



Government steps up efforts to combat racism

The Government has adopted five action programmes against various forms of racism during 2022–2024. The action programmes outline concrete measures aimed at combating afrophobia, antisemitism, antigypsyism, islamophobia and racism against the Sami people. These action programmes will follow up on one of Sweden’s commitments from the Malmö International Forum on Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism.

“We must never accept any form of racism. It’s a question of human dignity. Racism divides people and contributes to dangerous polarisation. That’s why we’re raising the level of ambition to emphasise everyone’s equal value,” says Minister for Culture Jeanette Gustafsdotter.

These action programmes will help draw attention to and counter various forms of racism. They supplement the national plan to combat racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime. The action programmes were developed based on dialogues with representatives of civil society, reports on the occurrence of racism and hate crime in Sweden and recommendations from regional and international human rights bodies.

“Racism, discrimination and hate crime are harmful not only to the victims, but society as a whole. For this reason, efforts to combat racism and discrimination are also important for breaking segregation,” says Johan Danielsson, Minister for Housing and Deputy Minister for Employment with responsibility for efforts to combat discrimination.

Within the framework of the action programmes, the Government has tasked several Government Agencies to counter racism within health and medical care, to increase knowledge about the relationship between the vulnerability

of certain groups and work-related stress, and to enhance knowledge about hate crime against the Sami people. Children and young people's vulnerability to racism is given special attention through remits aimed at the schools.

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45 measures for cracking down on work-related crime

Work-related crime is a serious societal problem in which people are exploited in working life and serious entrepreneurs are undercut by fraudsters and criminals. Work-related crime feeds organised crime and drains the welfare system and our social security systems of resources. The Government is now stepping up its efforts by adopting a national strategy consisting of 45 measures against work-related crime.

Work-related crime involves criminal activities and breaches of regulations that may result in employees being exploited or put at risk of being injured at work. It also results in serious operators being undercut by those who exploit workers by means of unreasonable working conditions, cheating on taxes and fees and in other ways violating laws and regulations.

Work-related crime occurs in many sectors, even if the risk of work-related crime is considered to be greatest in the construction, restaurant, transport and cleaning industries, and in health, care and social services.

The Government has three priorities for its work: to leave no stone unturned in the fight against segregation and crime, to drive the green transition forward and to take back control of the welfare system. Efforts to deal with work-related crime have links to all three of these priorities.

“Work-related crime involves very large sums and is a source of income for organised crime. This must be stopped. That’s why we have now adopted a national strategy against work-related crime,” says Deputy Minister for Employment Johan Danielsson.

In the national strategy against work-related crime, the Government compiles, coordinates and focuses its actions and raises its level of ambition

in efforts to counter and combat work-related crime. The strategy also helps to provide public authorities, operators and individuals with an overview of measures and issues related to work-related crime.

“The focus of the Government’s national strategy is to combat the business models that drive work-related crime. It must be difficult to cheat, easy to get caught and painful to be punished,” says Mr Danielsson.

The strategy contains 45 measures in seven main areas:

- Reduce the scope for criminal actors in the labour market
- More effective supervision and control
- Tougher sanctions
- Better cooperation between public authorities, municipalities and the social partners
- Better information and increased awareness
- Better register laws and secrecy provisions
- Well-developed international and EU cooperation

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New Director-General of the ILO

The International Labour Organization (ILO) Governing Body elected Gilbert Hougbo as the ILO's 11th Director-General on 25 March. Hougbo was most recently President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Prime Minister of Togo and Deputy Director-General of the ILO. Minister for Employment Eva Nordmark and Deputy Minister for Employment Johan Danielsson congratulate the new Director-General.

“The Government congratulates Gilbert Hougbo on his new and important role as Director-General of the ILO. In these uncertain times, with the labour market heavily impacted by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, the role of the ILO is more vital than it has been for a long time. The situation we are currently experiencing highlights the significance of strong social institutions in our societies, institutions that are the backbone of our democratic States. The social partners should be an integral part of these institutions in all ILO Member States,” says Ms Nordmark.

“I am delighted that Gilbert Hougbo has been elected as the new Director-General. He brings extensive and multi-faceted experience of the UN system, multilateral cooperation and labour market issues. With his solid knowledge, Hougbo will continue to develop the organisation at a very challenging time,” says Mr Danielsson.

Gilbert Hougbo’s term as ILO Director-General begins on 1 October 2022. He was elected on 25 March at the 344th Session of the Governing Body. Sweden has been a regular member of the ILO Governing Body since June 2021. As a regular member, Sweden has the right to vote and speak at Governing Body sessions and when the Director-General is elected.



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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