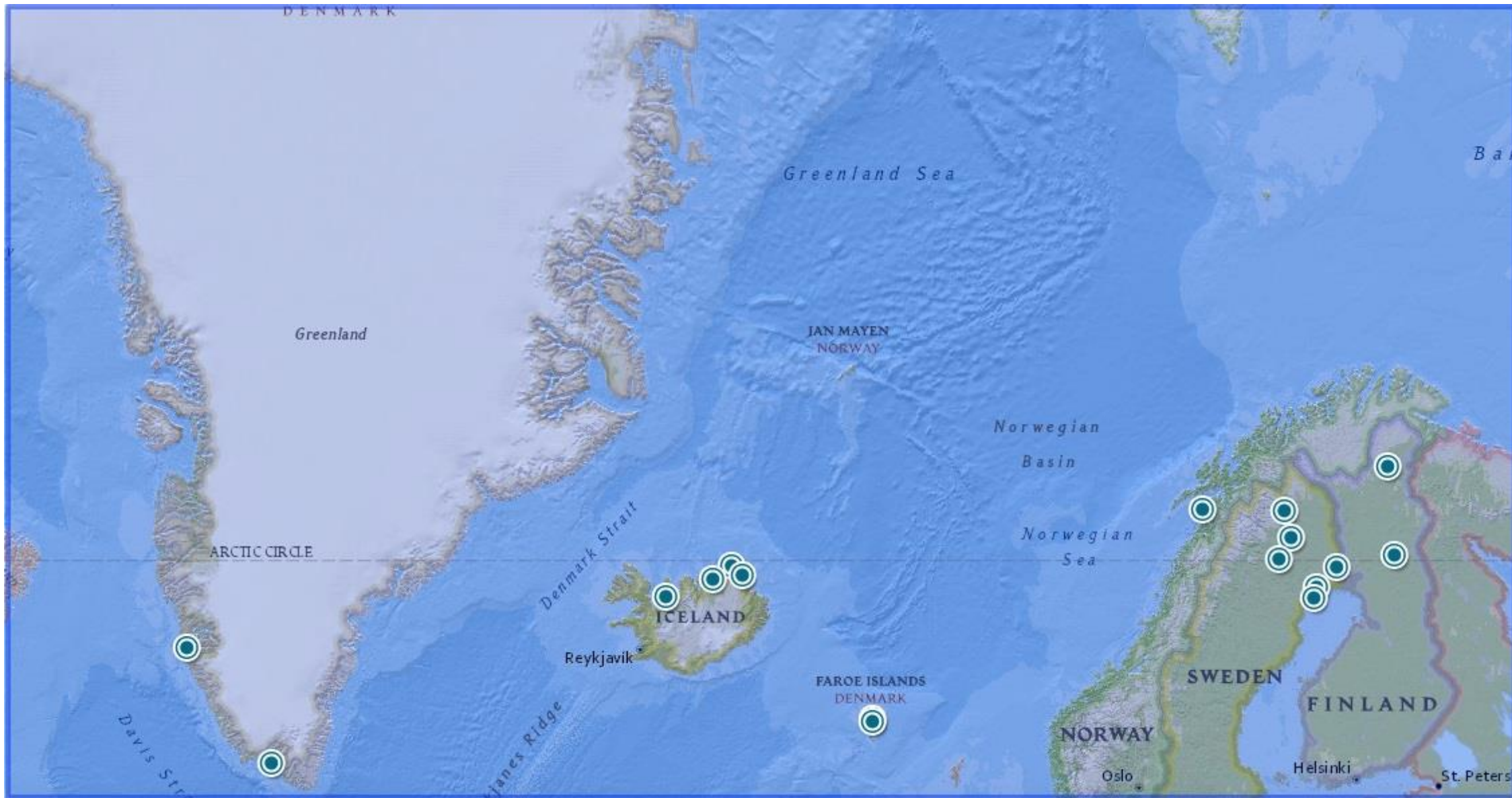


# Youth in Nordic Arctic regions, and their future perspectives on mobility

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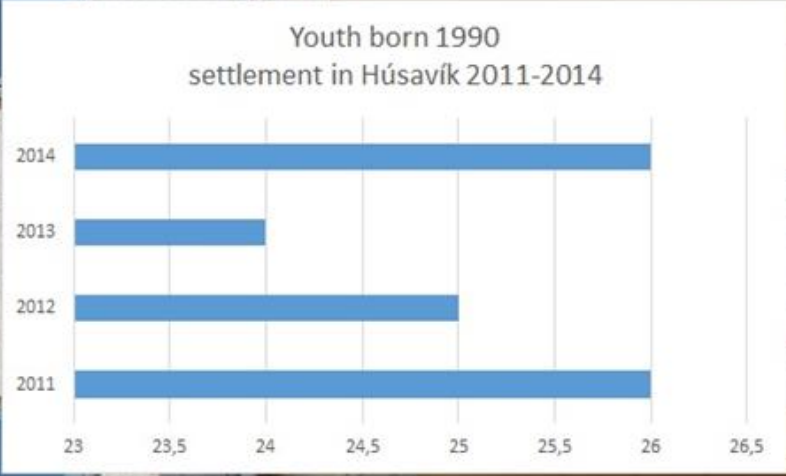


# Cultural context matters but...migration intentions are predictor of actual migration

- Reasoned actions
- Influenced by community situation (i.e. Long term population decline or growth)
- If high levels of adolescents intend to leave it influences and signals future population development
- Zeitgeist and positionality (life-cycle) influences:
  - Elements of counter-urbanization after 2008
  - Educational choices determine residential preferences
  - Job choices and aspirations determine also
  - Family network crucial

# Where did the cohorts of 1989-1996 go?





# Future intentions among Icelandic youth

- I am longing for a life in many places. Not any ONE place (22 year female)
- I just want to see something new. I really want to travel abroad (18 year male)
- I would really like to live here (the local community) but education is important to me (18 year female)
- I will go for the job (in medicinal industry) and that will determine my settlement (23 year female)
- I long for being connected to the world. I will be living in Africa for a while and then work from Iceland on development aid in year 2030 (22 year old male)
- Now I would not want to live here. I am afraid to be stuck. I want to influence things locally but I will have to move away to find a financially rewarding job (18 year old female)
- I would like to live somewhere else, but I have younger siblings I need to take care of with my parents (18 year female)
- I have become so much more confident through my studies, so I would like to study further. My avenue in life is somewhere else as a PhD student, but maybe I can partly work here in tourism too (23 year female).
- I will study and work with the sea. I will most likely take a steerman education. I would like to stay here, but time will tell – I will most likely be resident in Akureyri, I think (19 year male)
- If my mom moves, I will move. I would like to stay here and if that is not possible I will move to my family (from her exchange student year) in Australia. (19 year old female).

# Faroese youth

- *Imagine that you travel in time and arrive to the Faroes year 2045. You meet a school pupil from an 8th grade class. He tells you how it is to live in 2045 – about school, leisure, family, culture, etc. – and you write it all down. In this essay you are to write the story of this pupil. You are welcome to compare your own everyday life with the life of the youth living in 2045*
- Generally, they think the Faroes is a very good place to be, yet...
  - Some say it is too expensive (leading to out migration)
  - Some say it has too limited educational offers (leading to out migration)
  - Some say it has too limited leisure life ('entertainment') offers (leading to out migration)
- Urbanization: different opinions regarding the balance between the capital and the villages. Many expect the capital to grow more, because, they say, there is too little to do in the villages... They don't see this as a tragedy, rather as a natural development in our times...

# Faroese youth on the go

Most expect to move away sometime in their life, but few plan to move permanently

Most informants want – in the long run- to settle in their own community

The youth from the town, interestingly, prefer in most cases to settle in their own town rather than to move to the capital or abroad (except for limited time)



# Future scenarios of Norwegians from Nordland, Norway.

- In 10 years
  - The youth imagines themselves every where around world. As far away as in Rio de Janeiro, in Bodø, and Steigen – over 50% of the informants think they will be living in North-Norway. 15 of 21 imagine themselves living in a city where they will be conducting education or trying out their first job. Most of them see themselves in a permanent relationship (12 with co-habitant, 4 married). Around 50% think they will have pets, where of 2 will be farmers. Six will have children and they indicate they are living nearby extended family. 9 believe they live in own house.
- In 20 years
  - 38% of the informants believe they will live locally in Steigen. A larger percentage wishes to live around in North Norway, but a couple of people intend to live abroad for good. 20 believe they will have offsprings and seven of them believe they will choose a place to live nearby family.

# Young Finns – visions for their future 2010 and 2035

- In adulthood, everyday life is structured strongly around two components, i.e. work and family, and this was the case also in the writings on daily life in 2035.
- However, half of the Finnish boys saw themselves as single
- Out of the girls, two-thirds included a spouse and children in their families.

# History shapes future trajectories

*„In the few exceptional cases when Sámi history is displayed, we are commonly framed as either victims or the Other: as exotic human beings whose traditions are about to disappear. We are described as a vanishing culture, in ways similar to many other Indigenous Peoples in colonized territories around the world.“ (May-Britt Öhmann 2014)*

Migration is an interesting field of study for policies to react to...but some reckonings are needed

- Mobility will continue – cyclical mobility – not permanent migration
- Will accelerate processes of urbanization, particularly in some areas
- Policies should encourage flexibility and multilocational lifestyle choices.

# Consequences of shift in live-phases and lifeforms

- Composition of households and family-types changing (urban-rural divide?)
- Higher rates of solo-led households, single parent led households, and double income no kids households will change the composition of consumption and other socio-economic needs in society.
- Ageing in smaller communities will be a challenge for policies to face.
- Changes in these complex compositions will affect propensity for travel and leisure behavior as well as employment related mobility patterns.

# Nordic Youth Meeting 2014 – guidelines for policy makers

