

Presentation 26 mars 2019



Agenda

1. Introduction and presentation
2. The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention and statistics
3. Swedish legislation regarding hate crime and discrimination
4. Agency governance
5. The national plan to combat racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime
6. National strategy for Roma inclusion
7. National strategy for LGBT equality
8. Discussion/questions



The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention and statistics



The National Council for Crime Prevention

A knowledge centre for the criminal justice system

Statistics

- Swedish crime statistics
- Statistical surveys

Research and development

- Initiates and conducts research and development work

Crime prevention

- Developing national support and coordination for local crime prevention work



Hate crime statistics

Statistics

- Statistics on police reports with identified hate crime motives
- Self-reported exposure to hate crime

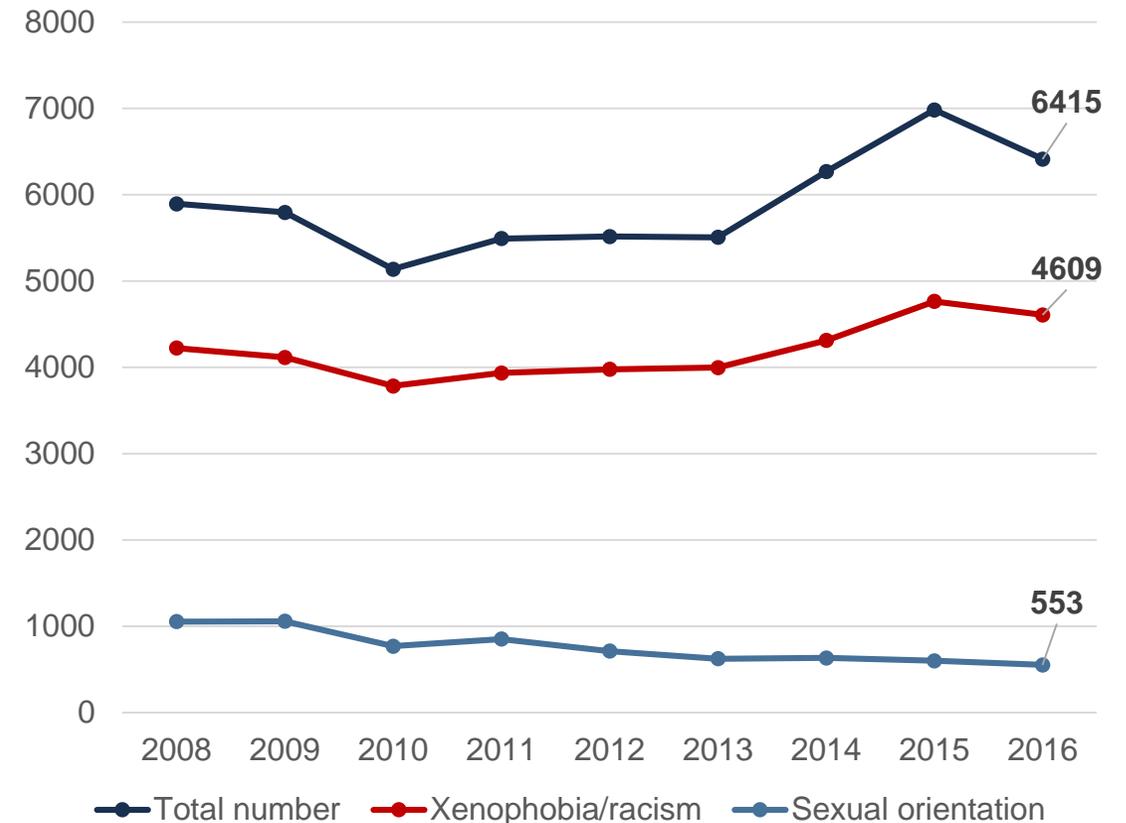
Studies

- A more in-depth analysis based on the answers in the Swedish Crime Survey



Police reports with identified hate crime motives

- Can give:
 - An indication on how hate crime is noted in police reports
 - Information on the events reported
- Can not give:
 - The prevalence of hate crime in society



The Swedish Crime Survey

- Approximately 145,000 individuals (1.9 per cent of the population, aged 16–79) were victims of xenophobic hate crimes over the course of 2015
- Approximately 23,000 individuals (0.3 per cent of the population) were victims of homophobic hate crimes
- Compared to previous years, the level of victimisation can be viewed as relatively stable



Swedish legislation regarding hate crime and discrimination



Chapter 16, Section 8

A person who, in a statement or other communication that is disseminated, threatens or expresses contempt for a population group by allusion to race, colour, national or ethnic origin, religious belief, sexual orientation or transgender identity or expression is guilty of *agitation against a population group* and is sentenced to imprisonment for at most two years or, if the offence is minor, to a fine.

If the offence is gross, the person is guilty of *gross agitation against a population group* and is sentenced to imprisonment for at least six months and at most four years. In assessing whether the offence is gross, particular consideration is given to whether the communication had particularly threatening or offensive content and was disseminated to a large number of people in a way that was liable to attract considerable attention.



Chapter 16, Section 9

A business operator who, in their business activities, discriminates against a person on grounds of race, colour, national or ethnic origin, religious belief, sexual orientation or transgender identity or expression by not assisting that person on the terms and conditions the operator applies to others in their business activities is guilty of *unlawful discrimination* and is sentenced to a fine or imprisonment for at most one year.

The provisions of the first paragraph about a business operator also apply to anyone who is employed in business activities or otherwise acts on behalf of a business operator, and to anyone who is employed in public service or holds elected office.

An organiser of a public gathering or event, and anyone who aids such an organiser, who discriminates against a person on grounds of their race, colour, national or ethnic origin, religious belief, sexual orientation or transgender identity or expression by refusing them access to the gathering or event on the terms and conditions applied to others is also guilty of unlawful discrimination.



Chapter 29, Section 2

In assessing penal value, the following aggravating circumstances shall be given special consideration in addition to what is applicable to each and every type of crime:

[...]

7. whether a motive for the crime was to aggrieve a person, ethnic group or some other similar group of people by reason of race, colour, national or ethnic origin, religious belief, sexual orientation, transgender identity or expression or other similar circumstance, or

[...]



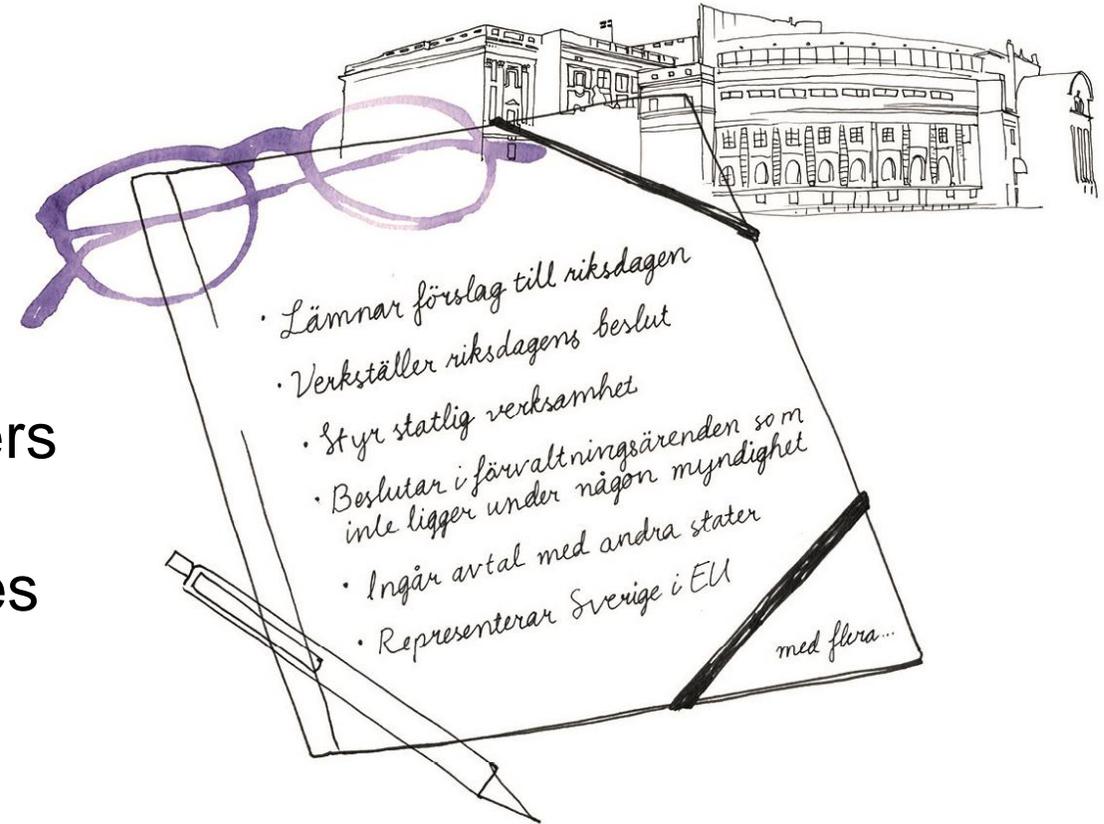
Agency governance



The Government's responsibilities

Some examples:

- Presents proposals to the Riksdag
- Implements decisions taken by the Riksdag
- Directs central government activities
- Takes decisions in administrative matters that do not come under any agency
- Enters into agreements with other states
- Represents Sweden in the EU



Statement of Government Policy

Goals and priorities for the Government's policy in the coming year.



Organisation

- Support the Government in governing the country and putting its policies into practice.
- 4 800 officials



Tasks

- The legislative process
- The budget process and **agency governance**
- Government business
- Work at EU and international level
- External communication
- Special projects and programmes
- Internal support and development



Authorities

- Strong autonomy
- Directed by:
 - Laws
 - Government instructions – main tasks and framework
 - Annual appropriation directions – budget allocations
 - Special assignments

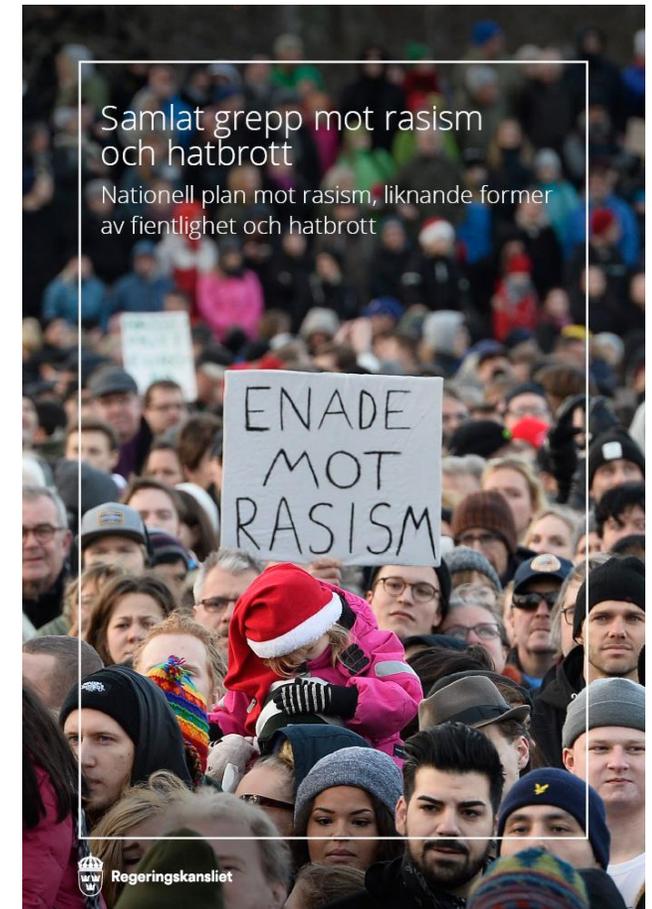


National plan against racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime



National plan against racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime

- Adopted in November 2016
- Objective: strategic, effective and coherent work to combat racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime in Sweden.
- Comprehensive approach
- Also targeted approach
(Afrophobia, anti-Semitism, anti-Gypsyism, Islamophobia, racism against Sami, homophobia, biphobia and transphobia)
- Funding/year: EUR 2 100 000 – 2 900 000



National plan against racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime

- **Strategic areas**

- Improved coordination and monitoring
- More knowledge, education and research
- Civil society: greater support and more in-depth dialogue
- Strengthening preventive measures online
- A more active legal system

- **Living history forum**

- Responsible for coordination and monitoring of the plan
- Exchange of experiences, dissemination of knowledge and information.



National plan against racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime

- Living history forum: extensive training initiative about racism and similar forms of hostility
- Several measures within the legal system
- Swedish Media Council implements the No Hate Speech Movement campaign
- More funding to civil society projects
- More dialogue with civil society
- Several targeted measures



National strategy for Roma inclusion



National strategy for Roma inclusion

- The overall goal: a Roma who turns 20 years in 2032 is to have the same opportunities in life as a non-Roma
- A strengthening of the minorities policy
- Human rights and the principle of non-discrimination
- Assignments to several public agencies
- Pilot scheme at municipal level



National strategy for Roma inclusion

- White Paper on abuses and rights violations of Roma during the 1900s
 - Commission against anti-Gypsyism
 - Inquiry on how to establish a national center for Roma issues
-
- Funding/year: 1 400 000 – 1 500 000 EUR



National strategy for LGBT equality



National strategy for LGBT equality

- A long term strategy for LGBT equality was introduced in 2014,
- It is a platform for a more joint up approach and it gives a clearer role and mandate to some strategic agencies.
- There has been a lot of development in this area since the strategy was introduced and new initiatives has been introduced on yearly basis
- Inquiry on situation of transgender persons



National strategy for LGBT equality

Examples of legal changes since 2014

- Compensation to persons who have been affected by the repealed sterilization requirement in the Legal Gender recognition.
- Extended protection under criminal law for transgender people

Also, the government is currently revising the law related to gender recognition



National strategy for LGBT equality

Examples of policy measures since 2014

- New agencies with a strategic LGBT remit
- Information and guidance for the care and treatment of persons with intersex conditions
- Open, inclusive schooling for LGBT persons
- Increased reporting of hate crimes amongst transgender persons
- Better knowledge about violence affecting LGBT people
- victim support services for LGBT persons
- Suicide prevention focusing on transgender persons

