

## **Panel 2 (14:00-15:30)**

Panelmoderator: Solveig Laugerud, PhD-stipendiat ved Senter for tverrfaglig kjønnsforskning (STK), Universitetet i Oslo, Norge

Innleder 1: Johanna Niemi, professor i strafferett/straffeprosess og Minna Canth Academy Professor, Universitetet i Turku/Åbo, Finland.

Språk: Engelsk

Tittel: Unprecedented sexual harassment on New Year's Eve – or racialized targeting of asylum seekers? What can a legal analysis do?

Abstract:

Media reported sexual harassment on a massive scale on New Year's Eve of 2015, pointing out asylum seekers as the suspects. The police made a public statement of zero-tolerance and encouraged the women to report, promising to take all claims seriously. The track record of the criminal justice system handling of sexual crimes is not quite convincing. What does this new interest in sexual crime tell us? The reaction of the police is certainly a reaction to the "asylum crisis", which I shall discuss in my paper. My main focus is on the way criminal law and criminal procedure contextualize sexual crimes. Going back to Liz Kelly's term continuum of violence, I attempt to see sexual harassment in the context of the sexually unwanted behavior and the response of the legal system.