



Presentation of the Sweden Democrats

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A word from Jimmie Åkesson, party chairman

The state of Western countries, and Europe in particular, is unfortunately in decline. I see ever more signs of Europe, of course including Sweden, giving in to demands from dictatorships, often Muslim ones, as well as the growing Muslim population in the West. I see a weak Europe which does not dare to stand up for Western values and the society we have created for ourselves. Instead we are being forced to abandon our ideals in favour of ideologies based on violence and tyranny.

This development has been very prominent in Sweden.

As a result of multiculturalism, relativism and mass immigration, Sweden has given up on its roots and that which has made this country so great in the past. Instead of cherishing our way of life, we have left the initiative to the other side, where the Socialists and Islamists lurk.

As chairman of the Sweden Democrats, I can safely say that our mission is to counter this development. As the only party in Sweden that is critical of mass immigration, Islam and the multicultural society, we have an important role to play in Swedish politics.

There is no doubt that there is a strong support for Israel within our ranks, which is founded on a natural alliance between two democratic countries, both facing the onslaught of Islam. Our party has a strong track record of opposing anti-Semitism, and we do not allow the Left to hijack such an issue.

For our fight to uphold those Swedish and Western values that bind us together, against increasing Islamization, against the multiculturalist and relativist ideologies that today hold Sweden in a firm grip, we have been subjected to many types of attack; from physical attacks with tear gas, knives and stones, to being fired from our jobs and being disbarred from unions. There has been a great toll to pay, but I and those who support us feel that it has been and continues to be worth it.

A large share of the Swedish population are waiting for change on these issues, and that change will come from us, the Sweden Democrats.

Yours sincerely,



Jimmie Åkesson
Party Chairman
Sweden Democrats

2 - Presentation of the Sweden Democrats

The Sweden Democrats were founded in 1988 as a national-conservative party with a strong support for the basic elements in the Swedish welfare system. The current chairman of the party, Jimmie Åkesson, was elected in 2005.

The main objectives of the Sweden Democrats are to:

- **Restore the sense of a common identity in Sweden** through reduced immigration, a strengthening of the Swedish culture and the abolishment of multiculturalism in favour of assimilation.
- **Strengthen traditional values, Christian ethics, the nuclear family and the sovereignty of the Swedish state.**
- **Enhance the economic growth through increased support to small companies** in form of lower taxation and simplified rules.
- **Improve the condition for the elderly citizens** through increased resources elderly care and increased pensions for the poorest elders.
- **Restore the sense of security and law and order** through harder sentences for criminals and increased resources and powers to the police and the border control.



Jimmie Åkesson, chairman of the Sweden Democrats.

Results from public elections

In every election since 1988 the Sweden Democrats have increased their share of the Swedish votes. The growth during the early years was slow but now seems to accelerate thanks to a more competent leadership and a changing image.

Elections to the national parliament (Riksdagen)

1998: Number of votes: 19 624 Percentage: 0,4 %

2002: Number of votes: 76 300 Percentage: 1,44 %

2006: Number of votes: 162 463 Percentage: 2,93 %

Elections to the regional parliaments (Landstingen)

1988- 2002: 0 seats

2006: 16 seats in 3 different regions.



Sweden Democrats celebrate the results of the election in 2006.

Elections to the local municipalities (Kommunerna)

1998: 8 seats in 5 municipalities

2002: 50 seats in 30 municipalities

2006: 282 seats in 145 municipalities

Elections to the European parliament

1999: Number of votes: 8 569 Percentage: 0,33 %

2004: Number of votes: 28 303 Percentage: 1,13 %

Besides this, the Sweden Democrats also hold 4 seats in the national assembly of the Swedish Protestant Church, and in the special youth election (Ungt val) organised prior to the general elections in 2006 the Sweden Democrats gained 11.9 percent of the votes and established itself as the third largest party among young people in Sweden.

Most opinion polls after the last election have shown that the support for the Sweden Democrats is increasing and that the party will pass the 4 %-limit, required to enter the national parliament, in the upcoming national elections of 2010.

In march this year, the leading institute of public opinion, Synovate-Temo, published an analysis showing that the Sweden Democrats will probably get 4,3 – 8,6 percent of the votes in the next election.



Sweden Democrats demonstrate during the election to the European parliament in 2004.

3 - Cooperation and Comparison with other parties

The Sweden Democrats have never been a formal member of any international political group. During 2008 however, the party established contacts with the European party group, Alliance for Europe of the nations, AEN, and have recently been accepted as an observing member of that group. If we should we win a seat in the European parliament, we would apply for membership in the Union for Europe of the nations, UEN.

In the 1990's the party had some informal contact with Front National in France, and the youth organization of the Sweden Democrats, SDU, became an observing member of the youth-wing of Euro-Nat. It soon became clear that this was a big mistake on our part, and that the political differences between SDU and some of the other members of Euro-Nat were too big to be acceptable, so a year later the Sweden Democratic Youth left the cooperation altogether. Today the Sweden Democrats have no contact with Front National or any other party that used to belong to the Euro-Nat group.

In more recent years the Sweden Democrats have had some informal contacts with the Danish Peoples Party on a regional and local level and the youth organizations of the parties have had some formal contacts. Since the beginning of October 2008 SDU is a member of the political group "Ungdom för ett nordiskt nord" (Youth for a Nordic North) together with the youth organization of the Danish Peoples Party and the True Finns of Finland. The group is a part of the Nordic Children and Youth Committee which is the province of the Nordic Council.

In our view the Danish Peoples Party is the European party that resembles most of the Sweden Democrats in political terms. The only main differences between the policies of the parties, as we see it, is that the Danish Peoples Party has some more far-reaching suggestions concerning immigrants and immigration and that the Sweden Democrats have a more conservative stand in some issues concerning the nuclear family and traditional values.

Is the Sweden Democrats a racist party?

As most other parties in Europe who want to restrict immigration, the Sweden Democrats have often been accused by our opponents and left-wing media for being "extreme", "xenophobic" and "racist". Is there any truth to these accusations?

As in most cases the truth lies in the eye of the beholder, but below we list some relevant information on the matter: **Our current program says:**

"The UN-declaration on human rights is essential to the policies of the Sweden Democrats. The party strongly condemns discrimination on the basis of gender, religion, political view or ethnical background"

"The party condemn multiculturalism as well as racism and teaching where the ethnic origin is the only, or most important aspect when deciding if a person is, should be, or could be a part of our nation."

The following has been said by some authorities on the subject:

"The Sweden Democrats are not nazis or racists. The Sweden Democrats are not anti-democratic extremists but a parliamentary party."

- From the state funded report conducted by the government authority "Centrum för invandrarforskning" (Center for immigrant research), 1997.

"The Sweden Democrats are not right-wing extremists, nor racists nor fascists"

- Helene Lööw, doctor of history, expert on right wing extremism in Sweden and an outspoken opponent to the policies of the Sweden Democrats in the leading newspaper "Dagens Nyheter" 1998-12-05.

A famous left-wing writer, debater and journalist in Sweden, Jan Guillou, followed our party chairman during a week and came to the same conclusion as the quotes above, namely that we are not racist or anything like that. In an radio interview Guillou said the following:

"I met a completely different party than I expected. I still had the picture of the Sweden Democrats as skinheads and as racists, but they are not anymore. So that was a surprising insight"

- Jan Guillou on [radio P1](#) on the 19th of Februari 2009

And:

"Such things can be met with honest political argumentation – it is not good enough to disregard these opponents as "racist", because it is not true"

- - Jan Guillou in [Aftonbladet](#) 12th of April 2009

More immigrant candidates than the Social Democrats:

Before the last election of 2006, public service radio (Sveriges Radio) conducted a study which showed that 16% of the Sweden Democrats candidates to the municipalities were immigrants. This was a higher percentage than for the Conservative party, the Christian democrats, the Agrarian party and the Social democrats.

We acknowledge and learn from our mistakes

We believe that the information above should at least indicate that the Sweden Democrats are not a racist or xenophobic party and it is our firm belief that our political opponents only keep calling us these things in order to block a serious debate concerning the problem that Sweden are experiencing as a result of mass immigration and multiculturalism.

However, we will not hide the fact that we have made serious mistakes in our past that have made it a lot easier for our opponents to put these labels on us.

Most of these mistakes were made between the years of 1991 and 1994. During these years the party was temporarily radicalised due to bad leadership and the fact that the anti-immigration, populist party "Ny Demokrati" (New Democracy), was formed, reached the national parliament and drained our party on most of its more established members.

The worst of these mistakes was that the party didn't distance itself from radical youths with sub cultural looks and that these were allowed to participate in some of the party demonstrations.

In 1995 New Democracy collapsed and the Sweden Democrats elected a new party leader. Since then we have been working very hard to distance ourselves from all forms of extremism, to learn from our mistakes and to change our image.

Today the Sweden Democrats are a totally different party than it was between 1991 and 1994. Almost all members from those years have left the party or have been kicked out and all members of the national board joined the party after that period.

4 - Israel and anti-Semitism

In regards to Israel and anti-Semitism, we have been very clear on our position in regards to this. To show some of the actions we as a party have taken, below are examples of actions that leading members of the party have taken; in the form of bills in local parliaments where we are represented and in the form of events and statements.

1) Bill to establish a “twin town” in Israel

Translation:

090218

SD Perstorp places bill on twin town in Israel

The Sweden Democrats in Perstorp has places a bill where they suggest that the municipality of Perstorp should contact an appropriate city in Israel if that city wants to become a twin city with Perstorp.

Link:

[Http://www.sdkuriren.se/blog/index.php/partiet/2009/02/18/sd_perstorp_motionerar_om_vanort_i_israel](http://www.sdkuriren.se/blog/index.php/partiet/2009/02/18/sd_perstorp_motionerar_om_vanort_i_israel)

2) Sweden Democrats celebrates Israel's 60th birthday

Translation:

080518

Sweden Democrats celebrated Israel's 60th birthday

Today, Sunday the 18th of May, some Sweden Democrats attended the manifestation for Israel's 60th birthday in Gothenburg. .



It was a very successful event, that clearly showed the difference between the hateful Left, that under massive police surveillance shouted and scream against the pro-israel manifestation, while the friends of Israel concentrated on singing, dancing and joy with Israel on its 60th birthday.

The event was concluded with both the swedish and israeli national anthems. When the swedish national anthem was played, the pro-palestinian sympathisers boomed and screamed behind the police inclosure.



Photo: Kent Ekeröth. In the middle of the picture is the party secretary, Björn Söder, a strong friend of Israel.

Link:

http://www.sdkuriren.se/blog/index.php/inrikes/2008/05/18/sverigedemokrater_firade_israels_60_arsd

Note: SD Kuriren is the official party newspaper

3) Bill regarding “The Swedish church has not let go of antisemitism”

In the parliament of the Swedish church, where we are represented, the Sweden Democrats places a bill calling for the Swedish church not to support negative political actions against Israel.

Link:

http://www.sdkuriren.se/blog/index.php/inrikes/2008/10/24/svenska_kyrkan_har_inte_slappt_antisemit

4) Press release: “the Sweden Democrats arrange manifestation against anti-Semitism”

Translation:

The Sweden Democrats arrange manifestation against antisemitism

2008-11-07 13:54

The Sweden Democrats will on Sunday the 9th of November arrange their own manifestation against antisemitism, in memory of the horrific events that took place during the Crystal Night.

William Petzäll, vice chairman in the Sweden Democrats Youth movement, explains the background to the manifestation:

- There were many that after the second world war thought that antisemitism was a closed chapter and that people had learned from what happened. That did not happen. Reports show that antisemitism is spreading, also here in Sweden, where both right wing extremist, left wing extremist and islamists are practising a strong antijewish propaganda, where the last two groups have rarely been noticed by the media, which is deeply tragic. That antisemitism only exists within nazi groups is wrong. Reports from among other the Swedish Committe against Antisemitism shows that antisemitic values are common among islamist groups and reports from Forum for Living History even show that these values are strongest among muslims.

- The Sweden Democrats means that if you are serious about fighting antisemitism, then you must also dare to talk about the difference faces of antisemitism and how you shall counter the groups that spread it. We are the only Swedish political party to take this position.

- We are also worried that other parties and youth movements use the Crystal Night to agitate against everything from the Sweden Democrats and capitalism and Israel. We believe that a day as the Crystal Night should pay attention to the horrible events that took place and put a llight on the increasing antisemitism, and not focus on party politic agitation or anti israeli propaganda.

Link:

<http://www.newsdesk.se/pressroom/sverigedemokraterna/pressrelease/view/sverigedemokraterna-anordnar-manifestation-mot-antisemitism-251880>

5) Debate in defence of Israel, by Sweden Democrats Youth movement chairman, Erik Almqvist

Link:

http://media.virtuelldialog.se/kfl090226/Hq_kfl0902261.wmv (3 hours and 3 minutes in)

Translation/transcript:

6) Press release: SD wants to intensify the fight against anti-Semitism in Malmö

Sten Andersson, former conservative MP and now deputy mayor in the city of Malmö for the Swedish Democrats, intends to honour the victims of Holocaust by attending the ceremony held by the Jewish congregation in Malmö on the day for commemoration of the Holocaust. Today the party has also put forward a bill in the City council suggesting that the city of Malmö shall study the forces behind modern day anti-Semitism and intensify the fight against anti-Semitism among children and youths.

-The Holocaust and its victims must never be forgotten. For that reason I will, just like I did last year, participate in the ceremony held by the Jewish congregation on the day for commemoration of the Holocaust on the 27: th of January. I hope that more politicians from the liberal and socialist parties will join me this year, Sten Andersson says.

- Unfortunately anti-Semitism did not end with the Holocaust. It is constantly reborn in new shapes and forms and sadly today it looks stronger than ever. For this reason, the Sweden Democrats have today put forward a bill to the city council suggesting that a study shall be performed in order to reveal the forces behind today's anti-Semitism. We are also suggesting that the city council adopts a powerful plan to intensify the fight against the growth of these awful ideas among children and youths in Malmö, Sten Andersson concludes.

Link: <http://www.newsdesk.se/pressroom/sverigedemokraterna/pressrelease/view/sverigedemokraterna-i-malmoe-vill-motverka-antisemitism-191684>

7) Party news: The Sweden Democrats held a manifestation to honour the victims of Holocaust

Tonight the Sweden Democrats held a manifestation in the city of Karlskrona to honour the memory of the victims of Holocaust and other genocides in the world. The SD meeting was disturbed by aggressive protestors from the far-left.

Speeches were held by Richard Jomshof, editor of the party newspaper SD-Kuriren, and by Jimmie Åkesson, Party leader.

Richard Jomshof spoke mostly about the horrors of the Nazi death-camps and expressed his concerns over the growing anti-Semitism in Sweden, but he also spoke about other genocides in history.

Jomshof strongly expressed his support for Israel and the Jewish people and blamed mass immigration and Islam for the growing anti-Semitism in Sweden.

- *It's no coincidence that books like "Mein Kampf" is on the bestseller-lists in many Muslim countries. It's also no coincidence that organisations like Hamas and Hizbollah have included excerpts from this book in their political manifests. We must dare to understand that the Muslim mass immigration to Sweden are resulting in an increasing anti-Semitism,* said Richard Jomshof.

Jimmie Åkesson spoke about the dangers with the establishment's strategy of comparing democratic, anti-mass immigration parties like the Sweden Democrats with the Nazis of the second world war.

- *These cynical campaigns diminish the tragedy brought on the Jewish people by the Nazi terror and it diminishes the real danger of the real National Socialism and the growing anti-Semitism,* Jimmie Åkesson said.

Link: <http://www.sdkuriren.se/nyheter.php?action=fullnews&id=2306>

8) Leading activist rewarded with the Herzl award:

In 2006 the leading Sweden Democratic activist, Ted Ekeroth, (brother of our international secretary, Kent Ekeroth) was rewarded with the Herzl award for his work for the Jewish people by the Swedish Zionist Federation.

Link:

<http://www.jewishagency.org/JewishAgency/English/Home/Jewish+Agency+Resources/JAFI+WZO+Related+Sites/WZO/HERZL/Herzl+Award+Recipients.htm>



Ted Ekeroth, receiver of the Herzl award, together with his brother Kent Ekeroth, international secretary of the Sweden democrats.

5 - EU, Turkey & Lisbon treaty

Our views on the European Union

As mentioned earlier, one of the main objectives for the Sweden Democrats is to strengthen the sovereignty of the Swedish state. This view makes us a natural opponent to European federalism. The Sweden Democrats oppose the European Union in its current form. The party wants a strong European cooperation concerning environmental issues, trade, peace keeping, education and the fight against organised crime, but we firmly believe that all decision making should take place on a bilateral level.

For the time being we will work within the European union for a less federal Europe, but if it turns out to be impossible to change the current direction, then the Sweden Democrats want Sweden to start negotiating to find a responsible and friendly way to leave the union. Perhaps by taking one step back to a position similar to the current of Norway and Switzerland.

The Sweden Democrats say **no** to:

- a higher Swedish membership fee
- the Lisbon treaty and European constitution
- a Swedish membership in the monetary union
- a common European military force
- a Turkish membership in the European union

6 - Our view on Islam and religious freedom

From the section “Questions and answers” on our webpage

“We support the notion that every individual shall have the right to believe in whatever god or gods he or she choose to. This is what we believe to be religious freedom. At the same time there has to be a limit for the freedom under religion. Sooner or later one persons freedom will come in conflict with another persons. It is when the belief is transformed to action that we believe there have to be a limit for the freedom of religion. Muslims should have the right to believe in Allah and to practice their religion, but Islam is not only a religion but also a political ideology. Islam has complete and totalitarian rules concerning every aspect of society. The realization of this ideology would result in a total transformation of the Swedish society and be in conflict with essential democratic and humanitarian principles as well as current Swedish law and the human rights. This is why we strongly believe that there has to be limits in the practice of Islam in Sweden and that the Swedish society shouldn't not adept in any way to the teachings, principles or demands from Islam”

Link: http://www.sverigedemokraterna.net/asikt_skolwebben_text.php?action=fullnews&id=247

7 - Immigration and multiculturalism

From our program regarding immigration:

Our primary goal is to restore the sense of a common identity in Sweden through reduced immigration, a strengthening of the Swedish culture and the abolishment of multiculturalism in favour of assimilation

“The party condemns multiculturalism as well as racism and teachings where the genetic origin is the only, or most important aspect when deciding if a person is, should be, or could be a part of our nation.”

Mass immigration and the absences of assimilation policies have created cultural conflicts and a number of other problems. In order to keep these problems from worsening, immigration from culturally remote countries should be restricted to a minimum. If mass immigration continues at the current rate it might be necessary to impose a temporary total stop for non-western immigration, until the situation in the country has stabilized.

Link: www.sverigedemokraterna.se (Våra åsikter/Handlingsprogram/Invandringspolitiskt program)