Kerstin Möller, who has an MSc in Management of Health and Welfare Organizations, and has conducted public investigations of service for people with deafblindness on behalf of the Swedish Ministry of Social Affairs and the Swedish National Agency for Education. She has done consultancy for the Nordic Staff Training Centre for Deafblind Services, the Swedish Resource Centre for Matters Regarding Deafblindness and the Swedish Association of Rare Disorders. She teaches, students and professionals in deafblindness know-how, ICF and is the author of a Swedish handbook about ICF. The thesis presented here was completed within The Swedish Institute for Disability Research, Örebro University, Sweden.

The thesis concerns mechanisms that have impact on participation restrictions for people who have visual and hearing impairment i.e. deafblindness and mechanisms that barrier service to these people. Service is used as an umbrella term for health care, education and certain service for persons with disabilities.

The conclusions that can be drawn from an ecological, laminated and life course approach are: Participation restrictions for people with deafblindness are far-reaching and are embedded in a complex process of interaction between the person with deaf-blindness and the environment. Services entail systematical barriers, are sometimes missing, not always satisfactory and do not take the person as a whole into account. In order to improve service it is extremely important to understand the role of participation restrictions in deafblindness. Persons with deafblindness require rehabilitation in a life perspective and to increase these people’s participation and protection they require individually adapted support and assistive devices. ICF and the UN convention support service alterations.