

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

NOS-M is a cooperative body for the medical research councils in Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

The objective of NOS-M is to further develop the committee as a joint forum for promotion of medical research in the Nordic countries and to strengthen the international status of Nordic health research. Enhancement of Nordic cooperation has been of increasing importance in science policy issues; especially in relation to the European Research Area and the establishment of NordForsk, a platform for joint Nordic research and research policy development.

### **Composition of NOS-M**

#### *Member councils 2023:*

Forskningsrådet för biovetenskap, hälsa och miljö, Finlands Akademi, Finland  
Rannsóknamiðstöð Íslands (RANNIS), Island  
Norges Forskningsråd, Norge  
Ämnesrådet för medicin och hälsa, Vetenskapsrådet, Sverige  
Danmarks Frie Forskningsfond | Sundhed og Sygdom, Danmark

Each member country is represented by 1-2 council members and 1-2 administrative representatives. An observer from NordForsk is invited, and as of 2005, observers from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania may take part in NOS-M meetings and activities. Additional observers or guests may be invited to the meetings.

NordForsk has hosted the NOS-M secretariat since 1 January 2013.

#### *Members 2023:*

Finland: Marja Kaunonen, Jorma Palvimo  
Iceland: Saedis Saevarsdottir, Sigurður Guðmundsson  
Norway: Guri Rørtveit, Ole Andreassen  
Sweden: Anna Karlsson  
Denmark: Peter Rossing, Helle Prætorius Øhrwald (Chair from 2020/2021)

#### *Administrative representatives:*

Finland: Sara Illman  
Iceland: Helga Snævarr Kristjánsdóttir  
Norway: Ole Johan Borge, Karianne Solaas  
Sweden: Madeleine Durbeej-Hjalt, Louise Rügheimer  
Denmark: Tore Burkal Larsen

#### *Observers:*

NordForsk: Maria Nilsson  
Lithuania: Edgaras Stankevičius

#### *NOS-M Secretariat:*

NordForsk/Maria Nilsson

The chairmanship rotates among the member countries in the following order: Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Iceland. Denmark took on the chairmanship in 2020/2021 and will chair NOS-M 2021-2023. It will be investigated if Iceland could take on the chairmanship from 2024.

## **Main activities during 2023**

NOS-M had one meeting in February 2023. The different topics that were discussed in the 2023 meeting are listed below.

### *Country reports*

Country reports from each Nordic national research council were given at the NOS-M meeting. These reports are important in the mutual information exchange between the councils. The presentations are kept short and focused on the following headlines:

- System level developments incl. new strategies and policies
- Research council developments (administration, re-organisations etc)
- Major research and research infrastructure initiatives
- International engagements

### *Invited guests*

There were no invited guests.

### *Themes*

One topic of special interest is usually brought forward at each meeting by one of the countries. The main topic for the NOS-M meeting in 2023 was the Nordic project on post-COVID. Ideas for future topics and focus areas that were brought up included merits and international cooperation.

### *The Nordic Commons for health data*

NordForsk keeps NOS-M continuously informed of the Nordic Commons project that was officially kicked off in spring 2022. The project has however faced challenges due to lack of progress and resources.

### *Other topics*

- Information from NordForsk
- Information on Baltic and international activities
- NOS-M administration

### *Excursions*

There were no excursions under 2023.

## **Financial report**

NordForsk has administered the finances of NOS-M during 2023. A financial report is attached to the annual report.

*/Maria Nilsson, NordForsk  
May 2024*