

Christmas Greetings from Nordic Finance and The Good Society

Dear all,

We want to thank you all very much for your support to our research project Nordic Finance and the Good Society throughout what has been a very unusual and challenging year. As we head towards the New Year, we hope this pandemic period will soon be over, and we can get back to business as usual.

The first lockdown in the spring 2020 was tough as we were travelling an uncharted territory, learning how to maneuver in the digital world. Despite this challenge, we have managed to maintain a momentum of seminars and research output to the best of our abilities. Furthermore, we succeeded to get an even stronger group of researchers attached to the project and to secure sufficient funding so the project can progress as originally planned. We have prepared a short summary of the highlights of the year;

Outreach, seminars and publications

In January, Christian Hyldahl, Kai Hockerts, Lars Pehrson, Cecilia Repinski and David Orr discussed Sustainability and green agendas at the Conference: *A Green and Sustainable Financial Sector – can one be setting a new perspective?*

In September, CCG hosted seminars on Banking Consolidation. Édouard Fernández-Bollo (Member of the ECB Supervisory Board) was keynote speaker. The work on AML is still a priority and Tom Kirchmaier was hosting a workshop on the topic with speakers from Danske Bank, Arbejdernes Landsbank and IMF, to name a few.

In the end of september CCG hosted the online seminar *”Finansielle virksomheder og deres ledelseskompetencer, - hvad er det rigtige valg?* Representatives from Finansforbundet and Finanstilsynet and Nina Smith, Ken Beckmann and Hanne Birkmose discussed the recommendations from Finanstilsynets report *”Anbefalinger til fastlæggelse af kompetence- og erfaringskrav samt ansvarsområder”* Lars Ohnemus and Hanne Birkmose have also published an article about the subject that you can read on the NFGS webpage. Prof. Niels Westergård Nielsen has also commented vividly on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic from an economic perspective and learnings from the last crisis.

Research team and HR

In October, all the NFGS’s researchers came together at an online seminar to discuss the status of their research. We are also happy to share with you that there has been new additions to the team, Hossein Asgharian from Lund University is joining the project and contributing to the area of Sustainable Finance. Professor Andreas Rasche (CBS) has also joined the team and is really a leading

capacity in the area of sustainability investment and he has just published “*Sustainable investing – a part to a new Horizon*” together with Herman Bril and Georg Kell.

In January 2021, we will welcome our new assistant professor Gudrun Johnsen to CCG. Gudrun Johnson comes from a position as assistant professor of finance at the University of Iceland. She has previously worked as a senior researcher for the Parliamentary Special Investigation Commission looking into the causes and events leading up to the fall of the Icelandic banking sector in 2008. Since 2010, Gudrun has been at IMF, at various leading universities and has extensive board experience from financial institutions.

Communication

We are also fully aware that the current environment calls for different communication channels and interaction. On our website www.nfgs.dk you can find an overview of events and publications and listen to podcast and webinars. For instance, you can hear Tom Kirchmaier talk about anti-money laundering and how we should fight it and watch Lars Christensen talk about how the economy is affected by the US Presidential Election and Covid-19.

In the beginning of 2021 you can look forward to a video where Lars Ohnemus tells about some of the topics we focus on in our research project NFGS. We will arrange online seminars and produce podcasts with some of our researchers. More information will follow and remember you can always stay updated at www.nfgs.dk and follow CCG www.linkedin.com/company/center-for-corporate-governance/

With a strong and motivated NFGS team, we welcome the year 2021 and all the research opportunities, seminars and publications that lie ahead.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Lars, Tom and Charlotte