

Declaration by the Prime Ministers of Finland and Sweden on one year of enhanced Swedish-Finnish cooperation, Helsinki, 1 December 2025

One year after the historic joint government meeting in Stockholm on 16 September 2024, Sweden and Finland reaffirm their unwavering commitment to further deepening bilateral cooperation. As a response to Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, and mounting geopolitical and economic challenges, our partnership has grown even stronger, more strategic, and more action-oriented. Since last year, we have together advanced joint initiatives to lay the groundwork for a resilient and forward-looking Nordic region and to strengthen our bilateral cooperation for the benefit of our two nations.

Defence and security

We continue to deepen our cooperation on defence, bilaterally and with NATO allies. These efforts are being implemented in close coordination, with a strong focus on interoperability and preparing for joint action in the event of external threats. Since last year, Sweden has also assumed the role of Framework Nation for NATO's Forward Land Forces (FLF) in Finland, marking a significant step in our shared commitment to regional security.

Defence equipment cooperation and procurement

Building on a long history of defence industrial cooperation, Sweden and Finland have moved ahead on several projects, such as the Pohjanmaa-class corvettes, with key systems being supplied by Swedish Saab. Sweden has ordered a total of 321 Patria XA-300 armoured vehicles, and Finland has joined a group of nations in a planned joint procurement of Swedish CV-90 combat vehicles. Our armed forces recently made a joint procurement of 300 Sisu GTP armoured vehicles, in addition to the 250 previously ordered. The Swedish Armed Forces are currently introducing the new standard small arms, the AK24 and PSG23, produced by Finnish SAKO.

Civilian preparedness and security of supply

The enhanced Swedish-Finnish cooperation builds on ongoing future resilience efforts within NATO and the EU. Following the joint declaration, our civil preparedness experts have started to develop joint planning for cross-border evacuations, and a joint planning task force has been established. The task force has already contributed to advancing operational frameworks and improving coordination mechanisms for future joint actions.

Together with other Nordic countries, Finland and Sweden have worked to develop a Nordic preparedness strategy for transport systems and cross-border infrastructure. Attention has been paid especially to military mobility and security of supply considering the development of the cross-border connections. The Strategy will be finalised next year.

Preparedness and resilience in the field of cultural heritage

In line with the declaration, building on the bilateral Hanaholmen initiative on strengthening our crisis preparedness, Sweden and Finland have together enhanced Nordic-Baltic cooperation for resilience in the field of cultural heritage. Our governments' respective presidencies of the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2024 and 2025 made it a top priority, and in May 2025, the Nordic ministers for culture decided to launch a Nordic-Baltic scheme for cultural heritage preparedness.

Ice-breaking cooperation

Since last year's meeting, we have deepened our collaboration in ice-breaking operations in the Baltic Sea – a strategic imperative to ensure the geopolitical resilience of our shared region. A strategic review has been jointly initiated to guarantee continued alignment, enhance preparedness for future winter maritime challenges, and foster even closer cooperation.

Police cooperation

Recognising the importance of cross-border security, Sweden and Finland have taken decisive steps to combat transnational crime. The agreement to enhance police cooperation in the Tornedal region entered into force on 1 February 2025, and the implementation of the agreement, including the training of police officers, is underway.

Cyber security and secure and trusted digital infrastructure

Our two nations remain global leaders in secure and trusted digital infrastructure and cybersecurity, and we work closely together within the EU and with like-minded partners globally. Advanced connectivity, including 5G, serves as a foundation for industrial, commercial, security, and defence applications of AI and other emerging technologies, and it represents a critical pillar of Europe's technological leadership and open strategic autonomy.

Since joining NATO, Sweden and Finland have taken important steps to drive innovation and strengthen future connectivity. Together with other Allies, in June 2025, we signed a Letter of Intent to accelerate the development of resilient wireless connectivity and next generation communication networks. Under this agreement, Sweden and Finland are jointly establishing testing and development facilities in both countries that will help NATO explore new technologies and ensure secure, reliable communication for the future.

Both nations have also strengthened joint engagement in the Tallinn Mechanism – Sweden as co-chair, and Finland as a new member – to provide support to bolster cyber security and resilience of critical infrastructure in Ukraine.

Cooperation in the EU

As a result of the joint government meeting, EU consultations at the political level have been initiated. We have written a joint paper on the issue of sufficient and sustainable financing for Ukraine. Among other things, we coordinate closely on simplification of EU legislation, EU defence cooperation, the next multiannual financial framework (MFF) and the post-2030 climate framework. For example, on EU regulation on land-use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF), we take joint action on challenges with existing legislation. Our prime ministers have written a letter to the Commission President on the implementation of this regulation.