

# Towards the **Decolonisation** of **Nordic** Higher Education

An Interdisciplinary Workshop

University of Södertörn, 4-5 October 2021



*In the Nordic countries colonial history is not taught in universities as mandatory subjects, nor are there any significant engagement with processes of decolonisation across academic disciplines. The hundreds of years of colonisation that had an instrumental role in the industrial revolution, world wars, and the so-called ‘developed’ Nordic economies, are absent from most schools and universities. Such an enormous gap in the knowledge base of students and knowledge workers in higher education can and does have grievous consequences for our understanding of knowledge production and our negotiation of a world which continues to bear out the impact of colonial legacy.*

*This purpose of this workshop is to bring together relevant scholars from Nordic universities in a bid to stimulate intra-Nordic collaboration on research, action-plans and best-practice recommendations relating to decolonization processes in higher education in the Nordic countries. The workshop is funded by Nordforsk through the ReNEW research hub and is a collaboration between Södertörn University and GRÓ-GEST at the University of Iceland.*

The workshop will include keynote sessions by two internationally recognized scholars in the field of decolonisation. **Rauna Kuokkanen** is Research Professor of Arctic Indigenous Studies at the University of Lapland and Adjunct Professor of Indigenous Studies and

Political Science at the University of Toronto. Her research focuses on comparative Indigenous politics, Indigenous feminist theory, Arctic governance and settler colonialism. **Madina Tlostanova** is a decolonial thinker and writer, and a chaired professor of postcolonial feminisms at the Gender Studies Unit of the Department of Thematic Studies (TEMA), Linköping University.

*Registration for the workshop will be open to scholars and PhD students in relevant fields.*

The workshop host at Södertörn University is Institute of Contemporary History.

Please, register for participation to [Yulia.gradskova@sh.se](mailto:Yulia.gradskova@sh.se) and Thomas Brorsen tbs@hi.is