



Government Offices of Sweden

The Government supports UEFA Women's EURO 2025

The Government fully support The Football Association of Sweden, together with its Nordic partner FAs from Denmark, Finland and Norway, in their application on staging the Women's EURO 2025 in Sweden and other Nordic countries.

Sweden has a long tradition in co-operating and building better societies together with our Nordic neighbours Denmark, Finland and Norway. Sustainable development, equality, a healthy way of life and Nordic cooperation are all core elements of our societies. These are the key reasons why the Government warmly welcomes the co-Nordic candidacy of the UEFA Women's EURO 2025, and looks forward to welcoming a worldwide audience to Sweden and a first-class international sporting event.

– In a world where only 14 per cent of all countries are democracies, we must take responsibility and arrange sporting events in countries where human rights are respected, not where such events are used as a showroom for dictatorships, says Minister for sport Anders Ygeman.

Published 12 April 2022



EU agrees to activate Temporary Protection Directive

At the meeting of the EU Justice and Home Affairs Council on 3 March, focus was on Russia's invasion of Ukraine. EU Member States agreed to activate the Temporary Protection Directive.

“This is an historic act of solidarity with Ukraine at a time of Russian military aggression. That is the most important message – that Europe stands up for Ukraine and is prepared to jointly help those fleeing the belligerent Russian actions,” said Minister of Integration and Migration Anders Ygeman.

The EU Temporary Protection Directive was introduced in 2001 with the aim of having a regulatory framework to activate in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons from third countries. The Temporary Protection Directive means that refugees from Ukraine will be granted a temporary residence permit in the EU for at least one year, with the possibility of an extension for an additional two years.

Published 04 March 2022



Government Offices of Sweden

It is now important that we jointly take responsibility to help the people of Ukraine

On 25 February, Minister for Integration and Migration Anders Ygeman and Director General of the Swedish Migration Agency Mikael Ribbenvik held a joint press briefing in light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

“We will take our responsibility, and Sweden stands ready to help Ukraine in every way we can, regardless of whether it involves humanitarian aid or in some other way. We are also prepared to help the countries to which most refugees are likely to turn. The crisis in Ukraine shows once again how important and urgent it is to conclude the negotiations on the Pact on Migration and Asylum, and for EU countries to jointly take responsibility,” said Mr Ygeman.

At the press conference, Mr Ribbenvik stated that his Agency was in direct contact with colleagues in the countries bordering Ukraine, and that as yet no major refugee flows towards Sweden had emerged.

Published 01 March 2022



Ukraine and the Swedish labour market

Since Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February, the number of people leaving Ukraine has increased rapidly. At a press briefing on 21 March, Minister for Employment Eva Nordmark and Minister for Integration and Migration Anders Ygeman reported on what applies on the Swedish labour market for people covered by the Temporary Protection Directive.

The Temporary Protection Directive adopted by the EU means that people who have fled from Ukraine can be granted a residence permit with temporary protection. Residence permits will initially be valid until 4 March 2023, with the possibility to extend them for another two years.

“Many people coming now want to start working. The basic premise is that they should be able to support themselves through work or private savings. A person who is granted a residence permit with temporary protection under the Temporary Protection Directive will also be granted a work permit,” says Ms Nordmark.

People who have a residence permit with temporary protection who are entitled to work in Sweden are also allowed to register as a jobseeker with Arbetsförmedlingen. The agency can provide tips, advice and support in various languages about the labour market and applying for jobs in Sweden. There are currently many temporary job vacancies that can be applied for.

“We have already seen examples of employers who are interested in hiring people from Ukraine. This is very welcome. I would like to encourage all employers in need of workers who have not already contacted Arbetsförmedlingen to do so,” says Ms Nordmark.



Government Offices of Sweden

Government calls for a Russian sporting boycott

The EU has imposed sanctions on Russia in response to its invasion of Ukraine. The Government is now calling for a boycott of sporting exchanges with Russia.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine is unprovoked, illegal and unjustifiable. It threatens international peace and security and is a flagrant violation of international law and a serious challenge to the European security order. The Russian political leadership bears full responsibility for this.

The Government will push for the EU to make a joint recommendation of a boycott of sporting exchanges with Russia for as long as Russia's military aggression against Ukraine continues.

“The most important thing is that Russia's aggression ends. If the EU decides on a sporting boycott, this may play a contributing role,” says Minister for Sport Anders Ygeman.

Published 28 February 2022



Increased crisis support for culture and sport

On 18 January, the Government will submit an initial additional amending budget for 2022 to the Riksdag. The budget includes, among other things, increased crisis support to culture and sport. In addition to the proposals presented earlier, an additional SEK 100 million is now being allocated to culture and sport.

To mitigate the effects of the new restrictions and the new general guidelines, the Government previously proposed that SEK 200 million be allocated to culture and sport. This is now being increased by an additional SEK 100 million, of which SEK 60 million will be allocated to culture and SEK 40 million to sport. The Government will provide information on the precise allocation of the support following its adoption by the Riksdag.

“As more infection control measures are introduced, continued crisis support is needed for Sweden’s cultural life. A diversity of activities and actors have been severely affected, and the consequences are likely to persist for a long time to come. We know that the need is great and urgent, and that is why the Government is now proposing additional funds,” says Minister for Culture Jeanette Gustafsdotter.

In addition, actors in the field of culture and sport can also benefit from extended turnover support in the form of reorientation support and event support. See separate press release.

“The pandemic has caused great difficulties for the sports movement. Conditions have been very tough and I have great respect for all those involved in adapting their activities to the situation in which we find ourselves. It has been a difficult time – not least financially. The Government is therefore now proposing to provide sport with more resources,” says Anders Ygeman, Minister for Integration and Migration,

with responsibility for sport.

The Riksdag previously adopted a SEK 940 million stimulatory package for culture in the budget for 2022. In 2020, the cultural sector received various crisis support packages, totalling more than SEK 2.5 billion. In 2021, SEK 3.9 billion in crisis support was distributed.

Earlier in the pandemic, the Government added SEK 1.5 billion to the additional amending budget for 2020, SEK 1.955 billion to the additional amending budget for 2021, and SEK 400 million to the Budget Bill for 2022.

Published 17 January 2022



The Government intends to tighten and improve regulations on labour migration

The Government has decided to refer a proposal to the Council on Legislation on tightening and improving the current regulations on labour migration. These are the first of several coming proposed amendments to regulations on labour migration. The proposal referred to the Council on Legislation is intended to counter exploitation of labour migrants and to attract and retain international expertise and counter the expulsion of skilled workers.

It is important to address the problem of foreign workers being exploited in the Swedish labour market. The legitimacy of labour migration can only be maintained if fraud and injustice are prevented. At the same time, labour migration to Sweden is important to growing and developing businesses.

To prevent labour migrants being exploited, it is proposed that an employment contract be required in order for a work permit to be granted, and that the Swedish Migration Agency is to be able to require an employer to provide information about the labour migrant's employment conditions or risk paying a fine. In addition, it is proposed that a maintenance requirement for family member immigration linked to foreign labour be introduced, and that the offence 'organising of human smuggling' be expanded so that it also includes permits issued on the basis of false information.

“The regulations on labour migration must be tightened and improved. We must address the problem of foreign workers being exploited in the Swedish labour market. The fact that people are given poorer working conditions with lower wages, longer working days or a poorer working environment just

because they come from another country goes against our most fundamental values and harms the Swedish model,” says Minister for Integration and Migration Anders Ygeman.

In its referral to the Council on Legislation, the Government also proposes introducing a new residence permit for certain highly qualified people so that they can apply for work or look at the possibilities of starting a business in Sweden. Measures are also proposed against the expulsion of skilled workers. For example, it will not be necessary to revoke a work permit in the event of minor cases of deviations from employment conditions or if it appears unreasonable in light of the circumstances.

The proposals referred to the Council on Legislation are based on the inquiry report (SOU 2021:5) presented to the Government earlier this year. Additional proposals for tighter and improved regulations for labour migration are currently being circulated for comment and will be presented in 2022.

It is proposed that the legislative amendments enter into force on 1 June 2022.

Published 23 December 2021



Government Offices of Sweden

Change of government, 30 November 2021

Today in the Riksdag, Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson announced the ministers who will serve in the Government. The change of government takes place at a Council of State at the Royal Palace presided over by His Majesty the King. The Council of State begins at 13.00.

Sweden's new Government consists of the Prime Minister and 22 ministers.

Prime Minister's Office

Magdalena Andersson, Prime Minister

Hans Dahlgren, Minister for EU Affairs

Ministry of Employment

Eva Nordmark, Minister for Employment and Gender Equality

Johan Danielsson, Minister for Housing and Deputy Minister for Employment

Ministry of Finance

Mikael Damberg, Minister for Finance

Max Elger, Minister for Financial Markets

Ida Karkiainen, Minister for Public Administration

Ministry of Defence

Peter Hultqvist, Minister for Defence

Ministry of Infrastructure

Tomas Eneroth, Minister for Infrastructure

Khashayar Farmanbar, Minister for Energy and Digital Development

Ministry of Justice

Morgan Johansson, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs

Anders Ygeman, Minister for Integration and Migration

Ministry of Culture

Jeanette Gustafsdotter, Minister for Culture

Ministry of the Environment

Annika Strandhäll, Minister for Climate and the Environment

Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson, Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation

Anna-Caren Säterberg, Minister for Rural Affairs

Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

Lena Hallengren, Minister for Health and Social Affairs

Ardalan Shekarabi, Minister for Social Security

Ministry of Education and Research

Anna Ekström, Minister for Education

Lina Axelsson Kihlblom, Minister for Schools

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Ann Linde, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Anna Hallberg, Minister for Foreign Trade and Nordic Affairs

Matilda Ernkrans, Minister for International Development Cooperation

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Published 30 November 2021



Government Offices of Sweden

Speech by Anders Ygeman, Minister for Integration and Migration with responsibility for sport

Towards a green and sustainable deal for sport, digital conference, 3 March 2022, European parliament, Strasbourg Check against delivery.

Dear Ministers and participants,

Thank you for the opportunity to address this conference as a part of our common EU Trio-Presidency with France, Czech Republic and Sweden.

A special thanks to my colleague Roxana for inviting me to speak.

This conference is held in Strasbourg – the centre of respect for human rights and rule of law in Europe.

I think this is of great importance.

Because even though the topic of this conference is quite another, I first wish to address the current situation in Europe.

Participants, Russia's invasion of Ukraine is unprovoked, illegal, and unjustifiable.

The Russian political leadership bears full responsibility for this.

The military aggression from Russia threatens international peace and security and is a flagrant violation of international law.

It is a serious breach of the European security order.

The Swedish Government supports European and International sport organisations boycott of sporting exchange with Russia.

However, we also need to discuss other issues simultaneously and the topic for today's discussion is very important.

We all know the power of sport for societal change.

To inspire and to unite people.

Now, we - Governments, sports organisations, and their communities - need to find ways to use this power to limit our environmental impact.

We need to be a part of the solution for a sustainable future.

The Agenda 2030 requires changed at both individual and societal level.

The Sustainable Development Goals – both the economic, social and environmental – must be achieved for all people, in all parts of society.

To reach the goals, we need to establish stronger cooperation's and partnerships.

And sport has the great power to bring these together.

People, networks and organisations that are committed to sport and sustainable development.

I would like to give two concrete examples from my country on how this can be translated into something concrete.

First, the Swedish Sports Confederation and its members has created a checklist for sustainable sport events.

This list consists of 40 aspects of sustainability with a number of inspirational action points.

The points include everything from choosing environmentally friendly team clothing to transports and waste management.

This initiative is an attempt to collect and share the knowledge on sustainability that already exist among sports federations and associations in

Sweden.

The idea is simple - to inspire each other to do the right thing.

I am happy to see that this checklist has been created in close cooperation between the Swedish Sports Confederations partner organisations in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia.

Another inspiring example is a project funded by Sweden's innovation agency.

The aim of the project is to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide for travel linked to organized sports.

This is to be done through mapping of current travel behaviours.

The data collected is then being analysed and form the basis for an action plan for every participating organisation to implement.

These are examples on how sport can be a progressive force for sustainability:

- to combat climate change,
- to strengthen cross border and generational solidarity,
- to include the sport movement as a part of the transition.

I'm grateful for the work done by so many for a green and sustainable deal for sport.

I'm also hopeful that today's conference will strengthen our joint efforts to fulfil our common goals.

Because I'm convinced, when we meet great challenges, we all need to work together.

Published 03 March 2022



Government Offices of Sweden

Speech by Mr Anders Ygeman on Sports and Sustainable Development Goals in Childhood: Societal issues regarding appropriate physical activities

Digital Ministerial Conference, 7 February 2022, organised by Unesco Headquarters, Paris Check against delivery

Dear Ministers and participants,

It is a pleasure to address this important conference as a start of our common EU Trio-Presidency with France, Czech Republic and Sweden.

I will give a brief overview of the situation in my country, and I hope the exchange of experiences during the conference will enrich all of us to find new ways forward to strengthening the opportunities of children and youth to be active in sport and physical activities – irrespective of gender, socio-economic background, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

When children and youth get the support they need early in life, their opportunities for the future will increase. Sport can be an important function to achieve this goal.

Participation in sport clubs in Sweden often leads to that children from different parts of a city come together irrespective of socio-economic or ethnic background. Sport thus can contribute actively to social cohesion and contacts are established that would be difficult otherwise.

In parts of Sweden socio-economic segregation has become a growing problem.

There are significant differences in living conditions and conditions for upbringing, for opportunities and prospects in different areas within the same city. Children and youth in areas with socio-economic challenges are particularly vulnerable.

The pandemic is having a disproportionate negative effect on children and youth in these neighbourhoods. We have noticed that sport participation in activities for children and youth have decreased with 20 per cent all over the country and we know that it will be a challenge to get back to the same level as before.

Combatting segregation is therefore one of the Government's top priorities and we know that the sport movement and voluntary leaders is important to reach new groups of young people. Equally important is to recruit and include new leaders to the sport movement. Looking at the statistics over the amount of men and women leaders in sports, I can conclude that we still have a long way to go reaching the goal of gender equality.

Bearing this in mind, my government has recently increased the budget for sport organisations to enable them to reach out and increase the sport participation and broaden the leadership and gender equality within the movement when the pandemic hopefully soon will be over.

Thank you for your attention!

Published 08 February 2022