Labour Migration, Trade Unions and Employers

Kjellberg, Anders; Frödin, Olle

2014

Link to publication

Citation for published version (APA):
Kjellberg, A., & Frödin, O. Labour Migration, Trade Unions and Employers

General rights
Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

• Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
• You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
• You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Take down policy
If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.
**Project:** Labour Migration, Trade Unions and Employers (Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research, 2013-2016)

**Participants:** Professor Anders Kjellberg (project leader) and lecturer Olle Frödin, Department of Sociology, Lund University

**Summary:**

The aim of the project is to analyse the consequences of the radical reform of labour immigration to Sweden with regard to third-country nationals from non-EU countries, introduced in 2008. Until this time, the Employment Agency and the trade unions had a great deal of influence over the inflow of labour immigrants. The reform introduced a ”demand-driven” model of labour immigration from third country, providing Swedish employers the right to unilaterally decide whether or not labour immigrants are needed, provided that pay and working conditions are in accordance with the collective agreements or the praxis within the industry. With this reform Sweden left a very restrictive system of labour migration and adopted one of the most liberal within the OECD. The work permits provided to immigrants are limited to two years and are tied to a specific employer. Under these circumstances the relations between employer and employee tend to become very unequal. Since the reform was adopted, half of the labour migrants have been recruited into low-skilled jobs where no labour shortage exists. This study seeks to explain the increase of the recruitment of immigrants in low-skilled sectors. It also aims to examine how trade unions and employers in the hotel and restaurant, and cleaning sectors experience the impact of the reform. The study will draw on statistics on coverage of collective agreements and union density among labour migrants and interviews with trade union representatives and employers at different levels.
Contact information
Anders Kjellberg
Department of Sociology
Box 114
SE-221 00 Lund
Sweden
Phone + 46 + 46 222 88 47,
E-mail anders.kjellberg@soc.lu.se
Hemsida: http://www.soc.lu.se/anders-kjellberg
Website: http://www.soc.lu.se/en/anders-kjellberg

Olle Frödin
Department of Sociology
Box 114
SE-221 00 Lund
Sweden
Phone + 46 + 46 222 33 73
E-mail olle.frodin@soc.lu.se