

Clustered, Excluded and Trapped? Exploring immigrants' social and geographical trajectories in Sweden 1990-2004

Roger Andersson

Institute for Housing and Urban
Research, Uppsala university, Sweden

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Political concerns

- Geographical concentrations of relative poverty in immigrant-dense neighbourhoods pose a problem for the Swedish welfare state. Traditional universal policy measures seem not to be able to counteract social exclusion. The selective urban area-based approach introduced have sometimes produced good results but is inefficient in terms of 'breaking segregation'.

Research

- Do we know enough?
- Can different approaches be bridged or is one discourse more productive than other discourses?

Explaining ethnic residential patterns

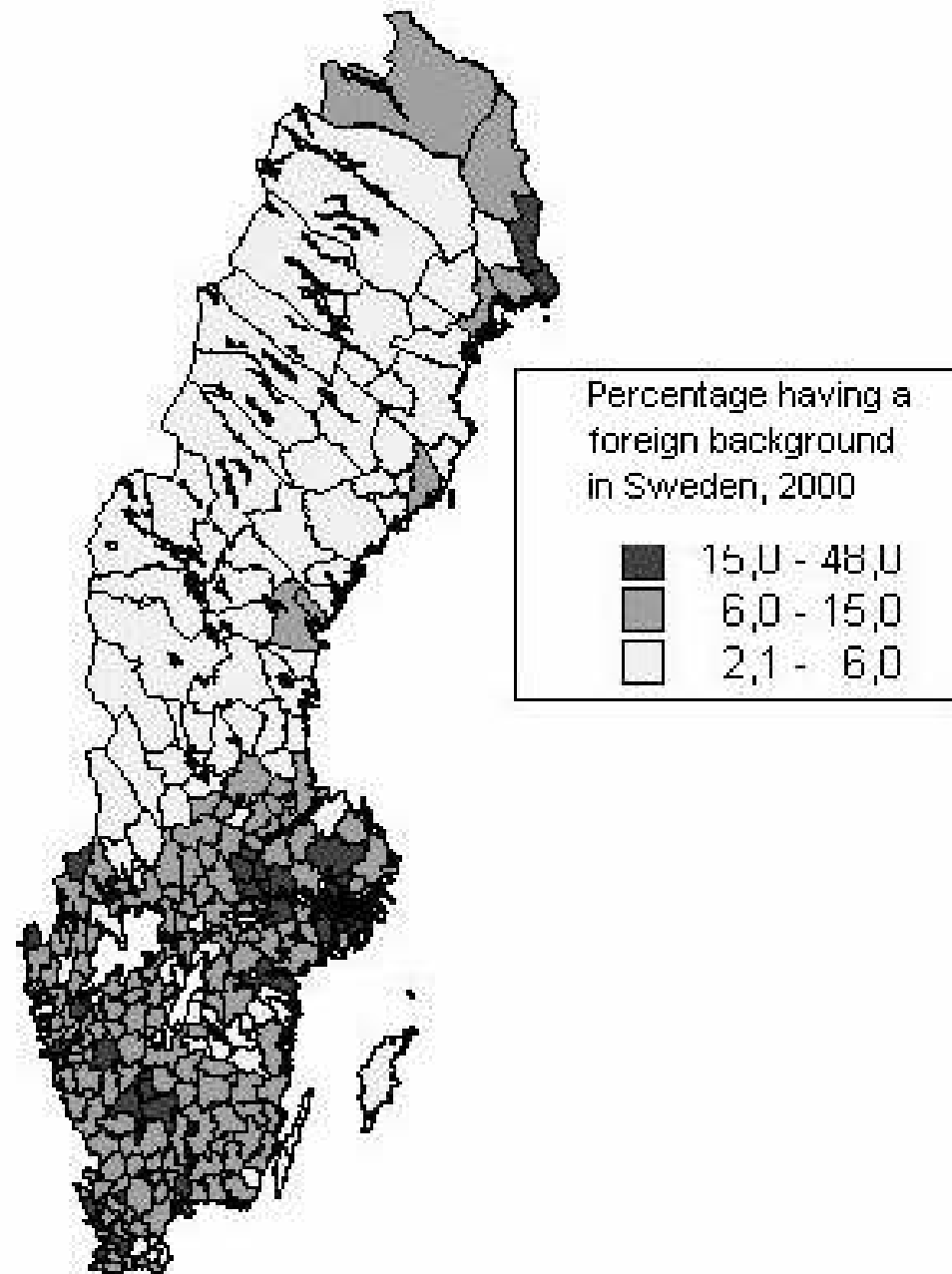
Immigrants reside in and are concentrated to particular areas because

- they choose to live there (“cultural discourse”)
- they are poor (“structural discourse”)
- the majority population wants them to live there (“post-colonial discourse”)

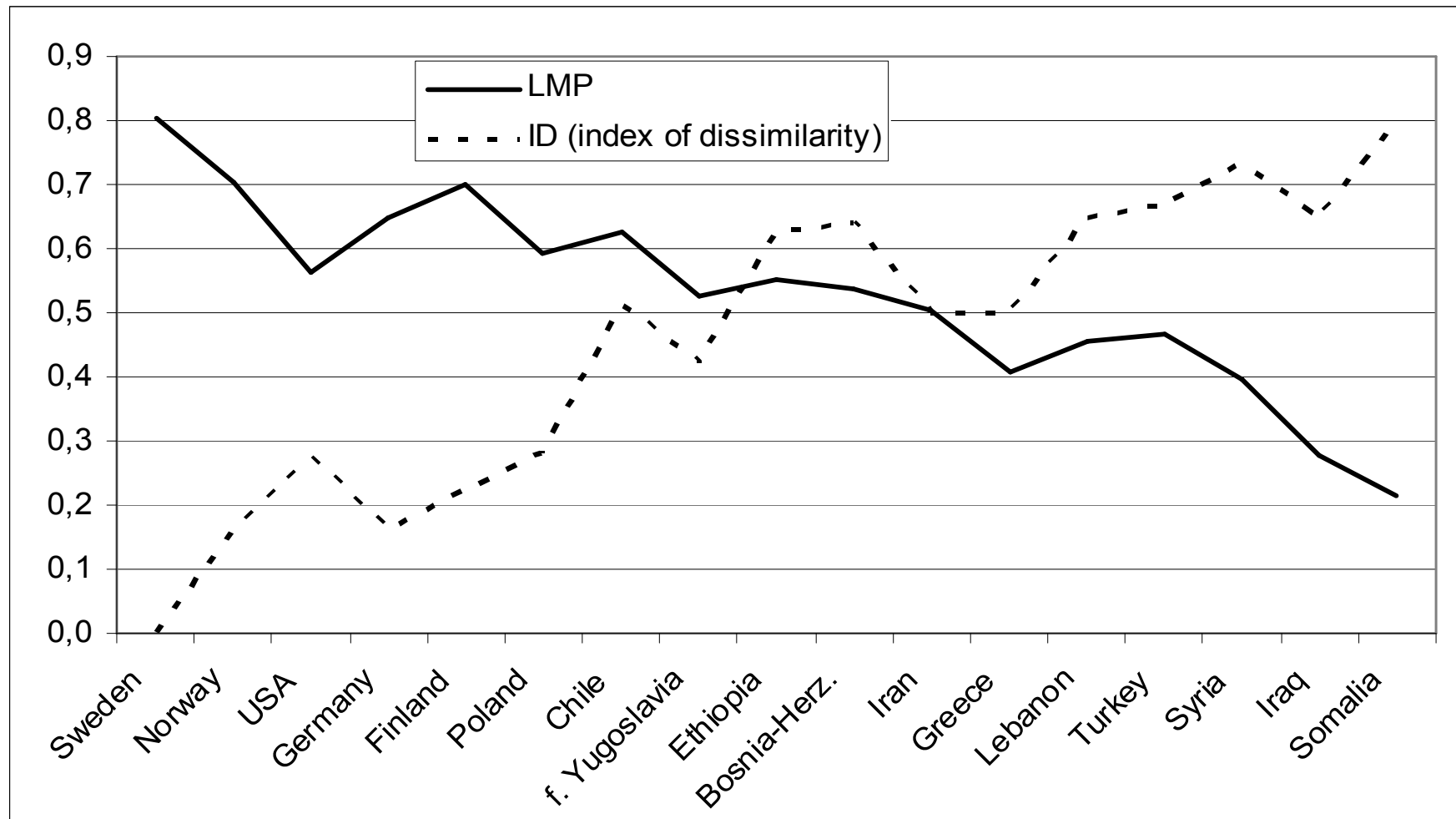
Segregation and integration

Level of residential segregation	Level of integration	
	Low	High
Low	1	2
High	3	4

Most researchers and politicians in Sweden would state that the present situation in the country's major cities is (3) and that it is important to strive for (2).



The ethnic hierarchy in the housing and labour market (Stockholm county, 2000)



Index of segregation (IS) for low and high income earners in Stockholm, Göteborg and Malmö (1997). Statistical units are based on the Sams division.

City