

**TRANSNATIONAL LEARNING THROUGH LOCAL EXPERIMENTING
THE CREATION OF DYNAMIC COMPLEMENTARITIES
BETWEEN ECONOMY AND SOCIETY
(Translearn)**

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Type of Instrument: Specific Targeted Research Project

List of participants:

Participant No.	Participant organisation name	Participant org. short name
1 coordinator	Helsinki School of Economics	HSE
2	Copenhagen Business School	CBS
3	Norwegian School of Management	BI
4	Studies in Innovation, Research and Education	NIFU STEP
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Abstract

With globalisation advanced through mergers, acquisitions and outsourcing, and work being constantly changed by new technology and organizational practises, EU citizens frequently find themselves in unforeseen and unusual situations, which call for their experimental ingenuity and entrepreneurship. It has been widely acknowledged that this volatility and unpredictability calls for a new society in which actors should be better informed and should be able to respond in diverse and flexible ways. Two divergent socio-economic models compete currently for the highest performance benchmarks: *Anglo-American neo-liberal states* that have used market mechanisms to pressurize institutions and companies to change and to forced citizens to react; and *Nordic welfare states* that have enabled and empowered citizens to act by allowing experimental use of their institutions. The overall objective of the Translearn project is to develop a road map for transnational learning for how citizens in different socio-economic models can make experimental use of existing institutions, create new governance modes and collaborative partnerships across sectors, levels and divisions of interests.

The overall objective will be reached through a step-wise inductive research process containing comparative cross-national analyses and multi-professional dialogues. The project will take four Nordic countries as a point of departure, and use Slovenia as a test case for transnational learning in small new member states. These inductive lessons from small European countries will allow for the creation of new empirical and conceptual tools to compare the dynamics of change in other socio-economic models. A comparative assessment of the Nordic countries, EU countries, and the US will finally be used to point out various possible roads to growth and job creation. The project is designed to feed simultaneously into policy processes at several national and EU-levels.