



# Futures Literacy Norway

## The People and the Organizations Behind



Futures Literacy Norway is an informal collective of researchers, consultants and policy makers involved in innovation and leadership for the future

Welcome to the UNESCO Futures Literacy Summit Booth of Futures Literacy Norway.

Futures Literacy Norway is a loose affiliation of organizations and people using anticipation thinking and practices in research and innovation policy learning and leadership.

In this document we present the people and the organizations behind the network.

<https://futuresliteracynorway.blogspot.com>

UNESCO  
FUTURES LITERACY SUMMIT  
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## The People



Elisabeth Gulbrandsen from the Research Council of Norway is actively engaged in the AFINO work. She is also part of Futures Literacy Norway, Photo: RCN

**Elisabeth Gulbrandsen** is Special Adviser at the Research Council of Norway (RCN). She is currently engaged with RCN's experiments for developing 3rd generation research and innovation policy or Transformative Innovation Policy (TIP).

Whereas earlier generations argued with 'market failure' and 'system failure' to motivate the spending of public money on research and innovation, 3rd generation relates to a failure to engage with the Grand Societal Challenges in constructive ways. She networks internationally to further TIP and has been serving on the governing board of the Transformative Innovation Policy Consortium since its inception in 2016.

Before joining RCN she held positions at The Centre for Technology and Culture, University of Oslo and Luleå University of Technology. While working at RCN she has also been a frequent guest researcher and lecturer at Blekinge Institute of Technology. She holds a doctorate in technoscience studies from Blekinge Institute of Technology.



Lisa Scordato coordinates the futures literacy work of NIFU in the AFINO Center, Photo: NIFU

**Lisa Scordato** has a master's degree in Political Science from the University of Linköping, Sweden. She has worked at NIFU since 2007, as researcher until 2014 and since then as senior adviser. She has previously worked as an adviser at the Swedish Institute for Growth Policy Studies, in Brussels.

She has an interest in research and innovation policies for transformative change her research focuses on national and international policy development and policy measures for addressing societal challenges.

She has extensive experience from participating in large research projects; she participated as an expert in the OECD STIG working party on mechanisms for international STI cooperation for global challenges (2012); she was work package leader in the research project "SusValueWaste: Sustainable path creation for innovative value chains for organic waste products" (2015-19) funded by the Research Council of Norway, and participated as researcher in the project "Technology Opportunities in Nordic Energy System Transitions" (2011-2015) funded by Nordic Energy Research.

Since 2019, she has been leading a working group which makes use of UNESCO's methodology for Future Literacy Laboratories in a Centre for Responsible Research and Innovation in Norway (AFINO), funded by the Research Council of Norway. Her work involves building learning arenas where people from industry, academia, NGOs, public sector institutions and other relevant citizens and stakeholders can make use of the future in order to explore the possible negative and positive consequences of innovation and current socio-technological shifts.



Sveinung Sundfør Sivertsen,  
Photo: Fremtenkt

**Sveinung Sundfør Sivertsen** is co-founder and Chair of the Board of Fremtenkt.

He has a BA in chemistry and an MA in philosophy from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and Universität Leipzig. He defended his PhD dissertation—"How to be a good sentimentalist"—in October 2019 at the University of Bergen.

Prior to Fremtenkt, his experience includes teaching, tutoring and lecturing at Norwegian University of Life Sciences and University of Bergen. Sveinung has also taught classes in elementary and high school, and has worked in geriatric care.

His most recent academic publication is Sivertsen, S. S. (2019). On the Practical Impossibility of Being Both Well-Informed and Impartial. *Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics*, 12(1), 21.



Ragnhild Nabben, photo:  
Fremtenkt

**Ragnhild Nabben** is co-founder and CEO of Fremtenkt.

She has an MA in comparative literature from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and Sorbonne (Paris IV), as well as a diploma from SKA (The Writers Academy in Hordaland).

Prior to Fremtenkt, her experience includes work as head of outreach and project manager at the Olav H. Hauge Centre for Poetry/Nynorsk kultursentrum. Ragnhild also has experience as a teacher and a special needs teacher.



Per Koch is coordinating Futures Literacy Norway's delivery to the UNESCO Summit. Photo: Martin Skulstad

**Per M. Koch** is the editor of the Norwegian magazine *Forskningspolitikk*, a publication owned by NIFU, focusing on research and innovation policy. He is also a part time researcher (Special Adviser) at NIFU.

He has had several positions in the Norwegian research and innovation policy system, including Special Adviser on innovation policy in the Norwegian agency for innovation and industrial growth, Innovation Norway, Head of the Science Project in the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research, Director of Analysis and Strategic Development at The Research Council of Norway and member of the secretariat of the Norwegian Commission on Higher Education (2000).

From July 1991 to May 2000 he was a Senior Executive Officer and Adviser on science and technology policy in the Norwegian Ministry of Education, Research and Church Affairs, during which time he was also a member of OECD CSTP and several of its working parties. He was Chair of the OECD STIG working party on mechanisms for international STI cooperation for global challenges (2012).

From 2000 to 2006 he worked as a Senior Researcher, Research Director and later CEO of the Norwegian STEP institute for studies of innovation, now part of NIFU STEP. At that time, he was the coordinator of the EU 5th Framework Programme project PUBLIN, on innovation in the public sector. He was also a Special Adviser for the EU Trend Chart on innovation. He is part of the UNESCO network for Futures Literacy, and is guest editor of the forthcoming *Futures* special issue on futures literacy.



Rune By, Photo: University of Stavanger

**Rune Todnem By**, PhD is Professor of Leadership at University of Stavanger Business School, Norway; Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Change Management; co-founder, Public Leadership Foundation; and part of UNESCO's Futures Literacy network.

With 15 years of experience working at British universities he is an internationally acknowledged expert in the areas of leadership and organisational change. Following his presentation of the EPICally MAD framework (TEDx <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnoIfaLhoWk>),

Rune continues to redefine leadership as an activity and responsibility we all can contribute to. The notion of purpose is at the very core of his work, and a future enhanced focus on anticipation is in the cards.

## The Organizations



**THE UIS BUSINESS SCHOOL** is one of six faculties at the University of Stavanger. The UiS Business School offers Bachelor Programmes in Business Administration, and Law, and MSc programmes in Business Administration, and Accounting & Auditing. In addition the UIS Business School also offer a PhD-program and an Executive MBA program.

There are 1200 students at the UiS Business School. Of these, 750 students are at bachelor level, 350 at masters level and close to 100 following the Executive MBA program.

[https://www2.uis.no/?lang=en\\_GB](https://www2.uis.no/?lang=en_GB)



**NIFU** (The Nordic Institute for Studies of Innovation, Research and Education) in Oslo is a non-profit institute addressing all types of learning and associated policy areas. The mission of this independent social science research institute is to provide theoretical and practical insight into the dynamics of these activities, while contributing to relevant policy development. NIFU is financed by assignments and receives a core grant from The Research Council of Norway. The institute undertakes research and analysis for a number of Norwegian and international agencies and organisations. Per Koch and Lisa Scordato, who are actively involved in studies of research and innovation, are associated with the UNESCO network for futures literacy.

<http://nifu.no>



**FREMTEKNT** is a Norwegian company that assists private and public institutions in addressing future challenges and opportunities, adapting the Future Workshop methodology of Robert Jungk to contemporary needs. The company aims to

improve our societies' ability to address the future in responsible and sustainable ways.

Projects include

- Laboratory for sustainable and democratic futures—of which you can read more in the newsletter.
- Fremtenkt Youth—using futures to help teachers teach and students learn sustainability, citizenship and life skills.
- Fremtenkt Work—bringing Futures Literacy and sustainability competency to the unemployed.
- Fremtenkt Business—bringing Futures Literacy to leadership across all levels of an organisation.

<http://fremtenkt.no>



**THE RESEARCH COUNCIL OF NORWAY** (RCN) is a government agency that allocates funds to research and innovation within all fields. RCN advises the authorities on research policy and is also tasked with creating meeting places for researchers, trade and industry, public actors and other users of research.

RCN was established in 1993 through the merging of five different research councils.

RCN is currently experimenting with 3rd generation research and innovation policy or Transformative Innovation Policy (TIP). Whereas earlier generations argued with 'market failure' and 'system failure' to motivate the spending of public money on research and innovation, 3rd generation relates to a failure to engage with the Grand Societal Challenges in constructive ways.

RCN has initiated 2 virtual, national pilot centres for "excellent transformation" to explore how to foster collective experimentation that asks for new forms of interactions and mutual learning between the public sector, industry, business, academia and civil society.

<http://forskningsradet.no>

## **FORSKNINGSPOLITIKK**

The Futures Literacy Norway documents and videos are published in collaboration with Forskningspolitikk, the Nordic Magazine for research and innovation policy.

The magazine is published by NIFU with support from The Research Council of Norway.

The magazine has presented several articles on anticipation futures literacy, many of them also in English.

<http://fpol.no>

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