Doctoral thesis

DOCTORAL THESIS

Unaccompanied minors (un-)made in Sweden

Or November 24th 2015, the Swedish prime minister announced a new, restrictive asylum policy with the explicit aim to place Sweden on the EU minimum level in terms of refugee reception. At the center of the policy debate was the figure of the unaccompanied minor. In this thesis, the meanings associated with the concept of unaccompaniedness in Swedish legislation is explored, in order to critically analyze the changes that took place during and after 2015. It is argued that the way in which unaccompanied minors are constructed in the policy processes produce subject positions and define access to rights. However, policy is produced in a political context and dependent on social practices. Thus it is relevant to see the reforms in relation to social work, social movements and the populations affected themselves, who through acts of citizenship and solidarity challenge the dominant border regime.

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Ungrievable lives and access to rights produced through policy

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