

Barriers to crime –  
a social prevention  
strategy against  
criminal networks  
and other crime



## Barriers to crime

Everyone must be able to live a safe life without fear of becoming a victim of crime, regardless of who they are and where they live. However, there are extensive challenges related to crime and insecurity in our country. Not least, organised crime has become increasingly widespread and a threat to the democratic system and public institutions.

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In order to combat crime and increase security, investments in the judicial system and criminal law measures must be combined with effective and proactive crime prevention efforts. An important part of this work is the Government's national strategy, *Barriärer mot brott* (Barriers to crime). The focus of the strategy is social crime prevention efforts, including preventing children and young people from becoming involved in criminal networks and other crime, and ensuring that those who do commit crimes leave this lifestyle behind. The strategy lays the foundation for more effective and sustainable crime prevention work that can truly make a difference.

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The strategy sets out the direction of crime prevention work based on three barriers to crime.

## The three barriers to crime in the national strategy



### The first barrier to crime – broad preventive efforts

- Efforts to achieve strong measures based on the work-first principle in the area of migration and increased participation and security in vulnerable areas
- Preventive efforts in schools and health care
- Violence-prevention efforts and measures to combat harmful use and addiction



### The second barrier to crime – negative trends must be broken early

- Early intervention, low thresholds and increased access to support and help for children and young people with high-risk or norm-breaking behaviour, including those at risk of being recruited into organised crime
- Strengthened parental responsibility and improved support for custodial parents
- Increased opportunities for social services to provide support and help to children and young people



### The third barrier to crime – criminal careers must be stopped

- Strengthened and developed recidivism prevention work for children and young people
- Continued development of support for defectors
- Developed and more effective recidivism prevention work for individuals with sanctions in prison or probation

**Crime and insecurity must be combated and prevented with the full capacity of society.**



Crime prevention measures are central to this work and need to be taken in most areas of society. A range of stakeholders can make important contributions at national, regional and local level. Well-functioning cooperation is crucial for effective crime prevention work.



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More information about the strategy is available on the Government Offices webpage: [government.se/crime-prevention-strategy](http://government.se/crime-prevention-strategy)