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MID SWEDEN UNIVERSITY

# ~~Household Preparedness and the Swedish Welfare State~~

## *Civil preparedness and the challenges of the Swedish Welfare State*

PhD Linda Kvarnlöf, PhD Elin Montelius & Professor Erna Danielsson



# 'Doing' household preparedness: A critical approach to preparedness discourses and practices

- January 2022 – December 2024
- Purpose: To critically examine constructions of household preparedness
  - 1) *Discourses of household preparedness*
  - 2) *Household preparedness from a citizen perspective*
  - 3) *Narratives of household preparedness*

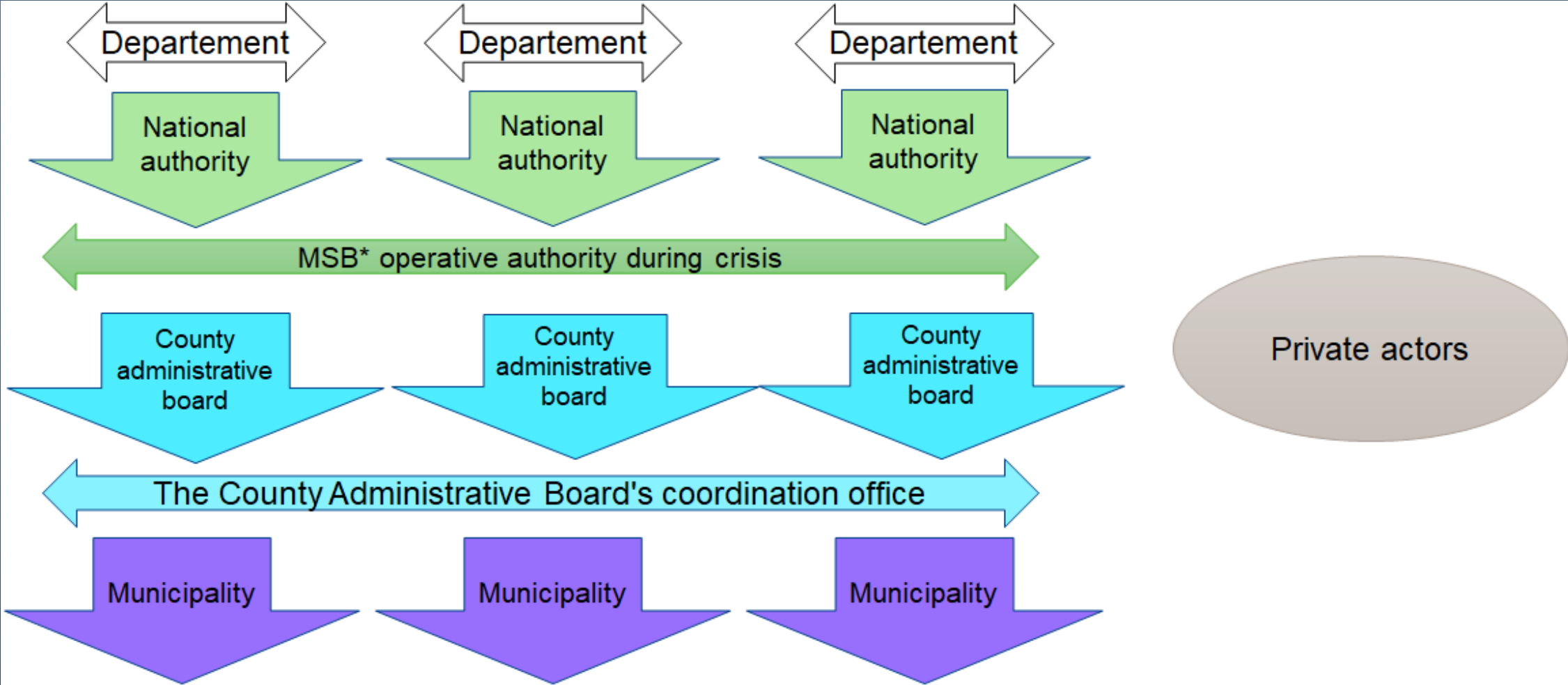


# Points of departure

- Aim
- Research questions
  - How are the challenges of civil preparedness constituted in policy documents regarding civil preparedness?
  - How are the citizens, and their role in civil preparedness, constituted in policy documents regarding civil preparedness?
- Theoretical (and methodological) framework
- "Kraftsamling"



# (Swedish) Civil Preparedness





# What's the problem represented to be?

1. What's the 'problem' represented to be in a specific policy or policy proposal?
2. What presuppositions or assumptions underpin this representation of the 'problem'?
3. How has this representation of the 'problem' come about?
4. What is left unproblematic in this problem representation? What are the silences? Can the 'problem' be thought about differently?
5. What effects are produced by this representation of the 'problem'?
6. How/where has this representation of the 'problem' been produced, disseminated and defended? How has it been (or could it be) questioned, disrupted and replaced? (Bacchi, 2012:xx)



# Preliminary findings

## 1) What's the problem represented to be?

***"We must strengthen the civil preparedness now!"***

*Sweden's civil preparedness must be further strengthened in order to manage the wide range of serious threats and risks facing our society. [...]" (MSB 2021)*

- A new landscape of changed risk and threats
- Previous disarmament and fragmentation of preparedness
- Climate change and serious accidents
- Democratic threats, reduced trust, increased marginalization, and division in society





# Preliminary findings

4. What is left unproblematic in this problem representation? What are the silences? Can the 'problem' be thought about differently?

“For each and everyone, it is crucial that we strengthen our preparedness for disasters, crises and war. [...] Individual preparedness – in terms of both being mentally prepared and in safeguarding our homes – provides an essential foundation for resilience and for the willingness to defend our society” (MSB 2021)