

Call for Papers: From "War Children" to "IS Children": Comparative Perspectives on European Children Born of War

International Workshop at Lund University, May 10th-12th, 2023.

The study of Children Born of War (CBOW) has made significant advances in recent years within a wide range of national contexts and disciplines. Building on these foundations, this workshop seeks to strengthen the comparative scholarship in the field. CBOW may face multiple forms of legal, social, gendered, or ethno-national discrimination. Comparative approaches to different communities and perspectives on children born of war can help us understand these overlapping vulnerabilities better—not least because the changes and continuities between distinct contexts enable us to assess how the respective cases build on, or re-configure, notions of nation, childhood, and children's rights.

This workshop invites scholars who study CBOW from different regions, generations, theoretical perspectives, or disciplines (such as history, psychology, legal studies, gender studies, sociology, or political science) within the European context to submit a work-in-progress. We welcome comparative submissions on all kinds of CBOW communities and involved disciplines. The differences in our approaches and perspectives will serve as a point of departure for debates on the current challenges in the field.

A part of the workshop will be dedicated to discussions of children born to foreign fighters in the Islamic State and their place within CBOW studies. Many governments have been reluctant to repatriate children of their citizens, which has thrown Nordic and European approaches toward CBOW into sharp relief. Papers on how these controversies tie into regional CBOW histories or connect across disciplines (e.g. toward security studies) are thus especially welcome.

The workshop will offer ample space for participants to discuss each other's work, to explore new research ideas as well as to build and extend networks of CBOW scholars who work comparatively. After the workshop, we intend to publish selected papers as a special journal issue.

Travel and accommodation costs for the participants will be covered.

Deadline for **abstract submission** (max. 300 words) is **January 22nd, 2023**. Please email the abstract and a short bio to martina.koegeler-abdi@mrs.lu.se.

Decisions will be sent out by February 5th, 2023.

If you are invited to participate, the deadline for a draft paper (work in progress, max. 7000 words, in English), will be May 2nd, 2023. All paper drafts will be pre-circulated.

The workshop is organized as part of the FORTE project "[Born of War: Historical Perspectives on the Children of Scandinavian IS Foreign Fighters](#)" at the Division of Human Rights Studies. Funding for the workshop is provided by the Crafoord Foundation.