

**STATEMENT OF INTENT
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND
AND
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN**

Europe is facing multiple security challenges and geopolitical uncertainty due to Russia's unprovoked aggression against Ukraine. Finland and Sweden have a shared interest in upholding the fundamental principles of international law, preserving the European security order and security in our neighbourhood and in strengthening the European and Transatlantic cooperation. We emphasize the importance of continued solidarity with and support to Ukraine, in line with our memberships in EU and status as invitees to NATO.

The close defence relationship between our countries is based on decisions taken jointly concerning deepened defence cooperation, for instance the Memorandum of Understanding on Defence Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden signed in 2018 and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden concerning the provision of Host Nation Support for Military Activities signed in 2022.

Our aim is to strengthen this bilateral partnership in security and defence even further. In that way, we contribute more effectively to meet challenges to international peace and security and strengthen multilateral arrangements. Defence cooperation between Finland and Sweden covers peace, crisis and war. It creates prerequisites for combined joint military action and operations in all situations.

Finland and Sweden are committed to support Ukraine and respond to its urgent need of defence material. Bilateral cooperation between our countries can facilitate timely and targeted support.

Consequently, Finland and Sweden have decided to act together, in the framework of our bilateral defence cooperation, to increase our support to the just cause of Ukraine. A delivery of military support by Finland to Ukraine will be made possible through the ongoing joint operational planning between our countries' Armed Forces. This will include reviewing and, if necessary, adjusting the current operational plans. Sweden is prepared to act jointly with Finland if so agreed.

This Statement of Intent is not a legally binding commitment between Sweden and Finland under international or national law. It underlines the mutual trust between our countries, and shows that Finland and Sweden are prepared and ready to act together in peace, crisis and war.

Signed in Ramstein, on 20th day of January 2023, in duplicate.

For the Ministry of Defence
of the Republic of Finland

For the Ministry of Defence
of the Kingdom of Sweden