

# The Prospects of Sustainable Migration Policy: Is Sweden Still the Perfect Place?

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## Background

Sweden's migration and integration policies have been characterized as unique due to the emphasis on the rights of migrants, rather than adopting the obligatory and restrictive policies common in continental Europe.

In the face of the 2015 refugee crisis, migration policies and migration policies throughout the EU are rapidly changing. Governments are beginning to question traditional migration practices, and the Swedish government is no exception.

## Research Questions

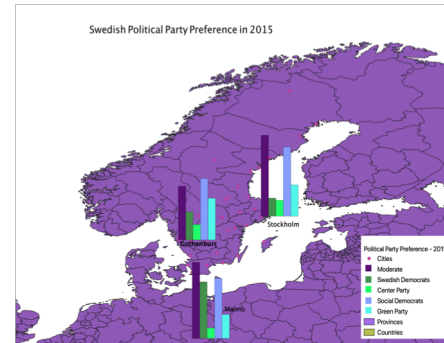
If Sweden's migration policies remain distinct, what is the probability that these policies are sustainable? If sustainable, what makes this the case?

## Methods and Materials

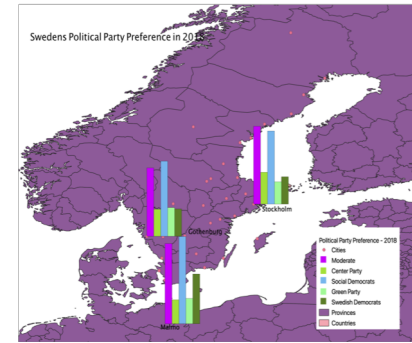
- Utilized data from Statistic Sweden and Brottsförebyggande relating to political party preference. In Stockholm, Malmo, and Gothenburg.
- Data from interviews with bureaucrats from the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Employment were utilized.
- Limitations include large confidence intervals for the data, difficulties obtaining data, and interview limits.

"That may be part of that answer for why the policy changed... It wasn't sustainable because they took a big handful of those coming... And now with that in mind, it needs to be sustainable. It was a realization that we cannot be in that position again."

From Interview Transcripts 21 March 2019



The Political Party Preference in Stockholm county, Gothenburg county, and Malmo county in 2010.



The Political Party Preference in Stockholm county, Gothenburg county, and Malmo county in 2018.

"But [the influx of refugees] was a strain on this idea that we don't want to have A and B teams, in that sense. That relates to the issue of integration and how we want to make sure they are part of general society"

From Interview Transcripts 21 March 2019

## Results

- 21 January 2019, the Government of Sweden signed an agreement that enforced more obligatory integration practices.
- From 2010 to 2018, the Sweden Democrats rising influence has correlated to the rise of the cooption of policies by the mainstream Social Democrats and Center-Right party.
- High quantity of refugees and asylum seekers with low participation in integration classes

## Conclusion

- In their quest for sustainability, Sweden fostered the creation of an unsustainable system. The unsustainability has pushed Sweden towards obligatory policies similar in continental Europe.
- The switch to obligatory policies begs the question for future research regarding the success rate of obligatory integration and migration practices and their ability to produce sustainability.

## Acknowledgments

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## References

- Statistics Sweden, The Party Preference Survey in November 2010.
- Statistics Sweden, The Party Preference Survey in November 2018.