# NORDIC DEMOCRACY **FORUM 2024**

# PROGRAM

**NOV 20TH-21ST** Stockholm, Sweden



# INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF OUR NORDIC DEMOCRACIES TOGETHER

Over the course of the past few years the safety and security of Nordic communities have changed. New and unprecedented threats today pose profound challenges to our politics, our institutions, and our way of life. Conflict in Europe and in the Middle East, a proliferation of digital harms from dis- and misinformation to artificial intelligence, cross-border crime and increasing polarisation is placing our democracy, social cohesion and security under pressure.

Despite the Nordics being a relatively small and peaceful region, these challenges underscore the need to safeguard the democratic principles that have fostered trust and cohesion in Nordic societies and kept our communities secure, robust and prosperous.

Against this backdrop, it is timelier than ever to unite and act and the inaugural Nordic Democracy Forum represents a timely moment to do so. As a Forum participant you are invited to unite with Nordic peers to set the direction and initiate shared action. All to ensure that the Nordic region and cities remain beacons of democracy, safety and security in the times to come. We hope The Nordic Democracy Forum will enable fresh and future-focused conversations and partnerships; and not be business as usual. The Forum will be about identifying and proposing solutions. It will require all participants to come to the table with an open mind, realism and determination.

Across the two days of the Forum, you are invited to participate in working sessions with peers as well as new partners from other sectors. Several sessions will feature informal discussions in smaller groups, with an emphasis on developing tangible ways forward and new ideas to build on together. This will give you the chance to shape the path ahead to accelerate democracy and security in the Nordics and your own organisations by hopefully taking back fresh ideas and partners to boost your efforts.

The Nordic Democracy Forum will feature ministers, mayors, national and local leaders, representatives from organisations, universities, civil society, tech companies, foundations and youth organisations. Conversations will focus on cross-sectoral problem-solving with the city and local level at the core.

With your active participation, we hope to capture the visions and ideas that will ensure we stay on the forefront in our prevention efforts to keep the Nordic a safe, secure, and inclusive place for all in the years to come.

We look forward to welcoming you and working together in Stockholm.

#### Jeppe Albers

Executive Director Nordic Safe Cities



# DAY1

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>

Hasselbacken, Hazeliusbacken 20, Stockholm, Sweden

# **OPENING**

Karin Wanngård, Mayor, City of Stockholm Jeppe Albers, Executive Director, Nordic Safe Cities

# **LEADERSHIP FOR A SAFER DEMOCRACY**

Participants are divided in smaller groups, each focusing on a key set of challenges within the thematic topics for the Forum; The Safe City Leadership Standards.

- o A Democracy for All
- o Empower Youth to Shape Democracy
- o A Safe Digital Democracy

See the detailed description of the Safe City Leadership Standards at the end of the program.

10.15

#### "How do we ensure a safer Nordic democracy and what do I bring to the table?"

A meeting between Nordic Ministers for Justice and tech-representatives on "Safeguarding Digital Democracy in the Age of Advancing Technology" is taking place simultaneously.

### **NETWORKING LUNCH**





### NAVIGATING A DEMOCRATIC AND SECURE FUTURE (PART 1)

A group of speakers from different sectors of society will share their take on current trends, challenges and opportunities for a safe Nordic democracy and society.

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Gunnar Strömmer, Minister for Justice, Sweden

**OPENING REMARKS** 

**TRUST, CULTURE, AND HISTORY** – The Legacy of Individualism and the Rule of Law

Lars Trägårdh, Professor of History, Uppsala University

**TECH FOR NORDIC DEMOCRACY** – Reviewing the Threats and Opportunities of Generative AI and other Tech Advancements for a Safe Democracy

Erin Saltman, Director of Programs & Partnerships, Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism
Martin Ruby, Director for Public Policy for Nordic Countries, Meta
Jakub Olek, Director of Government Relations and Public Policy, TikTok Sweden
Tobias Bornakke, Chair, Nordic Think Tank for Tech & Democracy
Bente Kalsnes, Professor, Political Communication, Kristiania University College & Member of the Nordic Think Tank for Tech & Democracy

**ARE THE NORDIC DEMOCRACIES IN DANGER?** - Comparative analysis of polarization and mistrust towards democracy in Sweden, Norway and Denmark based on big-data insights from social media.

Ingvild Endestad, Head of Tech and Democracy, Nordic Safe Cities Eske Vinther-Jensen, Founding Partner, Common Consultancy

#### **EXPERIENCES FIRST HAND** – The New Reality after the Attack on October 7th

Laila Bokhari, Co-Chair, Nordic Safe Cities Board Özlem Cekic, General Secretary, Brobyggerne Eliana Herz, General Manager, Dialogpiloterne

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**OUR UTOPIA** - Hopes and Dreams for our Society

Maymi Asgari, Content Creator, Football Coach, Nordic Pioneers Winner 2024



# **OUR PATH TO A SAFER DEMOCRACY**

Building on input from the cross-sector and plenary sessions, and bringing their own professional experience to bear, participants will be supported to map out a strategy for implementing the Safe City Leadership Standards and identifying the tangible policies, practices and partnerships that can realistically be developed over the next five years to safeguard Nordic democracy across all the core themes the Forum focuses on.

The following conversations take place simultaneously

- CITY LEADERSHIP MEETING This conversation offers a chance for Nordic mayors and city leaders to share priorities, innovations and promising practice as well as identify what must be done to accelerate a democratic and secure future in Nordic cities.
- INVESTING IN A SAFER DEMOCRACY This conversation will focus on what role foundations and businesses can play in nurturing, safeguarding and upholding our freedom and democracies and explore what future investment priorities should be pursued to ensure safer Nordic democracies.
- **A SAFER CITY WITH CIVIL SOCIETY** This conversation will focus on ideas from cities and civil society to foster community resilience and engagement, safeguard democracy and fighting back extremism, discrimination and hate. It will also include discussion on how organizations can contribute better to policy development and/or spearhead initiatives.
- **THE FORWARD-THINKING GOVERNMENT** This conversation will focus on how national authorities and entities can stay agile and ahead to tackle wicked issues and ensure democratic and robust countries, cities and communities in the Nordics.

King 3rd floor

Prince 3rd floor

Hazeliussalen 5th floor

> Crown 3rd floor

# 15.30

• **TECH FOR NORDIC DEMOCRACY** - This conversation will focus on how the tech sector and Nordic countries can collaborate to safeguard digital democracy. The meeting offers a chance for direct conversation between companies, reflecting the sector's existing priorities on this issue while also taking stock of the challenges perceived by other stakeholders and experts relevant to the tech space.

Queen 3rd floor

# **RECEPTION AND DINNER**

- **18.00** Busses depart from Hasselbacken to Stockholm City Hall
- **18.30** Reception & Dinner at Stockholm City Hall
- **21.00** Busses depart back to Hasselbacken

With the possibility for participants to continue the conversation at Pop Story for Democracy Forum After Hours.



# 18.00

# DAY 2

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>

Hasselbacken, Hazeliusbacken 20, Stockholm, Sweden

# NAVIGATING A DEMOCRATIC AND SECURE FUTURE (PART 2)

Following the conversations from day 1 speakers will share their insights into how the Nordic can remain a democratic and secure region. They will offer advice from the worlds of politics, media, business, and civil society and offer perspectives on what Nordic political leaders and decision-makers should avoid and pursue to safeguard and nurture democracy and ensure robust Nordic societies in the times to come.

Hans Wallmark, Swedish Ambassador to Denmark Aud Kolberg, Norwegian Ambassador to Sweden Pekka Timonen, Mayor, City of Vantaa Mathias Bernander, Mayor, City of Kristiansand Stina Liljekvist, Chairman of the Board, Skandia - Ideas for Life Foundation Nicklas Stavnar, Head of Foresight and Portfolio Manager, Tinius Trust Anu Juvonen, Executive Director, Demo Finland Ulrika Modéer, Secretary General of the Swedish Red Cross Jan Scherman, Journalist and Film Maker Jeppe Albers, Executive Director, Nordic Safe Cities

## WAYS FORWARD FOR A SAFER NORDIC DEMOCRACY

Reflections and highlights from the sector specific conversations on day 1

## MASTERCLASSES & CO-CREATION

Four sessions on four selected topics. Each session will feature a range of speakers and interactive modules with the audience. Through case and scenario work and very short presentations, the purpose is to reflect on how specific recent challenges have been addressed, with lessons on successful and less successful approaches that offer insight into concepts to be inspired by and very tangible ways forward.



10.30

# THE 4 SESSIONS:

Participants are invited to select one of the sessions upon arrival on the 20th.

#### **SESSION 1: A DEMOCRACY FOR ALL**

This session explores a range of themes around 'a democracy for all' in three inspirational sessions. We will discuss the current state of our democracies, trust in public institutions in a hybrid threat era, and how to work with citizen engagement and mobilisation. Additionally, we will be taken through the hateful and polarising rhetoric that is threatening our cohesion and driving groups apart. And how we need to rethink youth engagement in our democracies and democratic conversations by reinventing participation in schools or bringing youth and politicians together. The masterclass is a blend of panel discussions, presentations and conversations that will inspire future interventions for cities and communities to engage in and support a vision of a democracy for all.

#### Magnus Ranstorp, Nordic Safe Cities Board

Dr. Virginie Andre, Co-founder Finnish CSO Kare & EU Knowledge Hub on Prevention of Radicalisation Expert
Charlotte Storm Gregersen, Director for Culture and Citizens Service, City of Aarhus
Zakia Elvang, Managing Partner and Advisor, WeDoDemocracy
Siavosh Derakhti, Founder of UMAF (Youth against antisemitism and xenophobia)
Linda Noor, Managing Director, Minotenk
Anna Kristinsdottir, Director of the Office of Human Rights and Democracy, City of Reykjavik
Tore Bjørgo, University of Oslo, Head of C-rex, Nordic Safe Cities Advisor
Olav Hesseldahl, Founder of "Grundlovsfesten"
Erik Kruse, Crime Prevention Coordinator, City of Fredrikstad
Asmar Fares, Project Manager, Vad Säger Du?" & Nordic Pioneers
Mikkel Christensen, Senior Advisor, Nordic Safe Cities
My Bergklint, Program Lead, Nordic Safe Cities

Crown 3rd floor

#### **SESSION 2: EMPOWER YOUTH TO SHAPE DEMOCRACY**

This session focuses on empowering youth to create a more cohesive, equal, and inclusive future. Participants will explore the infrastructure needed to engage young people in decision-making processes and leave inspired with practical tools for positive societal change. We will talk about the generational divide, addressing trust across generations, and the influence of social media on youth understanding of democracy. Additionally, we will examine how sport and culture can be used for social change and how structured financial support, and organizational frameworks can facilitate youth engagement and what we, as societies, cities and people can do to empower youth to shape the future.

Erle Harsvik, Project Coordinator, Nordic Pioneers, Nordic Safe Cities Lars Trägårdh, Professor of History, Uppsala University Ingrid Tollånes, Head of Grants, Gjensidigestiftelsen Souhail Abdeddaim, Project Manager, GAME Denmark Elsa Mantere, Senior Advisor, The Association of Finnish Cities and Municipalities Maymi Asgari, Content Creator, Football Coach, Nordic Pioneers Winner 2024 Christine Ravn Lund, Chair of the Danish Youth Council Stina Liljekvist, Chairman of the Board, Skandia - Ideas for life Lotte Fast Carlsen, Deputy Director, Nordic Safe Cities Ronas F. Korkmaz, Head of Nordic Pioneers, Nordic Safe Cities



NORDIC

Queen 3rd floor

#### **SESSION 3: A SAFE DIGITAL DEMOCRACY**

This session will focus on how to address online hate, misinformation and information manipulation that threatens democratic values, processes, and social cohesion between individuals, groups, and communities. This is a case-based session where knowledge is put to action by trying to solve a fictive case of hyper-local misinformation spreading across platforms leading to polarization, threats and an erosion of social cohesion at a local level. We will discuss recruitment into digital subcultures, hybrid threats and the state of Nordic democracies while highlighting efforts aimed at preventing digital insecurity, combating online harassment and polarization.

Tobias Bornakke, Chair, Nordic Think Tank for Tech & Democracy Jakub Kalenský, Deputy Director, Community of Interest Hybrid Influence, The European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats Anni Marquard, Founder and Executive Director, Center for Digital Pedagogic (CfDP) Erin Saltman, Membership & Programs Director, The Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT) Camila Salazar Atías, Criminologist & Senior Specialist, Fryshuset Bente Kalsnes, Professor, Political Communication, Kristiania University College & Member of the Nordic Think Tank for Tech & Democracy Sebastian Jørgensen, Head of Digital Prevention, Nordic Safe Cities Ingvild Endestad, Head of Tech & Democracy, Nordic Safe Cities

#### **SESSION 4: GROW SAFE NEIGHBOURHOODS**

This session will focus on how we can grow safe and local neighbourhoods to avoid the deepening of segregation and crime and recruitment to gangs. We will prioritize Nordic experiences on youth crime and gang recruitment while highlighting specific experiences and efforts to prevent this. A specific focus will centre on promoting social, physical, and economic investments in vulnerable, segregated neighbourhoods to make them safer and more inclusive. Additionally, we will offer advice and troubleshooting with municipalities, helping them to enhance their structures for more efficient and effective early prevention work. King 3rd floor

Hazeliussalen 5th floor

Anneli Portman, Senior Specialist, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)
Karin Svanberg, Head of Development of Crime Prevention Work, Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention
Helene Bengtson, Head of Administration, Welfare and Care, City of Sundbyberg
Patrik Tengberg, Chairman of the Social and Labor Market Board, City of Sundbyberg
Kasper Fisker, Nordic Safe Cities Advisor
Christoffer Bohman, Safety Advisor, Skandia – Ideas for Life
Louise Buch Viftrup, Head of Social Housing Program, The Housing Association of Brabrand
Pekka Timonen, Mayor, City of Vantaa
Lawen Redar, Member of the Swedish Parliament
Amir Ranjbar, Leader, Wild X & Nordic Pioneers

## WRAP-UP, NEXT STEPS AND NETWORKING LUNCH 13.00

The Forum is scheduled to conclude at 14.00



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The thematic focus of the Nordic Democracy Forum 2024

#### A DEMOCRACY FOR ALL

- o Foster an inclusive democracy for all, where every citizen feels valued, listened to and actively engaged.
- o Combat polarisation, segregation and marginalisation and strengthen the ability to engage in dialogue and disagreement to be together in our democracy.
- Promote equality amongst all citizens and build trust in our democratic systems and public institutions and between communities and different demographic groups.
- o Support human rights, respect the rule of law, and tackle discrimination and anti-democratic sentiments.

#### **EMPOWER YOUTH TO SHAPE DEMOCRACY**

- o Cultivate and promote a democratic mindset, culture, and resilience in the next generation by equipping children and youth with democratic,
  - critical and social skills as well as digital literacy competencies.
- o Include youth in decision-making and policy formulation, with a special view to underrepresented, vulnerable and marginalised young people.
- o Support and encourage young people to engage in democracy and efforts to build more inclusive communities.

#### A SAFE DIGITAL DEMOCRACY

- Shield youth from digital harms and bolster digital democratic resilience by addressing online polarization, hate, extremism, and recruitment to toxic environments. Ensure that ongoing efforts effectively consider both on- and offline dynamics.
- o Support a free and safe culture of expression and counter harassment and hateful speech directed at elected officials and targeted minorities.
- Prevent and counter manipulation of information that undermine democratic values, processes and social cohesion between individuals, groups and communities.



# Participant list

# 2024

#### A

Adam Solovej AKVAH, Jewish Community Agata Aleksandra Krause United Nations Human Settlements Programme Alexandra Nordlander The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency Allison Curtis Strong Cities Network Amani Loubani Deputy Mayor of Malmö Amir Ranjbar Wild X & Nordic Pioneers Anders Carlsson Embassy of Sweden in Denmark Anders Strindberg Swedish Defence Research Agency Andrea Liebman Swedish Psychological Defence Agency Andrea Martine Bergan Nordic Safe Cities Andreas Brännstrøm Deputy Mayor of Sarpsborg Ane Marte Ringstad Sparebankstiftelsen DNB Anna Strempel Swedish Security Service Anna Kristindóttir City of Reykjavik Anna König Jerlmyr Nordic Safe Cities Board **Anne Talsnes** Ministry of Culture and Equality, Norway **Anneli Portman** Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare Anni Marquard Center for Digital Youth Care Ann-Sofie Stude Nordic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland Anu Juvonen Demo Finland **Asmar Fares** 'Vad säger du?' & Nordic Pioneers Aud Kolberg Norwegian Ambassador to Sweden

#### В

Bente Kalsnes Nordic Think Tank for Tech and DemocracyBjarne Woll City of TromsøBjarni K. Petersen Minister for Justice, The Faroe Islands

Elin Solberg Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Norway Elisabet Modée Ministry of Justice, Sweden Ellen Reiss City of Fredrikstad Ellen Åberg The Swedish Association of Youth Councils Elsa Mantere The Finnish Association of Municipalities Emil Mønster Nordic Safe Cities Emilie Mehl Minister for Justice, Norway Erik Kruse City of Fredrikstad Erin Saltman Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT) Erle Harsvik Nordic Safe Cities & Nordic Pioneers Eske Vinther-Jensen Common Consultancy Eva Lindh The Swedish Parliament

#### F

Fred Østli City of Bodø Fredrik Alfredsson City of Stockholm

Brit Stakston Swedish Center for Preventing Violent Extremism

С

Camila Salazar Atías CIDES, Fryshuset Camilla Madeleine Strøm City of Skien Carl Heath Research Institute of Sweden (RISE) & Nordic Think Tank for Tech and Democracy Cathrine Thorleifsson The Norwegian Government's Commission on Extremism Cecilie Stokke Bærum Municipality Charlotte Storm Gregersen City of Aarhus Christian Mogensen Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark Christine Ravn Lund Danish Youth Council Christoffer Bohman Skandia - Ideas for Life Cristoffer Tidelius Swedish Center for Preventing Violent Extremism

#### D

Daniel Sazonov Deputy Mayor of Helsinki
Daniel Janouch Jewish Youth Association
David Billgren Embassy of Sweden in Denmark
Dina Hussein Meta

#### Ε

Eemil Nuuttila City of Helsinki Eliana Hercz Dialogpilotene Fredrik Timell TikTok Frida Orring Microsoft

#### G

Gitte Wille Nordic Culture Point Gunnar Strömmer Minister for Justice, Sweden Gunvor Kronman Hanaholmen Guðný Bára Jónsdóttir City of Reykjavik

#### Η

Haakon Kvenna Veum Deputy Mayor of Bærum Municipality
Hannah Pollack Sarnecki Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI)
Hans Wallmark Swedish Ambassador to Denmark
Hege Hansen City of Oslo
Helene Bengtson City of Sundbyberg
Helge Flø Kvamsås Ministry for Culture and Equality, Norway
Henri Rikander City of Tampere

#### 

Ida Knudsen Swedish Psychological Defence Agency Inger Brokka de Ruiter Deputy Mayor of Arendal Ingrid Zetterman Minister for Internal and EU Affairs, Åland Ingrid Tollånes Gjensidigestiftelsen Ingrid Aspelund The European Wergeland Centre Ingvild Endestad Nordic Safe Cities

#### J

Jair Melchoir Jewish Community, Denmark Jakub Kalensky The European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats (Hybrid CoE) Jakub Olek TikTok Javeria Rizvi-Kabani The Swedish Institute Jens-Kristian Lütken Mayor of Copenhagen Jeppe Albers Nordic Safe Cities Jessica Nordström Sikkar Postkodstiftelsen Joakim Berntson Aase Gjensidigestiftelsen Johanne Marie Benitez Nilsen City of Kristiansand Jonas Morian Swedish Media Publishers' Association Jonas Berg City of Helsingborg Jonny Røsok Hansen City of Tromsø Jørn Inge Næss Nordic Safe Cities Board Julia Nordvang Johansen Nordic Council of Ministers

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Kjerstin Owren City of Oslo
Klara Stenkvist Sverok, the Swedish Gaming Federation
Kristin Elnæs National Police Directorate, Norway
Kristina Miskowiak Beckvard Danish Ambassador to Sweden
Kristine Storesletten Sødal Arkivet, Peace and Human Rights Centre

#### L

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#### Μ

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Martin Ruby Meta
Martina Lindberg National Operations Department, the Swedish Police Authority
Mathias Bernander Mayor of Kristiansand
Maymi Asgari Asgari Freestyle & Nordic Pioneers
Micalie Hunt Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT)
Miila Lukkarinen City of Helsinki
Mikkel Rye Christensen Nordic Safe Cities
Minna Bodin The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
Minna Frydén Bonnier Wallenberg Office
Moa Tivell Al Sweden
Morten Frølich Nordic Safe Cities
My Bergklint Nordic Safe Cities

Markus Hammarstrøm City of Vantaa

#### Ν

Naghm El KarhiliGlobal Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT)Naima GrossmanJewish Youth AssociationNatalia KallioAuthor & Nordic PioneersNatasha Al-HaririTrygfondenNatasha Ferguson FinsethCity of SkienNelli JaaskalanenCity of VantaaNicklas StavnarTinius TrustNiklas WilhelmssonMinistry of Justice, FinlandNooh DibFlamman: Socialt förebyggande centrum & Nordic Pioneers

#### 0

Olav Hesseldahl Grundlovsfesten **Onni Sarvela** EXIT Finland Deaconess Institute

#### Ρ

Patrik Tengberg City of Sundbyberg Pekka Timonen Mayor of Vantaa Per Hyden Agera Värmland Per-Erik Ebbeståhl City of Malmö Pia Toftdal Finn Nørgaard Foreningen

#### R

**Rafi Farouq** Flamman: Socialt förebyggande centrum Rasmus Lindqvist The Government of Åland Rebecca Krus Ministry of Culture, Sweden Riikka Åstrand Deputy Mayor of Vantaa Riikka Nenonen City of Vantaa Rikke Møller Larsen City of Aalborg **Robert Kindroth** Swedish Center for Preventing Violent Extremism Robin Andersson Malmros Nordic Safe Cities Advisor Ronas Korkmaz Nordic Safe Cities & Nordic Pioneers

#### S

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#### U

Ulas Karademir IO Interactive Ulrika Modéer Red Cross, Sweden

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#### Ζ

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#### Ø/Ö

Ørjan Fossheim City of Arendal Örjan Wallin Swedish Agency for Support to Faith Communities Özlem Cekic Brobyggerne

**Stefan Holmgren** Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society Stefan Ränk Einar Mattsson AB Stian Eisenträger Faktisk.no Stian Berg Renstrøm City of Arendal Stina Liljekvist Skandia - Ideas for Life Susanne Hansen Jewish Community, Denmark



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