



Article from Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Ministry of Justice

# Summary: National strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women

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Stopping men's violence against women is a priority issue for Sweden's feminist government. The Government is therefore now presenting a national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women.

The strategy contains measures that strengthen protection for and support to women subjected to violence, measures to combat violence in same-sex relationships as well as measures that counteract destructive masculinity and notions of honour. The strategy also emphasises the participation and responsibility of men in stopping the violence.

With a long-term strategy and a targeted action plan, the Government is laying the foundation for increasingly goal-oriented and coordinated action on men's violence against women. Developing violence prevention measures is particularly important. These measures must reach all groups in society and be developed in a variety of arenas. The national strategy is included in the Government's gender equality policy communication to the Riksdag (2016/17:10). The strategy spans a ten-year period and will come into force on 1 January 2017.

## The strategy's four objectives

- Increased and effective preventive work to combat violence.
- Improved detection of violence and stronger protection for and support

to women and children subjected to violence.

- More effective crime-fighting.
- Improved knowledge and methodological development.

## Special emphasis on preventive measures and men's participation

To date, measures have tended to deal with the consequences of violence rather than the causes. The Government's ambition is to shift the perspective and focus on preventing violence. This requires effective measures to prevent both the use and reoccurrence of violence. It also requires broader and more constructive involvement of men and boys than previously, and breaking with the norms that justify violence, the purchase of sexual services and other restrictions on the freedom of action and life choices of women and girls.

There are major challenges with regard to men's violence against women, honour-related violence and oppression, and action to combat prostitution and human trafficking for sexual purposes. Society must become better at detecting violence, and knowledge about the extent of the violence and effective practices needs to improve. Action to prevent violence must be well coordinated between relevant actors at all levels. Therefore, the control, coordination and follow-up of the measures to stop men's violence against women will be strengthened.

## Long-term action plan for goal-oriented, coordinated and effective action

As a part of the strategy's implementation, the Government is allocating SEK 600 million to an action plan containing new measures for 2017–2020, in addition to SEK 300 million in development funds to municipalities and county councils. The role of the county administrative boards as regional coordinators will be clarified. The gender equality agency to be established by the Government will eventually be given overall responsibility for the work to end men's violence against women. Within the framework of the action plan, the Government intends to:

*For increased and effective preventive work to combat violence*

- support the development and spread of universal violence preventive efforts with the objective of reaching all young people,

- conduct a review of sex and relationship education in schools,
- counteract demand for the purchase of sexual services,
- strengthen professional treatment of men who have been violent and investigate the ability of municipalities to work with perpetrators of violence early on, and
- further strengthen prevention of reoffending by convicted perpetrators of violence, both within the Swedish Prison and Probation Service and with other stakeholders.

*For improved detection of violence and stronger protection of and support to women and children subjected to violence*

- provide training to professionals, in social services and health and medical care for example, and on routines for asking about exposure to violence,
- strengthen protection of and support to children who have witnessed or been exposed to violence,
- strengthen expertise in the field of honour-related violence and oppression,
- continue the development of knowledge support on prostitution targeted at health and medical care and social services.

*For more effective crime-fighting*

- develop police methods and practices for preventing repeated violence,
- evaluate the 2014 legislative amendments on forced marriages and child marriages,
- prevent online threats and abuse.

*For improved knowledge and methodological development*

- survey the extent of honour-related violence and oppression,
- develop national statistics on measures in social services and health and medical care, and provide guidance to municipalities on calculating the cost of violence,
- strengthen knowledge about effective violence prevention,
- amend the degree descriptions in the Higher Education Ordinance so that men's violence against women and domestic violence are included in education and training for professional groups who may encounter victims of violence,
- allocate funds for skills development for relevant professional groups.

## Extensive initiative since Government took office in 2014

Since taking office, the Government has decided on a long list of measures to counter men's violence against women and domestic violence (these measures are presented on the Government website). For instance, the Government has provided increased support to local women's shelters for 2015–2019 totalling SEK 425 million. In addition, the Government has decided on, or in other ways taken, more than 20 measures directly related to proposals from the National Coordinator on Domestic Violence.



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Article from Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

## #FirstGeneration in New York

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As part of the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs's public diplomacy campaign #FirstGeneration, on 9 June the Swedish Consulate-General in New York held a seminar and panel discussion on the theme of engaging young people in the work on the UN Global Goals.

The event took place at the Swedish-owned design firm Trollbäck + Company in SoHo, and the panellists included Sweden's Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate Isabella Lövin and Minister for Education Gustav Fridolin, and representatives of various UN bodies and non-profit organisations.

Following a welcoming address by Consul-General Leif Pagrotsky, the event got under way with a presentation by Jakob Trollbäck of his company's work to produce the graphic profile for the UN Global Goals.

Communicating the Global Goals, Jakob Trollbäck founder at Trollbäck+Company

This was followed by two panel discussions: 'From Words to Actions - Implementing the 2030 Agenda' and 'Empowering and Engaging Young People in Global Sustainable Development'. In addition to the Swedish ministers, the panellists included Magdy Martínéz Solimán, Assistant Secretary-General of the UN and Director of the UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support; Marie Paule Roudil, Director of the UNESCO Liaison Office in New York; Zara Rapoport, Head of the Plan International UN Liaison Office in New York; Ahmed Alhendawi, UN Envoy on Youth; Coco Killingsworth, Deputy Director of Global Kids; Katie Isaak Ginsberg, founder and Executive Director of the Children's Environmental Literacy

Foundation; and Domenic Smith, President of AIESEC United States.

Panel 1: From words to Action – Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Panel 2: Empowering and Engaging Young people in Global Development

The discussions were moderated by Lance Gould from the Huffington Post.

The audience included representatives of teachers' organisations, after-school programmes, universities and various organisations with links to the UN.



Article from Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

# Ministry for Foreign Affairs international campaign in support of the Global Goals

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The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has launched #FirstGeneration, an international campaign in collaboration with international and local actors. The campaign is intended to strengthen international efforts on the 2030 Agenda and help ensure that new and younger target groups take on the challenges linked to the UN's Global Goals for Sustainable Development.

Almost half of the world's population is under the age of 25. The key to a sustainable future will be determined by our ability to transform knowledge into engagement among young pupils and students. The campaign is intended to generate engagement in, strengthen communication on and broaden popular support for the 2030 Agenda and the Global Goals for Sustainable Development.

#FirstGeneration is part of public diplomacy efforts by the MFA and Swedish embassies around the world. By working together with other actors, Sweden can have a positive influence on the work of other countries. Sweden's ambition is to remain an international role model and be a driving force in the global efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda and achieve the UN's Global Goals for Sustainable Development.

## Campaigning via networks

The #FirstGeneration campaign is being run in both digital and analogue form via a series of activities and collaboration between the Swedish MFA, Sweden's embassies and consulates abroad and local and international actors. Activities around the world will highlight the Global Goals, and young people will be the focus. Teachers, educators and activists who can influence and inspire young people in the area of sustainable development are the true heroes.

"We believe in the power of networks, and that together with other actors we can engage and draw attention to young people and teachers, educators and activists around the world. Our joint networks offer us the opportunity to reach out to and influence much larger numbers of people. Many actors are hugely engaged in helping to achieve the Global Goals," says Miriam Mannbro, project leader for the #FirstGeneration campaign.

In addition to activities and initiatives being implemented by some 30 Swedish embassies in collaboration with local actors, two major events will be held in 2016. In June, Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate Isabella Lövin and Minister for Education Gustav Fridolin will take part in a seminar in New York. The focus of the seminar will be young people's engagement and the important role of teachers and educators in inspiring young people. Other participants will include representatives of UNESCO, the UNDP and AIESEC, the world's largest student organisation. #FirstGeneration will culminate in Stockholm on 5 October, which is World Teachers' Day and falls just after the first anniversary of the adoption of the UN's Global Goals for Sustainable Development. Some 20 teachers and activists from around the world will be invited to Stockholm, where they will be celebrated for their contributions to engagement among young people.



Article from Ministry of Education and Research

# Exchange of experience on the education of newly arrived pupils

Published 08 April 2016 Updated 08 April 2016

The Ministry of Education and Research and the European Commission organised a two-day seminar on education for newly arrived pupils in compulsory school. Almost 30 people from ten different European countries attended, addressing experiences from all over Europe during the seminar.

"Creating a school system that is able to include newly arrived children and provide them an education that creates opportunities for the future is, first and foremost, about achieving quality education for each and every child. A school that is robust and flexible enough to offer every child a fair chance is the best possible precondition for newly arrived children to develop their knowledge and skills," said Minister for Education Gustav Fridolin in his welcoming address.

The National Agency for Education and the National Centre for Swedish as a Second Language talked about the Swedish experience and ongoing initiatives. Professor Nihad Bunar described his research on newly arrived pupils' learning. Participants also made a study visit to Hjulstaskolan to see examples close-up of how education for newly arrived pupils can be organised. They were given the opportunity to talk with students, teachers and head teachers at the school.



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Article from Ministry of Education and Research

# Ministers received filmmaker Leslee Udwin

Published 10 September 2015 Updated 11 September 2015

Minister for Education Gustav Fridolin and Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training Aida Hadzialic today received filmmaker and producer Leslee Udwin for a visit to the Ministry of Education and Research. Ms Udwin is one of this year's winners of the Anna Lindh Memorial Prize, which will be presented in the Riksdag on 11 September.

She is the creator of the documentary film *India's Daughter*, which has attracted a great deal of attention internationally. The Anna Lindh Memorial Prize is awarded each year to a person or organisation that has worked in the spirit of Anna Lindh to promote human rights in a global context.



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Article from Ministry of Education and Research

# OECD presents Swedish school review

Published 05 May 2015 Updated 05 May 2015

Today, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) presented the Government with its report 'Improving schools in Sweden: An OECD Perspective'. The review was conducted in light of Swedish pupils' falling performance in the OECD's PISA survey.

The recommendations of the OECD report focus on three priorities: conditions that promote quality and equity across Swedish schools, a long-term human resource strategy to build capacity for improved teaching and learning, and strengthened policy steering and accountability with a focus on improvement.