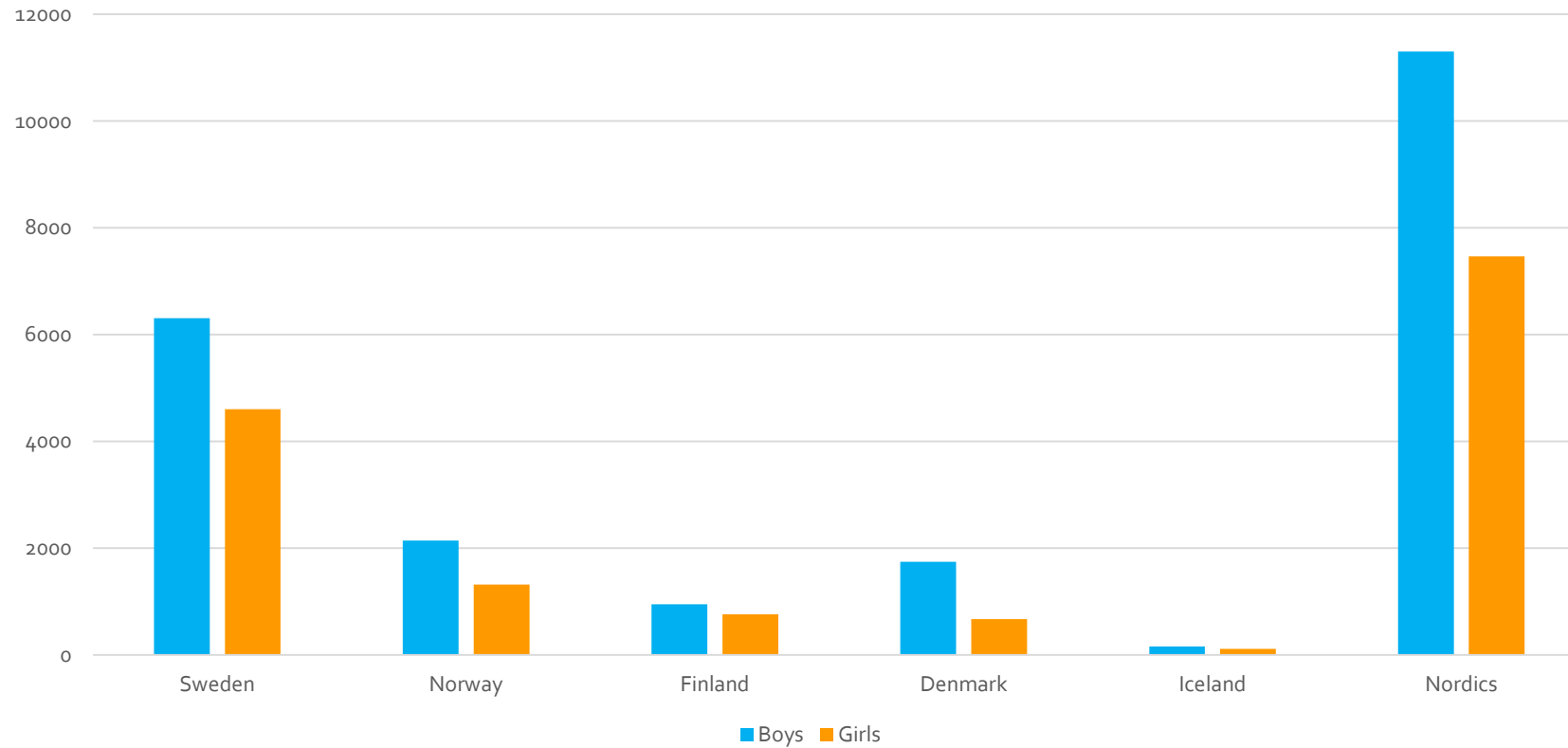
Research

- UC are doing better to settle in the labour market than children who have come with their parents (applies for Sweden, not Norway, longitudinal registered data)
- Better outcomes for boys than for girls

Asylum-seeking children in the Nordics 2011-2016, by age groups



Asylum seeking children by gender 2016



Main lessons learnt up to now in the reception and integration

Conclusions

Better outcomes for UC boys? Why? More attention needed to girls situation

Better outcomes for UC than children in families. Why? More attention needed to newly arrived children in families, and parents

- School most important arena for inclusion and integration - here and now – and for their future and our society
- School single most important protective factor to prevent future social problems
- Support for families, parental support, early interventions





Early Interventions for newly arrived children and refugee families

- Support for families
- Parental support
- Early interventions
- School preparation programs

Nordic day – a pre conference to the annual ESN conference 28-30 of May 2018



Thank you!

www.nordicwelfare.org

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