



SCIENTIFIC FINAL REPORT

Two- and three-year projects and postdoctoral projects

Registration number, Östersjöstiftelsen: Dnr 9/18

Project manager: Leif Runefelt

Project title: *Baltic Hospitality: Receiving Strangers / Providing Security on the Northern European Littoral, c. 1000–1900.*

Answers to questions 1 to 4 altogether should comprise in total 3 pages of text (Times New Roman 12).

1. The three most important results of the project and what conclusions can be drawn from them

1. Analysing host-guest relationships from a hospitality perspective reveals the complexity of these trans-historical, but always historically situated relationships. Because ‘hospitality’ *per se* is imbued with tensions and dilemmas, more often than not, guests would be perceived both as a threat and as objects of charity by (or opportunities for) their host communities. Combining the hospitality perspective with the analytical concept of securitization has allowed us to provide detailed and innovative accounts of how strangers were perceived, received, and occasionally rejected by communities in the Baltic Rim from the Middle Ages to the early twentieth century. Providing security for the host community always had to be adjusted to the requirement of receiving guests decently, defined morally, economically, or legally.

2. Instead of applying the usual focus on ‘migrants’ with its varying definitions, our approach to host-guest relationships embraced a variety of mobile actors, such as missionaries, merchants, war prisoners, refugees, and overseas emigrants. Our broad notion of mobile people took up newer trends within migration and mobility studies and contributed with empirical knowledge about the practical and spatial arrangements between ‘hosts’ and ‘guests’ over an entire millennium. This broad notion of who ‘strangers’ were or could be in different historical contexts also pays tribute to the complex power relationships that underpin all host-guest relationships. More often than not, but not always, hosts were in a position to determine the conditions under which this relationship unfolded. Nonetheless, to account for hospitality situations in all their complexity, it is crucial to consider the guest’s agency, too – with all its potential to challenge or subvert the host’s position.

3. Migration research has much to gain from taking a closer look into the micro-level of the negotiation between host-guest relationships. Our actor-centred and spatially situated studies of cultural encounters suggest that coastal regions, which were or became particularly well used to receiving or transiting people, developed specific practices and conventions in their way of dealing with strangers. However, these practices and conventions were renegotiated repeatedly, depending on the historical situation and especially on the type of stranger in question. This insight led us to define hospitality as a practical arrangement that constantly needs adjustment by historical actors, rather than treating it as a monolithic, universal phenomenon.



2. The project's contribution to the international research frontline

Previous studies of pre-modern and modern hospitality have very often been pursued in ethnic or regional fashion or class- or occupation-bound fashion, e.g., Germanic or French hospitality, barbarian, courtly, or monastic hospitality. Very few longitudinal studies of regional notions and practices of hospitality have existed, other than for the region of the Mediterranean during Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages. Based on our case studies, collectively spanning a millennium, we have demonstrated how historical circumstances and long-term cultural memories – instigated by events such as previous encounters with travelling strangers, trade treaties, wars, the emergence of a newspaper culture, etc. – could have a decisive impact on specific situations of hospitality. Such experiences and contingencies triggered host societies to initiate security measures not immediately comprehensible with a shorter historical perspective in mind, and also not always apt to deal with the situation at hand. Moreover, our research has shown how migrants themselves – be they missionaries, Hanseatic merchants, refugees, rebels, temporary migrants, or travelling entertainers – partook in securitization measures vis-à-vis host societies. We have also shown how the reactions of host communities shaped future attempts to alter migratory movements and hospitality conditions.

Our contribution to the international research frontline goes beyond our empirical findings. Above all, our research design – combining multiple case studies, delimited in time and space, into a longitudinal study, using the same theoretical framework to merge our results for more general conclusions on situations of hospitality – has had the added benefit of developing this theoretical framework for future studies. The combination of the concepts of hospitality and securitization has proved especially fruitful. Our research has demonstrated how both hosts and guests acted and reacted in hospitality situations by the double incentives to provide hospitality and ensure security, in two main ways. First, in spatial terms, by designating certain spaces for travelling migrants to stay in but also by charging such spaces with emotional and discursive meaning and framing them in hospitality/security terms. Second, in temporal terms, by putting limits to the amount of time a specific migrant or group of migrants was allowed to stay and enjoy hospitality and with security measures slowly escalating over time. Our work with these concepts has resulted in a volume where other scholars have been invited to try out the theoretical framework on their separate case studies, all located within the Baltic region. The contributors, too, were recruited in the same spirit of inclusivity, representing almost every country and academic culture bordering the Baltic Sea. They included: Olof Blomqvist, Tobias Boestad, Dorothée Goetze, Sofia Gustafsson, Tatjana N. Jackson, Wojtek Jezierski, Johannes Ljungberg, Pavel V. Lukin, Sari Nauman, Lovisa Olsson, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt, Anna Sundelin, and Johanna Wassholm. The volume was preceded by a workshop, for which, in 2019, we received additional funding from the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond's call for "Forskningsinitiering" (160 000 SEK).

3. The contribution of the research to the knowledge of the Baltic Sea Region and Eastern Europe

This project has put the Baltic Rim on the map of research on host-guest relations studied for an entire millennium, which is exceptional in and of itself. It has brought region-specific insights about host-guest relations, such as the contacts and confrontations between pagans, Latin and Orthodox and Lutheran Christian communities; Hanseatic contacts and regulations of economic hospitality; about the migration and displacement during the Swedish imperial period; about the treatment of the poor or travellers in the modern port cities etc. Importantly, the project has successfully demonstrated that



hospitality can serve as a useful transhistorical research frame for tracing continuities and ruptures and comparing different periods and sociopolitical modalities of host-guest relations in a multicultural region such as that of the Baltic Sea. It is thus not just the empirical, but also the methodological and conceptual insights of this project that will likely be transferred to other research areas of intercultural contacts, migrations, and mobility.

The *Baltic Hospitality* project added also an important maritime dimension and *thalassographic* quality to the spatiality of hospitality. Many of the specific cases of meetings and confrontations between different types of guests and strangers and their hosts studied in this project took place in the coastal zones surrounding the Baltic Sea. In both premodern and modern contexts, port cities and coastal areas occupied a symbolic position as the end point of where a lawful social order was actually possible, and in this project, hospitality was explored as a threshold cultural phenomenon characterized by constant tension between reception and rejection. This project engaged with the practices and discourses of hospitality related to and resolved through provisions of security during confrontations between host communities and arriving strangers. In doing so, the publications of this project offer insight into the microcosms located at the sea/land intersection and, more generally, into the wider historical legacy of Baltic hospitality. These insights can now be extrapolated and transferred to studies of other historical and geographical contexts, for which the Baltic Sea Region, as explored in this project, will likely become a standard reference point.

4. New research questions that the project has led to

The Baltic Hospitality has generated a number of new research questions and avenues that are pursued individually by its members or in other collaborative constellations, spawning several successfully granted research projects and research proposals currently in review:

- In 2020, Wojtek Jezierski was the main applicant (together with Lars Kjær, New College of Humanities, London & Tim Geelhaar, Bielefeld University) for the international project: *Ambiguities of Hospitality: Intercultural Integration and Conflict in Host-Guest Relations on the European Borderlands, c. 1000-1350*, funded by the Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet) with 4.169.000 SEK. Project lasted 2021-2024 and was conducted at the University of Gothenburg: <https://www.gu.se/en/research/ambiguities-of-hospitality-intercultural-integration-and-conflict-in-host-guest-relations-on-the-european-borderlands-c-1000-1350>
- In 2021, Sari Nauman was granted funding for the project *Humanitarian Great Power? The Local Reception of Refugees in Sweden, 1700–1730* (No. 2021-01520) (3.392.000 SEK) by the Swedish Research Council: <https://www.gu.se/en/research/humanitarian-great-power-the-local-reception-of-refugees-in-sweden-1700-1730>
- In 2022, Sari Nauman was awarded a Pro Futura Scientia Fellowship at Riksbankens Jubileumsfond and the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study, with the project title *‘Outsiders Within: Internally Displaced Persons in Early Modern Europe’* (2023–2028): <https://www.gu.se/en/research/outside-within-internally-displaced-persons-in-early-modern-europe>



- In 2024, Christina Reimann has submitted a research proposal to *Vetenskapsrådet*; her project 'Conflict takes to the street. The renegotiation of gender in interwar port cities,' builds on her previous research on port cities.

5. Dissemination of the results of the project within and outside the research community

List of publications by the project's members

Edited volumes:

1. Sari Nauman, Wojtek Jezierski, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt (eds.), *Baltic Hospitality from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century: Receiving Strangers in Northeastern Europe* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022). Open Access. ISBN 978-3-030-98526-4 <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-98527-1>

Articles/Chapters

2. Wojtek Jezierski, Sari Nauman, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt, 'Introduction: Baltic Hospitality, 1000-1900', in *Baltic Hospitality from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century: Receiving Strangers in Northeastern Europe*, ed. by Sari Nauman, Wojtek Jezierski, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), pp. 1-29. Open Access. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-98527-1_1
3. Wojtek Jezierski, 'Spaces of Hospitality on the Missionary Baltic Rim, Tenth–Twelfth Centuries', in *Baltic Hospitality from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century: Receiving Strangers in Northeastern Europe*, ed. by Sari Nauman, Wojtek Jezierski, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), pp. 33-62. Open Access. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-98527-1_2
4. Wojtek Jezierski, 'Livonian Hospitality. The 'Livonian Rhymed Chronicle' and the Formation of Identities on the Thirteenth-Century Baltic Frontier', *Frühmittelalterliche Studien*, 54 (2020), pp. 395-427, ISSN 0071-9706 <https://doi.org/10.1515/fmst-2020-012>
5. Sari Nauman, 'Conditional Hospitality towards Internal Refugees: Sweden during the Great Northern War, 1700–1721', in *Baltic Hospitality from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century: Receiving Strangers in Northeastern Europe*, ed. by Sari Nauman, Wojtek Jezierski, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), pp. 221–245. Open Access. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-98527-1_9



6. Sari Nauman, “‘You Cannot Pass’”: The Reception and Rejection of a Stranger in Helsingborg 1744’, in Christina Reimann, Martin Öhman (eds), *Migrants and the Making of the Urban-Maritime World. Agency and Mobility in Port Cities, c. 1570–1940* (Routledge/Taylor & Francis, 2020). ISBN: 9780367543617.
7. Sari Nauman, ‘Kvinnan som hotade staten: Migration och säkerhetsisering under 1700-talet’, i Martin Dackling & Sari Nauman (eds.), *Järn i elden: Kön, makt och relationer 1600–2000* (Göteborg/Stockholm: Makadam, 2020), pp. 98–126. ISBN: 978-91-7061-326-5.
8. Sari Nauman, ‘Flyktningmottagandet i Uppsala domkapitel 1710–1719’, i *Upplands fornminnesförenings årsbok* (Uppsala: Upplands fornminnesförening, 2019), pp. 49–65.
9. Christina Reimann, ‘Hospitality and Securitization in Times of Cholera: Eastern European Migrants in Rotterdam and Antwerp (c.1880-1914)’, in: Nauman, Jezierski, Reimann, Runefelt (eds), *Baltic Hospitality: Receiving Strangers & Providing Security in North-Eastern Europe, c. 1000-1900* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022) pp. 359–386. Open Access. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-98527-1_14
10. Christina Reimann, “‘Behaviour and Morality have Remained Irreproachable, and his Commercial Reputation is Good.’ Applying for Naturalisation in Late-Nineteenth-Century Rotterdam and Antwerp’, *Low Countries Historical Journal (BMGN)* 136 (3) 2021, pp. 3–30. Open Access. <https://doi.org/10.51769/bmgn-lchr.6999>
11. Christina Reimann, ‘People on Lists in Port Cities: Administrative Migration Control in Antwerp and Rotterdam (c. 1880–1914)’, *Journal of Migration History* 6 (2) 2020, 182–208.
12. Leif Runefelt, ‘Threat or Nuisance? Foreign Street Entertainers in the Swedish Press, 1800–1880’, in *Baltic Hospitality from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century: Receiving Strangers in Northeastern Europe*, ed. by Sari Nauman, Wojtek Jezierski, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), pp. 303-328. Open Access. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-98527-1_12

Blog post:

13. Sari Nauman, ‘Smitta och säkerhet’. Available at: <https://denargahistorikern.wordpress.com/2020/03/12/smitta-och-sakerhet/>

The funds from the grant generously contributed to covering the publication and open-access costs of the following monograph and an edited volume that were related to or whose ideas emerged from this project:

14. Wojtek Jezierski, *Risk, Emotions, and Hospitality in the Christianization of the Baltic Rim, 1000-1300* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2022) ISBN 978-2-503-60039-0.
15. Wojtek Jezierski, Lars Kjær (eds.), *Guests, Strangers, Aliens, Enemies: Ambiguities of Hospitality in the Latin Middle Ages, 1000-1350* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2024) ISBN 978-2-503-61092-4, Open Access, forthcoming.

Scientific conferences (selected, five most important):



1. Conferences organized by the project: *BALTIC HOSPITALITY: Receiving Strangers / Providing Security on the Baltic Sea Coasts, c. 1000–1900*, 22–24 April, 2020 Södertörn University, Stockholm. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the conference was organized online.
2. Invited presentation: Wojtek Jezierski, Sari Nauman, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt, ‘Baltic Hospitality: Receiving Strangers / Providing Security on the Baltic Sea Coasts, c. 1000–1900’, presentation at the higher seminar, History of Ideas, Södertörn University, 4 October 2019.
3. Keynote address: Sari Nauman, “Securitization in Space and Time”, *Freedom and Borders*, Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies, University of Bonn, 27 February 2020.
4. Wojtek Jezierski, Sari Nauman, Christina Reimann, Leif Runefelt, Centre for Global Migration, University of Gothenburg, 27 October 2021.
5. Christina Reimann and Leif Runefelt: Book panel at the 5th Nordic Challenges Conference, 1–3 June 2022, Södertörn University.

Presentations for the general public:

1. 2023-04-21 Sari Nauman gave a public lecture at Sjöfartsmuséet, Göteborg, during the Vetenskapsfestival.
2. 2023-04-09 Wojtek Jezierski gave an interview for the main Estonian broadcaster ERR (Eesti Rahvusringhääling) about his monograph partially funded by this project. The article: “Risk, emotions and hospitality in 13th century Estonian sauna” with the interview can be found at: <https://news.err.ee/1608941333/risk-emotions-and-hospitality-in-13th-century-estonian-sauna>
3. 2023-02-21 Sari Nauman, Wojtek Jezierski (together with Olof Blomqvist, Stockholm University) gave a radio interview for *Vetenskapsradio historia*'s episode about “Gästfrihetens historia” <https://sverigesradio.se/avsnitt/gastfrihetens-historia>
4. 2022-11-01 Wojtek Jezierski (together with Olof Blomqvist, Stockholm University) gave a public lecture at ABF-Huset, Stockholm: ”1000 år av gästfrihet i Östersjöregionen: från medeltiden till kriget i Ukraina”
5. 2021-09-28 Sari Nauman gave a public lecture at Utvandarnas hus, Växjö, on the topic of “Den hemliga resan”, organized by Växjö historiska förening.
6. 2021-02, Sari Nauman was interviewed in the podcast *Living on the Edge*, by NordGlob, on the topic: ‘The Regulation of Refugees in 18th-Century Finland and Sweden’. Available at, e.g., Spotify: <https://nordglob.org/podcasts/>

Also include a list of publications (divided into different categories such as monographs, articles, textbooks, debates, popular science publications, etc.) and the five most important conferences (organized and papers presented).

Mark open access publications and include links to these publications. See the Foundation's open access policy. (Monographs published with support from the Foundation must be sent to the Foundation in one copy.)