



Press release from Ministry of Employment

# Swedish Government decides on important step towards establishing human rights institute

Published 28 January 2021

The Swedish Government has decided today to refer a proposal concerning a human rights institute to the Council on Legislation for consideration. The Government's decision is an important step towards establishing the institute.

The new institute will monitor, investigate and report on how human rights are respected and realised in Sweden. The institute will also submit proposals to the Government on measures that are needed to safeguard human rights. The institute will not examine individual complaints of human rights violations.

“International human rights commitments must be taken very seriously. Current developments around the world are increasingly causing the equal worth of all people to be called in to question. In such times, it is more important than ever to have structures that promote and protect human rights. It is therefore important that the Government is now taking the next step in establishing an independent national human rights institute in Sweden.” says Åsa Lindhagen, Minister for Gender Equality, with responsibility for anti-discrimination and anti-segregation.

The final reports following the UN Universal Periodic Reviews of Sweden conducted in 2015 and 2020 recommended establishing an independent human rights institute in accordance with the Paris Principles. The Paris Principles set out minimum requirements for human rights institutions. These principles are applied widely and are the generally accepted standard for

national human rights institutions.

The tasks and management of the institute and certain aspects of its organisation and methodology must be regulated by law to meet the requirements of the Paris Principles, but this will also strengthen the institute's independence. This means that the Government cannot govern the institute's tasks or work to the same extent that normally applies to public agencies under the Government. The Government considers that such a regulation ensures a long-term approach and continuity for the institute while cementing its ability to perform its tasks independently.

It is proposed that the human rights institute commence its activities on 1 January 2022.



Press release from Ministry of Employment

# Government strengthens work for the equal rights and opportunities of LGBTIQ people

Published 25 January 2021

The Government has adopted an action plan for equal rights and opportunities for LGBTIQ people. The action plan contains concrete measures to strengthen the rights and opportunities of LGBTIQ people in the coming years. The action plan applies until 2023 but also contains strategic initiatives to ensure that the efforts continue in the long-term.

“LGBTIQ people still experience discrimination and serious violations in all areas of life: at work, at school, in business, in contact with government agencies and in other public activities. This is unacceptable and we are therefore focusing on creating real and lasting change,” says Minister for Gender Equality Åsa Lindhagen.

In Sweden, the equal rights of LGBTIQ people have been strengthened through various reforms in recent decades. These reforms have contributed to increased openness in society. However, challenges remain. Many LGBTIQ people still feel unable to be open about their sexual orientation or identity at work and at school. In general, young LGBTIQ people, not least young transgender people, have poorer mental health than the rest of the population.

Through the action plan, the Government is taking further steps to strengthen the equal rights and opportunities of LGBTIQ people. The action plan includes measures in a number of focus areas that, among other things, aim to combat discrimination, violence and other violations, increase knowledge

in working life and about the situation and mental health of young LGBTIQ people, and particularly focus on suicide prevention efforts. The intersex perspective is also included and measures are being taken to increase knowledge about the situation and needs of intersex people, both in healthcare and in society at large.

Young LGBTIQ people are more vulnerable at school than anywhere else in society. Work is now being intensified to provide a safer school environment for young LGBTIQ people. The National Agency for Education and the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society are to continue their work on equal rights and a more inclusive school environment for young LGBTIQ people. As part of this work, the Ombudsman for Children in Sweden is being instructed to investigate the needs for further development and efforts required to make school a safer and more inclusive place for young transgender and non-binary people.

“All children and young people must attend school and it is therefore particularly important that it is a safe place where everyone can feel that they can be themselves. We are now instructing the Ombudsman for Children in Sweden to investigate how we can create better conditions for this to happen in concrete terms,” says Ms Lindhagen.

SEK 14 million is to be allocated for the action plan per year from 2020, and an additional SEK 10 million per year in temporary funding is planned for 2021 and 2022.



Press release from Ministry of Employment

# Government intensifies efforts against men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression

Published 19 January 2021 Updated 19 January 2021

Preventing and combating men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression is a highly prioritised issue for the Government. By adopting decision on the appropriation directions for 2021, the Government has allocated SEK 240 million to efforts combating violence and given several government agencies assignments in this area. Several assignments will focus on stopping honour-related violence and oppression. An additional SEK 130 million has also been allocated to the county administrative boards and municipalities to support efforts to combat violence. Several anti-violence initiatives are expected in 2021, with additional funds earmarked for this purpose.

Efforts to combat men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression must be implemented across all segments of society. For this reason, the Government decided ahead of 2021 to issue assignments to several government agencies – some of which will now have a more active role in this work. Several of the assignments will focus on stopping honour-related violence and oppression, including child and forced marriages, and genital mutilation.

- The National Agency for Education will be allocated SEK 11 million to strengthen systematic efforts to combat honour-related violence and oppression within the school system.
- The National Board of Institutional Care will be allocated SEK 3 million to develop and disseminate internal knowledge about honour-related violence and oppression, violence-prevention work with boys, young men and young people's partner relationships, including knowledge about destructive masculinity norms.
- The National Board of Health and Welfare will be allocated SEK 20 million to continue to support development of work within health care and social services concerning men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression.
- A portion of the funds allocated to the National Board of Health and Welfare will pay for operation of the Choose to Stop (Välj att sluta) telephone helpline for people seeking to alter violent behaviour in a close relationship. The helpline is important for preventative efforts and has already proven to serve a beneficial function.
- The Swedish Social Insurance Agency, the Swedish Public Employment Service and the Swedish Migration Agency will continue their efforts to better identify people at risk of violence in close relationships and honour-related violence and oppression among those whom they encounter in their activities. Together with the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare and the Swedish Gender Equality Agency, these government agencies will be allocated SEK 10 million.

It is important to the Government that violence-prevention efforts and support for people at risk of violence are a long-term undertaking. As announced earlier, the Swedish Expert Team established at the Östergötland County Administrative Board to prevent and counteract honour-related violence and oppression will be made permanent as a national centre of expertise. The Östergötland County Administrative Board will be allocated SEK 30 million for the assignment of preparing the establishment of the centre of expertise. The centre of expertise will have a supporting role for many government agencies in their assignments concerning honour-related violence and oppression.

Work on the development of resource centres to counteract honour-related violence and oppression will continue and, for this purpose, SEK 10 million will be allocated to the county administrative boards in 2021. The county administrative boards have long been tasked with combating men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression. As announced earlier, they will therefore be allocated SEK 100 million per year, starting in

2021. Municipalities will be allocated SEK 30 million for 2021 to improve relapse prevention measures targeted at perpetrators of violence. This is also a permanent initiative expected to increase to SEK 60 million per year starting in 2022.

Knowledge-enhancing measures are an important part of the efforts to combat men's violence against women. Some examples of training grants on which the Government decided ahead of 2021:

- The Swedish Gender Equality Agency will be allocated SEK 5 million to continue to offer training initiatives and knowledge support concerning men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression for teachers and those responsible for education at higher education institutions. Others involved in this initiative are the Swedish Expert Team at the Östergötland County Administrative Board, the National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence Against Women and the national knowledge centre Barnafriid, based at Linköping University.
- Barnafriid will be allocated SEK 2 million for a renewed assignment to conduct education initiatives for Barnahus activities concerning honour-related violence and oppression in its various forms of expression, such as child and forced marriages, and genital mutilation.
- The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society will be allocated SEK 4 million for information campaigns concerning honour-related violence and oppression, health and gender equality, prostitution and trafficking in human beings. The information will be directed to professionals and other adults who, in their work or involvement in non-profit organisations, encounter young, newly arrived immigrants and young asylum seekers.

The national telephone helpline for women exposed to violence, Kvinnofriidslinjen, has seen an increased number of calls during the past year. The National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence Against Women (NCK) based at Uppsala University, which operates the telephone helpline, will be allocated SEK 10 million to continue efforts to strengthen and develop work with the helpline.

The Government continues to support civil society's efforts to combat men's violence against women:

- The National Board of Health and Welfare will be allocated SEK 100 million to distribute as government grants to local women's and girls' shelters, with over SEK 23 million going to national organisations that

combat violence against women and children, and SEK 2 million to LGBTI people who are victims of crime for violence in close relationships, including honour-related violence and oppression.



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Ministry of Employment, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

# Sweden increases its support to combat violence against women and children

Published 25 November 2020

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, men's violence against women and violence in close relationships is increasing. Sweden therefore intends to contribute SEK 122 million to efforts to eliminate men's violence against women and violence in close relationships, combat violence against children and strengthen sexual and reproductive health and rights.

These funds will go to UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), supplementing the recently decided funds to the Global Fund, the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children and an increased appropriation to Sweden's strategy for sexual and reproductive health and rights in sub-Saharan Africa.

Gender inequality, men's violence against women and violence in close relationships are increasing around the world as a consequence of COVID-19. In addition, human rights are threatened as a result of the pandemic. We cannot accept that development gains are being reversed. Sweden is therefore providing further funding to this important work.

Violence against children is unacceptable, regardless of where in the world it occurs. Combating violence against children is a priority issue for the Government, and the fact that we are now providing operational support to the Global Partnership is part of this effort. The Partnership provides support to projects that combat violence against children, primarily in low- and middle-income countries.

## FACTS

- Sweden intends to allocate SEK 51 million to UN Women (Government decision 26 November 2020)
- Sweden intends to allocate SEK 71 million to UNFPA (Government decision 26 November 2020)
- Sweden will allocate SEK 6.75 million to the Global Partnership (decision taken 3 November 2020)
- Sweden's long-term efforts for sexual and reproductive health and rights in sub-Saharan Africa has been increased by SEK 40 million (decision taken 29 October 2020)



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Ministry of Employment

# Long-term initiatives in the Government's policy response to intimate partner violence (IPV)

Published 15 September 2020

In the Budget Bill for 2021, the Government proposes that the county administrative boards' regional work to combat men's violence against women, honour-based violence and oppression, prostitution, and trafficking in human beings continue on a permanent basis. The Government also proposes reinforcements to the municipalities for measures to prevent IPV reoffending. The Government's proposals are based on an agreement between the government parties, the Centre Party and the Liberal Party.

In the Government's view, it is important that violence prevention and support to victims are long-term. For this reason, the Government wants to provide better and more stable conditions for the county administrative boards' gender equality efforts at regional level, focusing on preventing and combating men's violence against women, IPV, honour-based violence and oppression, prostitution and trafficking in human beings. It is therefore proposed that the long-term task of the county administrative boards in this area continue on a permanent basis. This investment is worth SEK 100 million per year.

Outside of the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, responsibility for relapse prevention for perpetrators of violence is unclear and, in many parts of the country, work has been insufficient despite high rates of IPV relapse. It is essential to protect victims of IPV from recurrence of violence, and that

action to achieve this is taken throughout the country. The Government therefore intends to increase general government grants to municipalities by SEK 30 million in 2021 and by SEK 60 million per year from 2022. Measures to prevent IPV reoffending may include, for example, behavioural interventions for perpetrators of IPV.



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Ministry of Employment, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

# Ann Linde and Åsa Lindhagen to participate in Global Pride

Published 26 June 2020

The virtual Global Pride festival kicks off on 27 June. Artists, politicians and activists from around the world will take part in the 26-hour livestream event.

- States and governments all have the same responsibility to respect and safeguard our human rights. And yet people around the world continue to be subjected to violence and discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, says Minister for Foreign Affairs Ann Linde.

Ms Linde and Minister for Gender Equality Åsa Lindhagen have both contributed to the Global Pride programme via pre-recorded video greetings.

- This is a day to celebrate diversity and the right of every person to be proud of who they are, define their own identity and love whoever they like. Sweden remains a strong voice for human rights regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, says Ms Linde.

In her video greeting, Ms Lindhagen says:

- As authoritarian forces try to suppress human rights that have already been won, we must instead strengthen respect for human rights even further. Far too many LGBTI people are forced to hide who they are. As a bisexual person, I myself know how it feels, and my own country, Sweden, still has a great deal left to do. We will not rest until every LGBTI person in the world can live their life in freedom, says Ms Lindhagen.

LGBTI associations in more than 90 countries have contributed films to the virtual festival. These will be shown over a 26-hour period, interspersed with a number of major stage shows. Former US Vice President Joe Biden and

Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau are among those taking part. As well as politicians, there will be appearances by musicians, drag queens and activists.

Ms Linde's and Ms Lindhagen's greetings will be available on [government.se](http://government.se) following the event.



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Ministry of Employment

# Minister for Gender Equality welcomes OECD report on LGBTI inclusion

Published 24 June 2020

The OECD has released a report on how LGBTI people are included in the legislative frameworks in its member countries. The release coincides with Global Pride 2020, the worldwide digital festival taking place on 27 June. Minister for Gender Equality Åsa Lindhagen welcomes the OECD expanding its work to include LGBTI rights.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has released its first ever report on LGBTI rights. Sweden is among the group of countries that initiated this report.

The OECD concludes that discrimination against LGBTI people harms not only LGBTI individuals but also the wider society, for example through poorer returns on educational investment resulting from discrimination in the labour market. Poor mental and physical health among LGBTI people is a personal tragedy for those affected, but it also has a negative impact on productivity, resulting in economic loss.

“The full enjoyment of human rights by LGBTI people is essential for both the individual and society. I am therefore very pleased that the OECD, as a significant actor in countries’ economic development, is highlighting this issue. The report shows that Sweden has taken many important steps but that we still have many challenges to deal with,” says Åsa Lindhagen.

The report provides an inventory of the extent to which 34 OECD countries

ensure equal treatment of LGBTI people. It compares the situation in 2019 with that in 1999 in all member countries. The OECD concludes that all member countries have been making progress over the last two decades but that they have a long way to go before the rights of LGBTI people are ensured.



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Employment, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Infrastructure

# Government responds to UN human rights recommendations

Published 03 June 2020

The human rights situation in Sweden was reviewed by the UN Human Rights Council at the end of January as part of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). Sweden received 300 recommendations from other UN Member States. The Government has now communicated its position on the recommendations in a report to be submitted to the UN.

The recommendations received by Sweden concerned issues such as strengthening efforts against racism, discrimination and hate crime, establishing a national human rights institute, and strengthening human rights protection for women, children, migrants, the indigenous Sami people, national minorities, people with disabilities and LGBTI people.

- Sweden has come a long way in its human rights work, but we are not done yet. The recommendations we receive from other countries are an important tool in our efforts to be even better, says Minister for Gender Equality Åsa Lindhagen.

In total, 117 countries chose to offer 300 recommendations to Sweden. The Government has chosen to accept approximately two thirds of these, and to comment on the other third.

- We see human rights being challenged in a variety of ways around the world. Sweden and the UN have an important role in continuing to stand up

for the equal value of all people. The work for the full realisation of human rights will continue, says Ms Lindhagen.

The UPR process involves a periodic review of the human rights situation in all UN Member States. Unlike other treaty reviews, the UPR is not conducted by independent experts, but by other States. The UPR is broad-based and covers all of the convention commitments on human rights. This means that all questions relating to human rights can be raised during the review.



Press release from Ministry of Employment

# Government appoints commission for gender-equal lifetime earnings

Published 06 March 2020

The Government has decided to appoint a commission for gender-equal lifetime earnings. The commission has been instructed to present proposals that aim to increase economic equality between women and men in Sweden in the long term.

– Historically, Sweden has made major progress with regard to economic equality. Despite this, we know that women still earn less than men, take a greater share of parental leave, work part-time to a greater extent, take more sick leave and have a lower level of income from capital. There are also gender equality gaps in the distribution of public support measures. This leads to major differences in lifetime earnings between women and men. The Government has therefore decided today to appoint a commission to examine key areas for increasing economic equality. Money is power, and power must be divided equally, says Minister for Gender Equality Åsa Lindhagen.

## Remit

The commission for gender-equal lifetime earnings has been instructed to present proposals that aim to increase economic equality between women and men in the long term. The proposals are to contribute to the overall objective of the gender equality policy – that women and men should have equal power to shape society and their own lives.

The commission is primarily to propose measures that contribute to the promotion of gender-equal wages, gender-equal lifetime earnings, a gender-equal distribution of public support measures as well as gender-equal

workplaces. The proposals presented by the commission must not impact upon the Swedish labour market model and the responsibility of the social partners for wage formation.

In addition to presenting proposals, the commission is to work to ensure a broad discussion in society and spread knowledge about how economic equality and gender-equal lifetime earnings can be promoted. These outreach activities may include publications, conferences and seminars. They may be organised by the commission itself or in cooperation with others, for example government agencies or the social partners.

The commission's final report is to be presented by 20 December 2021. An interim report is to be presented in January 2021.

## Background and the need for a commission

The overall objective of Swedish gender equality policy is equal power for women and men to shape society and their own lives. Subsidiary objective two on economic equality says that women and men must have the same opportunities and conditions with regard to paid work that gives financial independence throughout life.

The subsidiary objective on economic equality has not been achieved due to a number of factors. These include the fact that women work part-time to a greater extent than men, have lower wages and take greater responsibility for unpaid work in the home. In addition, women are absent from work to a greater extent because of parental leave and ill health. The lower levels of income from work lead to lower future pensions for women. The gender-segregated labour market in Sweden contributes to differences in lifetime earnings since professions that are dominated by women often have lower wages than professions that are dominated by men. On average, women's income from capital is also lower than men's.

Most of the circumstances that affect the gender equality of lifetime earnings have previously been the subject of inquiry. The publication of research is ongoing and all in all there is a lot of knowledge. There is now a need for an inquiry to examine and present proposals for measures that are, on the one hand, clearly defined but, on the other, also take aim at several sectors. Overall, a palette of measures targeting several different areas and sectors is needed, which together contribute to the achievement of gender equality policy objectives and the strengthening of women's economic power.

## The commission's members

### Lise Bergh, Chair

Lawyer and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Save the Children Sweden. Has long experience of working with human rights, including as Director of Amnesty International's Swedish section, as a state secretary and an inquiry chair. She has also served as acting Equal Opportunities Ombudsman.

### Mahmood Arai, Member

Professor of Economics. Conducts research into the integration of foreign-born people into Swedish society, gender pay differentials, and decision-making by employment officers and stereotypes linked to physical appearance.

### Sture Nordh, Member

Former President of the Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees and the Swedish Union of Local Government Officers (currently Vision). Has long experience of inquiries, chaired the cross-party committee of inquiry on public service broadcasting. Has also served as state secretary at the Ministry of Employment.

### Nina Åkestam Wikner, Member

Doctor of Economics and analyst at Google Sverige in the field of advertising effectiveness. Her doctor's thesis was entitled Understanding advertising stereotypes. Is also a published author, most recently with the book *The Feminist Trap*.



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Ministry of Employment, Ministry of Justice

# Protection against honour-related crime to be further strengthened

Published 14 February 2020

In a proposal referred to the Council on Legislation for consideration, the Government proposes that a new child marriage offence be introduced that can result in imprisonment for up to four years. The Government also proposes new grounds for tougher penalties for ‘honour’ crimes and a new instrument, a travel ban, to further strengthen protection against honour-related crime.

“We can never accept that children get married, that people cannot choose for themselves who they will marry, or that people are subjected to violence and oppression in the name of honour. Through these measures, the Government and the parties cooperating with it therefore want to further strengthen protection against honour-related crime,” says Minister for Justice and Migration Morgan Johansson.

“Children in Sweden must not be married, and children must be protected from being removed from the country. End of discussion. We’re now taking a stand for vulnerable children and closing important loopholes in the law. The judicial system must put a stop to custodial parents and other adults restricting the rights of children and young people to live free and secure lives. Children must know that there is protection and support,” says Juno Blom, Secretary-General and child rights policy spokesperson for the Liberal Party.

The new child marriage offence means that it will be punishable to induce or allow a child to enter into marriage or a relationship similar to marriage. Unlike the offence of coercion to marry, this new offence does not require the use of any unlawful coercion or exploitation of the victim’s vulnerable

situation if the offence was committed against a child. The Government also proposes new special grounds for tougher penalties, meaning that the punishment for an offence will be tougher if the motive for the offence was 'honour'.

It is difficult for the Swedish authorities to protect children who have left the country. For this reason, a travel ban will also be introduced to protect children at risk of being taken out of Sweden to be subjected to child marriage or genital mutilation. It will be a punishable offence to take a child out of Sweden in violation of a travel ban. A person who violates a travel ban may be sentenced to imprisonment for up to two years. If a child is subject to a travel ban, the child cannot obtain a passport. If the child already holds a passport, it may be cancelled.

“We can never accept that children and young people become victims of honour-related violence and oppression. Every child who is removed from the country or who lives in fear of being removed from the country is one child too many. This is why the Government is now making it more difficult for anyone wanting to remove children or young people from the country,” says Minister for Gender Equality Åsa Lindhagen.



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Employment, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Ministry of Justice

# UN review of Sweden's human rights compliance

Published 24 January 2020

Sweden's human rights compliance will be reviewed within the framework of the UN's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) on Monday 27 January in Geneva. Sweden's delegation at the review before the UN Human Rights Council will for the first time be led by a government minister – Åsa Lindhagen, Minister for Gender Equality with responsibility for anti-discrimination and anti-segregation.

“Compliance with the international agreements on human rights is being challenged in a number of ways around the world, including in Sweden. There are considerable challenges regarding human rights, for example for women and LGBTI persons, and the fact that racist movements have become more active in recent years. We look forward to the dialogue, and to the recommendations that we will receive from other countries. They will be important tools in our future efforts at national level,” says Ms Lindhagen.

The UPR process involves a periodic review of the human rights situation in all UN Member States. Unlike other treaty reviews, the UPR is not conducted by independent experts, but by other States. The UPR is broad and covers all of the convention commitments on human rights. This means that all questions relating to human rights can be raised during the review.

In connection with the dialogue, recommendations are provided that the State under review can choose to accept or note (which means that they are not accepted). The most recent review of Sweden took place in January

2015. Sweden received 208 recommendations and accepted 154 of them.

Any questions or interview requests may be addressed to Nicole Goufas,  
Press Secretary to Ms Lindhagen.



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Ministry of Employment

# National report on human rights in Sweden submitted to the UN

Published 15 October 2019

As part of the third cycle of the UN's Universal Periodic Review process (UPR), Sweden has on 14 October submitted a national report to the UN regarding the following up of the recommendations made to Sweden at the most recent review in January 2015.

The UPR process involves a periodic review of the human rights situation in all UN Member States. Unlike normal treaty reviews, the UPR is not conducted by independent experts, but by other States. The UPR is broad and covers all of the convention commitments on human rights. All questions relating to human rights can be raised during the examination.

The review of Sweden as part of this process will take place on 27 January 2020, at a dialogue in the UN's Human Rights Council in Geneva.

“We are living in a time that, more than for a very long time, requires the international agreements on human rights to be respected and taken very seriously. The UPR process is of major importance in promoting human rights, both nationally and internationally,” says Minister for Gender Equality Åsa Lindhagen.

Any questions may be addressed to Nicole Goufas, Press Secretary to Ms Lindhagen.



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release

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Published 22 January 2019

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**Government Offices of Sweden**

Press release from Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Employment, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Government Offices

# New state secretaries at the Government Offices

Published 22 January 2019

The Government today appointed 31 state secretaries at the Government Offices. Former state secretaries have been dismissed from their positions. Most of the state secretaries have previously held corresponding positions at the Government Offices.

## Prime Minister's Office

The Government has appointed Nils Vikmång as the Prime Minister's State Secretary. The Government has also appointed Madeleine Harby Samuelsson and Karin Wallensteen as state secretaries to Prime Minister Stefan Löfven.

The Government has appointed Paula Carvalho Olovsson as State Secretary to Minister for EU Affairs Hans Dahlgren.

The Government has appointed Mats Andersson and Maria Ferm as state secretaries in the coordinating committee at the Prime Minister's Office.

## Ministry of Employment

The Government has appointed Annika Dahl as State Secretary to Minister for Employment Ylva Johansson.

The Government has appointed Karin Strandås as State Secretary to Minister

for Gender Equality, with responsibility for anti-discrimination and anti-segregation, Åsa Lindhagen.

## Ministry of Finance

The Government has appointed Max Elger and Leif Jacobsson as state secretaries to Minister for Finance Magdalena Andersson.

The Government has appointed Ulf Holm and Elin Olsson as state secretaries to Minister for Financial Markets and Housing, Deputy Minister for Finance, Per Bolund.

The Government has appointed Alejandro Firpo as State Secretary to Minister for Public Administration Ardan Shekarabi.

## Ministry of Defence

The Government has appointed Jan-Olof Lind as State Secretary to Minister for Defence Peter Hultqvist.

## Ministry of Infrastructure

The Government has appointed Mattias Landgren as State Secretary to Minister for Infrastructure Tomas Eneroth.

The Government has appointed Sebastian De Toro as State Secretary to Minister for Energy and Digital Development Anders Ygeman.

## Ministry of Justice

The Government has appointed Catharina Espmark and Lars Westbratt as state secretaries to Minister for Justice and Migration Morgan Johansson.

The Government has appointed Elisabeth Backteman as State Secretary to Minister for Home Affairs Mikael Damberg.

## Ministry of Culture

The Government has appointed Helene Öberg as State Secretary to Minister for Culture and Democracy, with responsibility for sport, Amanda Lind.

## Ministry of the Environment

The Government has appointed Eva Svedling and Gunvor Ericson as state secretaries to Minister for Environment and Climate, and Deputy Prime Minister, Isabella Lövin.

## Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

The Government has appointed Stina Billinger and Emil Högberg as state secretaries to Minister for Enterprise and Innovation Ibrahim Baylan.

The Government has appointed Per Callenberg as State Secretary to Minister for Rural Affairs Jennie Nilsson.

## Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

The Government has appointed Maja Fjaestad as State Secretary to Minister for Health and Social Affairs Lena Hallengren.

## Ministry of Education and Research

The Government has appointed Erik Nilsson as State Secretary to Minister for Education Anna Ekström.

The Government has appointed Malin Cederfeldt Östberg as State Secretary to Minister for Higher Education and Research Matilda Ernkrans.

## Ministry for Foreign Affairs

The Government has appointed Annika Söder as State Secretary for Foreign Affairs to Minister for Foreign Affairs Margot Wallström.

The Government has appointed Per Olsson Fridh as State Secretary to Minister for International Development Cooperation Peter Eriksson.

The Government has appointed Niklas Johansson as State Secretary to Minister for Foreign Trade, with responsibility for Nordic affairs, Ann Linde.