

Miller Fellow: Katarina Jensen

Faculty Sponsor: Professor Rebecca Goldstein

Project: **Crime and Far-Right Voting in Denmark**



Katarina Jensen is a postdoc at the University of California, Berkeley. She will join the New Economic School as an Assistant Professor in 2021.

Her research is in political economics and labor economics. She is interested in understanding how immigration affects politics as well as voter beliefs and preferences.

Katarina is working with Professor Rebecca Goldstein at Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program on a new project about crime and far-right voting in Denmark.

How does crime affect far-right voting behavior? Although crime is often an important part of far-right rhetoric, existing literature does not say much about the causal link between crime and far-right voting. In this project, we combine administrative data on crime with election data at the polling station level from 1979-2019 in Denmark to study the causal effect of crime on the proportion of votes for the far right in national and local elections. As the crime data set contains information about both perpetrators and victims, we can investigate whether crimes committed by native and foreign-born perpetrators have different impacts on far-right vote share, and we can generate causally identified estimates by comparing crimes committed just before and just after election day. Furthermore, detailed information about the type of criminal act allows us to examine whether property and violent crimes affect voting behavior differently. Because this dataset is so rich, this project allows us unique insight into the role of crime in strengthening the far right.