

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910736100803321
Autore	Hellum Anne
Titolo	Nordic Equality and Anti-Discrimination Laws in the Throes of Change : Legal Developments in Sweden, Finland, Norway, and Iceland
Pubbl/distr/stampa	2023 Milton : , : Taylor & Francis Group, , 2023 ©2024
ISBN	9781000959468 1000959465 9781003172840 1003172849 9781000959444 1000959449
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (264 pages)
Classificazione	LAW000000
Altri autori (Persone)	IkdahlIngunn StrandVibeke Blaker SvenssonEva-Maria
Disciplina	342.48970878
Soggetti	Sex discrimination against women - Law and legislation - Finland Sex discrimination against women - Law and legislation - Iceland Sex discrimination against women - Law and legislation - Norway Sex discrimination against women - Law and legislation - Sweden Sex role - Finland Sex role - Iceland Sex role - Norway Sex role - Sweden
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface Notes on contributors Introduction: Nordic gender equality and anti-discrimination laws in the throes of change ANNE HELLUM, INGUNN IKDAHL, VIBEKE BLAKER STRAND, ASA GUNNARSSON, AND EVA-MARIA SVENSSON 1 Sweden: From proactive policies to anti-discrimination law ASA GUNNARSSON, LENA SVENAEUS, AND EVA-

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## Sommario/riassunto

The Nordic states were among the first in the world to enact general gender equality and anti-discrimination laws with low threshold enforcement mechanisms. Today, the Nordic countries top the World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Index -but they have still not succeeded in closing the gender gap. This book draws a diverse and complex picture of the long, uneven, and unfinished process towards substantive equality in four Nordic countries: Sweden, Finland, Norway, and Iceland. It presents the Nordic gender equality model's systematic use of three measures: overarching gender policies, legislation that has an explicit or implicit impact on gender relations, and gender equality and anti-discrimination laws with low-threshold enforcement systems. What potentials and limitations do the Nordic gender equality and anti-discrimination law regimes have to combat individual discrimination and structural inequality? Can these regimes function as a driver of political, legal, economic, cultural, and social change and as a corrective to laws, policies, and practices that uphold existing inequalities and, if so, to what extent? Can weaknesses in the equality and anti-discrimination laws and the way they are enforced hamper efforts to close remaining gender gaps? Rather than looking at the Nordic gender equality laws and policies in isolation, the book situates their development and transformative potential within a changing European and international political and legal landscape.

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