

# Curriculum vitae with track record

## Personal information

First name, Surname:	Sara Blåka		
Date of birth:	29.11.1985	Sex:	Female
Nationality:	Norwegian		
Researcher unique identifier(s) (ORCID, ResearcherID, etc.):	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3764-9319">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3764-9319</a>		

## Education

Year	Faculty/department - University/institution - Country
2022	Ph.D in Public Administration, Faculty of Social Sciences/Department of Political Science and Management, University of Agder
2017-2018	University Pedagogical course (UNIPED), University of Agder
2011	Master's in political science, Faculty of Social Sciences/Department of Political Science and Management, University of Agder

## Positions - current and previous

Year	Job title – Employer
2022-	Senior researcher, NORCE Norwegian Research Centre
2013-2018, 2019-2022	Ph.D. research fellow, Faculty of Social Sciences/Department of Political Science and Management, University of Agder
2018-2019	Assistant Professor (Universitetslektor), Faculty of Social Sciences/Department of Political Science and Management, University of Agder
2011-2013	Researcher, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR)

## Project management experience

Year	Project – Owner – My role - Funder
2022-2023	The role of big cities in the generalist municipal system – NORCE (in cooperation with Telemarksforskning) – project manager - The Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
2022-2024	Evaluation of the local democracy program: Local democracy in pioneer municipalities – NORCE (in cooperation with Institutt for samfunnsforskning (ISF)) – project member - Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development (KDD)

2022-2025	Digitalization of 'Gloppenmodellene': Addressing the need for digital solutions in education adapted to minority languages adults – NORCE – Project member - The Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi)
2013	The future municipalities: criteria for political support – NIBR - Project member - The Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
2013	Public's knowledge of the connection between lifestyle and health in the County of Nordland: effects of information campaigns as a political tool – NIBR - Project manager - County of Nordland
2013	Evaluation of the Child Welfare Service's Conflict Resolution Board – NIBR – Project member - The Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
2012-2013	Pathways to local democratic governance – NIBR (in cooperation with the Department for Political science at UiO and ISF) – Project member - The Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
2011-2012	Municipal Organization 2012. Data collection and report of the local organization database – NIBR – Project member – Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development
2011-2012	Commitment, openness, and attitudes towards mental health. Status after The National Action Program on Mental Health – NIBR – Project manager – Norwegian Directorate of Health

### Other relevant professional experiences (University of Agder)

Year	Description - Role
2022	Master thesis in Political science and management (ST-502): Sensor
2021	Master course: Governance and Networks in the Public Sector (ORG 447) - Guest lecturer
2018	Bachelor course: Bachelor thesis in political science (ST-204) – Course manager
2018	Program leader for the bachelor program in Political science
2014, 2016 and 2018	Bachelor thesis in Political science (ST-204) – Supervisor

### Track record

#### Peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters

Bel, G., Bischoff, I., **Blåka, S.**, Casula, M., Lysek, J., Swianiewicz, P., Tavares, A. & Voorn, B. (2022). Styles of Inter-municipal Cooperation and the Multiple Principal Problem: A Comparative Analysis of European Economic Area Countries. *Local government studies*.

**Blåka, S.**, Jacobsen, D. I. & Morken, T. (2021). Service quality and the optimum number of members in inter-municipal cooperation. The case of emergency primary care services in Norway. *Public Administration*, 1-16

**Blåka, S.** (2017). Does cooperation affect service delivery costs? Evidence from fire services in Norway. *Public Administration*, 95 (4), 1092-1106.

**Blåka, S.** 2017. Service Quality, Cooperation and the Optimum Scale of Operation: The case of local fire departments in Norway, i J. Trondal (ed.) *The Rise of Common Political Order Institutions*, Public Administration and Transnational Space, Edward Elgar Publishing

Saglie, J., M. Winsvold og **S. Blåka** (2016): Ansvarsutkreving i lokaldemokratiet: i eller mellom valg? *Norsk statsvitenskapelig tidsskrift*, 32 (1/4): 59-81

### **Working papers**

**Blåka, S.** Does cooperation affect service delivery costs? Privatization, cooperation, and the optimum number of members in Norwegian local auditing services. Invited to revise and resubmit in *Public Management Review*.

Zyzak, B., Poltorak, K. & **Blåka S.** Why do some organizations become more agile than others? The case of Norwegian local government response to COVID-19. Paper presented at IRSPM 2021.

### **Dissertations**

**Blåka S.** (2022). Cooperation is no Panacea: Inter-municipal Cooperation, Service Delivery, and the Optimum Scale of Operation. A Study of how Cooperation Affects Performance in Local Service Delivery. Ph.D thesis. University of Agder.

**Blåka S.** (2011). Kommunesektoren- mot et strukturelt mangfold? Utviklingen av formell struktur i norske kommuner. Master thesis. University of Agder.

### **Research reports**

**Blåka, S., J. E. Klausen, T. Myrvold, H. Renå, M. Winsvold and H. Zeiner.** (2013): *Framtidens kommune – kriterier for politisk oppslutning*, NIBR-rapport 2013:21. Oslo. Norsk institutt for by- og regionforskning.

**Blåka S.** og M. Winsvold (2013): Organisatoriske faktorerens betydning for demokratisk styring. i M. Winsvold (ed.) *Veier til god lokaldemokratisk styring*. NIBR-rapport 2013:24. Oslo. Norsk institutt for by- og regionforskning.

**Blåka S.** (2013): Kunnskap, atferd og holdninger til sammenhengen mellom livsstil og helse blant Nordlands befolkning. NIBR-notat 2013:103. Oslo. Norsk institutt for by- og regionforskning.

Zeiner H. og **S. Blåka** (2013): Evaluering av Barnevernets tvisteløsningsnemnd. NIBR-rapport 2013:27. Oslo. Norsk institutt for by- og regionforskning.

**Blåka, S. T. Tjerbo og H. Zeiner** (2012): *Kommunal organisering 2012. Redegjørelse for Kommunal- og regionaldepartementets organisasjonsdatabase*. NIBR-rapport 2012:21. Oslo: NIBR.

**Blåka, S.** (2012): Engasjement, åpenhet og holdninger til psykisk helse og psykisk sykdom. Status etter Opptrappingsplanen. NIBR-rapport 2012:9. Oslo. Norsk institutt for by- og regionforskning.