

Sweden's 6th Report to the Council of Europe under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities



Foreword

Last year, 2025, marked 25 years of work with Sweden's minority policy. Furthermore, 250 years of Jewish life was celebrated in events across the country, with special assignments being given to several government agencies.

The Swedish Government has decided on a number of measures to prevent and combat racism and hate crimes, and this work is continuing based on a new National Action Plan. In 2025, a national strategy was also adopted to strengthen Jewish life and combat antisemitism. Work with minority policy is an integral part of ensuring respect for Sweden's international commitments on human rights.

In 2022, the Government launched a three-year action programme for the preservation and promotion of the national minority languages that included multiple measures to strengthen the survival of these languages. The Government has also provided the language centres for the national minority languages with more long-term preconditions.

In order to support influence and consent, a new Act on consultation in matters concerning the Sami people was introduced in 2022. The Act is based on the principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

In 2023, the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Tornedalians, Kvens and Lantalaïset was presented. The Government has a continuous dialogue with the minority on measures for reconciliation. The final report of the Sami Truth Commission is expected in 2026, which will highlight the Sami people's experiences, disseminate knowledge and propose measures for reconciliation.

Sweden takes its international obligations very seriously and the Government welcomes the constructive dialogue with the Council of Europe as a part of a systematic and continuous monitoring. Sweden also encourages its national minorities to contribute additional perspectives by submitting their comments and views to the Council of Europe.

Parisa Liljestränd

Minister of Culture

PART I – Measures to increase awareness of the results of the fifth monitoring cycle and the Framework Convention

1. Steps taken to publicise the results of the fifth monitoring cycle: publication, dissemination and translation into official languages and minority languages where appropriate

Sweden's fifth report and the Advisory Committee's report have been published on the Government's website. The reports are translated and available in both Swedish and English versions from the Government Offices of Sweden (regeringen.se). The two government agencies responsible for monitoring and coordination of minority policy – the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society (MUCF) and the Sami Parliament – are also responsible for disseminating information via the website www.minoritet.se.

2. Monitoring activities organised at national, regional and local level, including activities organised with the Council of Europe

In April 2024, the Council of Europe and the Government Offices (Ministry of Culture) held a follow-up meeting to discuss conclusions and assessments that emerged in the Fifth Opinion on Sweden of the Council of Europe Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. The purpose of the meeting was to have a dialogue between representatives of the national minorities, the Council of Europe, the Government Offices and central government agencies on the implementation of the Council of Europe's recommendations.

3. Information on the involvement of minority and other civil society organisations in the preparation of the Sixth Report

As part of the preparations for this report and Sweden's 9th Report to the Council of Europe under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, a joint consultation was held with the organisations representing the national minorities in Sweden that received central government grants as a national minority in 2025. The joint consultation took place in February 2026 and was based on those aspects that the minority organisations felt ought to be highlighted in the report. Information about the reporting process was provided at the consultation. Participants in the consultation expressed, among other things, a lack of consequences for government agencies and municipalities for non-compliance with the Act on National Minorities and Minority Languages (2009:724). The importance of sufficient funding for both civil society organisations and municipalities was highlighted, and that efforts and funding need to be long-term. A call for a review of forms of consultation was conveyed. There were also concerns expressed about increased polarisation in society, mainly linked to threats and hatred, and for some minorities also regarding natural resources.

4. Information on measures taken to promote awareness of the Framework Convention

Sweden has chosen to implement the Framework Convention in its national law through a single piece of legislation covering both the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. It follows from this arrangement that work to promote awareness of the Framework Convention primarily aims to promote awareness of the rights of the national minorities. This work also includes broad knowledge-raising activities regarding the national minorities, the minority languages and minorities' culture throughout society. The rights of Sweden's national minorities must be seen in a comprehensive context, and a broad approach is therefore taken when implementing activities to increase knowledge and promote awareness.

Accessible information about the rights of the national minorities

Section 3 of the Act on National Minorities and National Minority Languages requires municipalities and regions to inform the national minorities about their rights and the public sector responsibility. The same applies to central government administrative authorities whose activities are of importance for the national minorities or the minority languages. The proportion of administrative authorities that communicate the rights of national minorities is increasing, but major shortcomings remain. Among other things, in 2024 only about half of the municipalities provided information about the national minorities' rights in preschool, compulsory school and upper secondary school. The differences remain very large between municipalities and regions that are part of the administrative areas and those that are not. A common information channel is websites, but social media and meetings are also used as information channels.

Awareness-raising activities

The Sami Parliament and MUCF are tasked with working to increase knowledge about and understanding of the national minorities and their rights. The Living History Forum is tasked with combating antisemitism and antigypsism among other things. The Living History Forum works actively to spread information and holds exhibitions related to the national minorities. The www.minoritet.se website continues to be an important portal for information about legislation, the Council of Europe's conventions, and Sweden's national minorities.

A central part of the work to action the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Tornedalians, Kvens and Lantalaiset (SOU 2023:68) is to continue to increase knowledge about the minority and its historical experiences.

5. Information on the monitoring of Sweden's minority policy

The development of Sweden's minority policy

Since 1 January 2026, MUCF is the administrative authority for the policy for the national minorities Jews, Roma, Sweden Finns and Tornedalians, as well as the national minority languages Finnish, Meänkieli, Romani Chib and Yiddish. The task includes working to increase knowledge about and understanding of the national minorities and their rights. MUCF is also required to systematically promote cooperation and exchanges of experience between central government agencies, municipalities, regions and other relevant actors. MUCF's tasks are

regulated in the Ordinance with instructions for the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society (2025:900), which means long-term steering of MUCF's responsibilities. Previously, the Stockholm County Administrative Board was responsible for monitoring and coordinating minority policy.

The Sami Parliament is to continue to monitor, evaluate and keep the Government informed about developments in minority policy and the application of the Act on National Minorities and National Minority Languages concerning the Sami people and Sami language. Within its area of responsibility, the Sami Parliament is to cooperate with MUCF in order to monitor and analyse the efforts of public actors in relation to the objective of the policy area, and work towards increasing knowledge about and understanding of the Sami people and their rights. The task includes promoting collaboration and exchanges of experience between central government agencies, municipalities and regions, and providing advice and support to these actors. Given that MUCF has taken over responsibility for monitoring Sweden's minority policy, the instructions for the Sami Parliament will also be reviewed. The aim of this review is to clarify the Sami Parliament's responsibility within the minority policy. The Sami Parliament and representatives of Sami organisations have been consulted on the matter.

The Swedish National Audit Office has examined the Swedish Government's promotion of the national minority languages. The overall conclusion of the Swedish National Audit Office is that the Government's efforts are not sufficient to achieve the goal of keeping the national minority languages alive (Ku2025/00644). The Government largely agrees with the Swedish National Audit Office's observations. The Government is keen to work long-term to keep the minority languages alive and takes seriously the fact that the Government's efforts are not sufficient to achieve the goal of keeping the national minority languages alive. The Government has taken action in response to the report. The measures primarily cover changes to the instructions to the relevant government agencies with the aim of strengthening Sweden's long-term work to support the national minority languages.

PART II – Measures taken to implement the Framework Convention and Recommendations from the fifth monitoring cycle

ARTICLE 3

3.1 Every person belonging to a national minority shall have the right freely to choose to be treated or not to be treated as such and no disadvantage shall result from this choice or from the exercise of the rights which are connected to that choice.

3.2 Persons belonging to national minorities may exercise the rights and enjoy the freedoms flowing from the principles enshrined in the present Framework Convention individually as well as in community with others.

Belonging to one or more of the national minorities is determined based on self-identification. There are no provisions in Swedish legislation that prevent persons who belong to a national minority from enjoying the freedoms stated in this Convention, either as individuals or in a group. See more information under the same article in Sweden's fifth report.

Definition of national minorities

The national minorities for which Sweden applies the Framework Convention have remained unchanged since the last report. The Government is aware that within a minority group, there may be different names for the minority, and the Government therefore strives for an inclusive stance. One example is that the Government, in addition to the name Tornedalians, also uses the names Kvens and Lantalaiset for the group. Sweden has not reviewed the question of whether Forest Finns should also be recognised as a separate minority. *Riksförbundet Skogsfinnars Intressen i Sverige* (the national stakeholder organisation for Forest Finns in Sweden) receives central government grants as a national minority organisation and participates in the consultations organised by the Government.

ARTICLE 4

4.1 The Parties undertake to guarantee to persons belonging to national minorities the right of equality before the law and of equal protection of the law. In this respect, any discrimination based on belonging to a national minority shall be prohibited.

4.2 The Parties undertake to adopt, where necessary, adequate measures in order to promote, in all areas of economic, social, political and cultural life, full and effective equality between persons belonging to a national minority and those belonging to the majority. In this respect, they shall take due account of the specific conditions of the persons belonging to national minorities.

4.3 The measures adopted in accordance with paragraph 2 shall not be considered to be an act of discrimination.

Discrimination

The Government is continuing to work for strong protection against discrimination. The protection against discrimination in public activities currently varies. It can be noted that with the current legislation, individuals have weaker protection against discrimination in contacts with certain government agencies compared to other government agencies. The report *Ett utökat skydd mot diskriminering* (SOU 2021:94) (Increased protection against discrimination) proposes increased protection against discrimination when it comes to public activities. The proposals in the report are being processed in the Government Offices.

Health among Sweden's national minorities and indigenous Sami people

See information about the Swedish health care system under the corresponding article in Sweden's fifth report.

In 2024, the Public Health Agency of Sweden submitted the final report on its commission to implement initiatives to strengthen and develop knowledge about the health situation of the national minorities. The commission was carried out in cooperation with the national minorities, and the Agency has proposed a number of methodologies for monitoring the health situation of each minority. All these proposals address the importance of using the regular national public

health survey (*Hälsa på lika villkor, HLV*) but entail these regular surveys being supplemented with in-depth interviews or focus groups with each national minority to give them and the indigenous Sami people a real influence. The public Health Agency of Sweden's proposals are being processed in the Government Offices.

In recent years, the National Board of Health and Welfare and the Public Health Agency of Sweden have also been commissioned to develop the cooperation between them. Joint consultations between these government agencies are held annually with each of the national minorities. Every year, conferences on the theme Health, health care and social care for national minorities and indigenous Sami people have also been organised for municipalities, county administrative boards, regions, national minority organisations and the Sami Parliament.

In 2024, the Government granted Region Västerbotten SEK 1.65 million to develop culturally adapted health care through *Kunskapsnätverket för samisk hälsa* (the knowledge network for Sami health), which contributes to good health and equal treatment for the Sami people in Sweden. In 2025, SEK 2.4 million was granted and SEK 2.2 million was granted for 2026.

Work on the strategy for Roma inclusion has continued

Sweden's twenty-year strategy for Roma inclusion (Govt Comm. 2011/12:56) was adopted in 2012 with the overall goal of that a Roma person born in 2012 will, by 2032, enjoy the same opportunities as a non-Roma person. The strategy is implemented in cooperation with Roma at local, regional and national levels, which includes the establishment at the Government Offices of the Roma reference group for this purpose. The Government appointed a new reference group in June 2025. MUCF is tasked with coordinating and monitoring the strategy.

Several government agencies have had tasks within the framework of Roma inclusion, such as MUCF and the Living History Forum. During the years 2022–2024, the Swedish National Agency for Education and the National Board of Health and Welfare were tasked with developing and making available a course for mediators with Roma language and cultural skills working in schools. See the information on this under Article 12.

The Swedish Public Employment Service has also had tasks within the framework of the Strategy for Roma Inclusion, during 2020–2023 and again in 2024. As an example, the Swedish Public Employment Service has developed a system that can contribute to monitoring the Service's work with Roma inclusion and strengthen cooperation between government agencies and municipalities. In March 2026, the Government decided to assign a new task to the Swedish Public Employment Service in order to strengthen the work with Roma inclusion in the period 2026–2028.

The Government's strategy to strengthen Jewish life and combat antisemitism

In May 2025, the Government decided on a national strategy to strengthen Jewish life and combat antisemitism for the period 2025–2034. The aim of the strategy is to lay the foundations for more focused and coordinated efforts, and to create better conditions for Jewish life in Sweden. The strategy is based on three focus areas: Knowledge, education and research on

Jewish life, Swedish-Jewish cultural heritage and Jewish culture, and Safety and openness – efforts to combat antisemitism. In the development of the strategy, two consultations were conducted with Jewish organisations and organisations working to combat antisemitism and for Holocaust remembrance. The strategy is to be implemented in close dialogue and collaboration with the Jewish minority.

In November 2025, the Government appointed a National Coordinator for the strategy. The purpose of this assignment is for the strategy to have an impact and lead to lasting changes in society. The National Coordinator is also tasked with monitoring the implementation and achievement of the objectives of the strategy.

Gathering data and statistics on the life situations of national minorities is fraught with difficulties.

See information under the corresponding article in Sweden's fifth report.

ARTICLE 5

5.1 The Parties undertake to promote the conditions necessary for persons belonging to national minorities to maintain and develop their culture, and to preserve the essential elements of their identity, namely their religion, language, traditions and cultural heritage.

5.2 Without prejudice to measures taken in pursuance of their general integration policy, the Parties shall refrain from policies or practices aimed at assimilation of persons belonging to national minorities against their will and shall protect these persons from any action aimed at such assimilation.

Recommendation for immediate action: The Advisory Committee urges the authorities at all levels to improve the effectiveness of consultation processes, making them timely, inclusive, and meaningful, and to ensure that persons belonging to the Sami people and other national minorities are systematically consulted and able to participate effectively in decision-making processes on policy and legislative matters that are relevant for minority rights.

Recommendation for immediate action: The Advisory Committee urges the authorities to foster intercultural dialogue and mutual respect between the population at large and persons belonging to different national minorities by taking concrete steps to promote the knowledge about national minorities, minority rights and the needs of national minorities, and by opting for a more inclusive and transparent approach on matters that affect persons belonging to more than one national minority.

Recommendation for immediate action: The Advisory Committee urges the authorities to ensure, in close consultation with the Sami indigenous people, that decisions at municipal, county and national levels on the use of traditional Sami lands do not negatively affect the possibility for the Sami to maintain and develop their culture, languages and identity. The authorities should ensure that regional public authorities and governmental agencies, before making decisions on exploitation of traditional Sami lands, apply fully the Sami Consultation Act and the consultation provisions of the Act on National Minorities and National Minority Languages.

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee calls on the authorities at all levels to better acknowledge and respect the diversity that exists within and among national minorities by adapting, in close consultation with a range of members of each national minority, relevant legislation, policies and initiatives so that the outcomes reflect their actual needs and address their specific concerns.

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee calls on the authorities to raise awareness among child and social welfare personnel of the rights and cultural specificities of national minorities and to ensure that national minority family ties and cultural identities are preserved in the work of the child and social welfare services.

For information on efforts to increase knowledge about the rights of national minorities, see *Information on the monitoring of Sweden's minority policy*. See information on care of older people in national minority languages under Article 10.

Consultation

Minority participation and influence is of central part of Sweden's minority policy. Administrative authorities are required to give the national minorities the opportunity to have an influence in matters affecting them and, as far as possible, they must consult with the minorities on such matters. The Government holds individual consultations with all minorities annually. In addition, consultations on specific matters are held where necessary.

Sami influence and participation

See the information with regard to the Instrument of Government of Sweden, and about the indigenous status of the Sami people under the corresponding article in Sweden's Fifth Report.

The Act on consultation on matters concerning the Sami people (2022:66) (referred to as the Sami Consultation Act) came into force in March 2022. According to the Sami Consultation Act, the Government, the government administrative authorities, municipalities and regions are obliged to consult the Sami Parliament and in some cases Sami villages and Sami organisations on matters that may have particular importance for the Sami people. The Act also includes a right of initiative for Sami representatives, which means that they have the right to request consultation in matters that they believe may be of particular importance to the Sami people. The Swedish Government considers that the procedure under the Sami Consultation Act is a specific form of consultation that is based on the principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

The number of requests to the Sami Parliament for consultation has increased gradually since the adoption of the Consultation Act. The Sami Parliament received 325 requests in 2024, compared to 110 requests in 2022. Since 2025, the Sami Parliament has received a permanent annual grant of SEK 5 million to be able to participate effectively in consultations. There are no specifically earmarked funds for Sami organisations and Sami villages to finance their participation in consultations.

According to the Sami Consultation Act, the obligation to consult in other laws, such as the consultation provisions in the Act on National Minorities and Minority Languages, apply

independently of the Act. However, the Sami Consultation Act stipulates that other similar consultation procedures shall be coordinated with consultations in accordance with the Consultation Act as far as possible.

In addition to consultations under the Consultation Act and under the provisions in the Act on National Minorities and National Minority Languages, there are, within Sweden's legislation, a number of other options for Sami representatives to make their voices heard in decision-making processes. According to the Swedish Environmental Code, the Minerals Act (1991:45), the Forestry Act (1979 :429) and the Planning and Building Act (2010:900), consultation with the affected Sami villages must be conducted before a decision is made. In addition, for activities likely to have a significant environmental impact, environmental assessments are required in line with the European Union' requirements in the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directives (2001/42/EC and 2011/92/EU). Such assessments include consultation with the affected residents and stakeholders, such as Sami villages. In addition to participation in consultation processes, the Sami villages have party authority in matters that result in decisions that affect them. The Sami villages therefore have the right to access all material in matters and must be given the opportunity to express their views on this before a decision is made. An example is the permit process for mining operations, which ensures that all interested parties are given the opportunity to submit comments on applications for permits to conduct mining operations. See information on the Minerals Act under Article 5 in Sweden's fifth report.

The all-party commission of inquiry responsible for submitting a proposal for a new reindeer husbandry act to replace the current Reindeer Husbandry Act (1971:437) submitted an interim report in August 2023. In the light of the outcome of the consultation round, the Government decided that the work of the commission of inquiry would cease and terminated the commission of inquiry's activities as of 1 January 2025. Work to appoint a new inquiry into the reindeer husbandry legislation is ongoing in the Government Offices. Under the Consultation Act, consultations with Sami representatives will take place prior to the appointment of such an inquiry.

Public awareness and attitudes towards the preservation of the languages and cultures of the national minorities

The Institute for Language and Folklore (ISOF), the Stockholm County Administrative Board, and the Sami Parliament have been surveying the public's awareness and attitudes towards the national minorities and the national minority languages on a regular basis since 2010. The results of the 2025 survey show that public awareness of national minorities and national minority languages has continued to increase compared to previous surveys, but that the trend is relatively weak when seen over a longer period. As regards public attitudes towards the preservation of the languages and cultures of the national minorities, the survey shows a clear decline from the previous 83 per cent to 72 per cent who consider the preservation of the languages and cultures of national minorities to be very important or quite important.

Tasked by the Government, the Living History Forum has produced a report describing intolerance among Swedish school pupils, mainly based on their attitudes towards a number of groups in Swedish society, including Jews, Roma and Sami. The overall results of the report show that a clear majority of Swedish school pupils show positive attitudes towards these groups. But the trend towards increasingly positive attitudes that has previously been a feature of the Living History Forum's pupil surveys has been broken. Regarding Swedish pupils' attitudes toward Jews, the share of positive attitudes decreased compared to the 2013 survey. Attitudes that reflect classic antisemitic attitudes have also increased. Regarding the Roma minority, a marginally positive trend can be discerned regarding tolerance among Swedish school pupils, but Roma are the minority group towards which pupils in the previous survey showed the greatest negative associations. The Sami are the group that the pupils show the highest tolerance for. Altogether, 88 per cent of the pupils surveyed expressed no negative opinions about Sami people.

The final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Tornedalians, Kvens and Lantalaiset

In November 2023, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Tornedalians, Kvens and Lantalaiset submitted its final report titled *Som om vi aldrig funnits – exkludering och assimilering av tornedalingar, kväner och lantalaiset* (As if we never existed – exclusion and assimilation of Tornedalians, Kvens and Lantalaiset) to the Government. The final report describes what assimilation policy has meant, including that the language, culture and identity of the minority has been devalued, shamed and rendered invisible, which has resulted in Meänkieli having declined in usage of and not been passed on to the next generation except to a limited extent. The Ministry of Culture has regular dialogue meetings with representatives of the minority as part of the reconciliation process and has taken steps. The Government has allocated funds to minority organisations, and the Living History Forum has produced a general public version of the final report (Ku2024/00888). On 11 October 2025, Minister of Culture Parisa Liljestrand participated in the assembly *Åskel sovintboon* – steps for reconciliation, organised by the Church of Sweden and the National Association of Swedish Tornedalians, Tornionlaaksolaiset – held in Karungi. At the meeting, the minister stated that the Government acknowledges responsibility for the violations perpetrated by the state's assimilation policy of individual Tornedalians, Kvens and Lantalaiset and that the violations have had negative consequences for the minority which live on to this day.

The Truth Commission for the Sami people

On 3 November 2021, the Government decided that a commission of inquiry in the form of a Truth Commission should survey and review the policies that have been implemented in relation to the Sami people in a historical perspective and their consequences for the Sami people. According to the original terms of reference, the final report from the Truth Commission was to be presented by 1 December 2025 at the latest. On 11 September 2025, the Government decided that the Truth Commission for the Sami people should have an extended period of inquiry and will now present its final report no later than 1 October 2026. The Truth Commission's remit is to make visible and disseminate knowledge about the Sami experience and the Commission's conclusions and propose measures that contribute to redress and promote reconciliation. On 4 March 2026, the Truth Commission submitted an interim report in the form of a research

anthology titled *Marken, vattnet, tankarna – konsekvenser för samer av svensk politik* (SOU 2026:15) (Land, water, mindset – consequences of Swedish policies for the Sami people).

Measures within the framework of the Government's strategy to strengthen Jewish life and combat antisemitism

Within the framework of the Government's strategy to strengthen Jewish life and combat antisemitism, as described in more detail under Article 4, the Government is implementing multiple measures aimed at strengthening the language and culture of the Jewish minority and at raising knowledge about Jewish life through assignments to the Swedish National Archives and the Swedish Arts Council, as well as funding to the Jewish Museum, the Jewish Central Council, and the Swedish National Council of Adult Education. The measures concern, for example, knowledge-raising initiatives about Jewish life, Jewish languages and Swedish-Jewish cultural heritage.

The year 2025 marked 250 years of established Jewish life in Sweden. The anniversary was an opportunity to highlight the Jewish minority, Jewish culture and Jewish cultural heritage throughout the country. Therefore, the Government gave the following government agencies special assignments to contribute to the celebration of the 250th anniversary: Living History Forum, ISOF, the National Library of Sweden, the Swedish Agency for Support to Faith Communities, the National Heritage Board, the Swedish National Archives, the Swedish Institute, the Swedish Arts Council and the Swedish National Agency for Education.

Initiatives supporting the cultures of national minorities

Central government grants to support regional culture are distributed through the cultural cooperation model. See information about this in the corresponding article in Sweden's Fifth Report.

During 2025, the Swedish Arts Council conducted structured consultations with the national minorities and the Sami Parliament to increase their influence and participation in matters that concern them. The consultations have focused on funding, self-determination and young people's perspectives. In autumn 2024, the Swedish Arts Council held a round table discussion with the regions that dealt with networking and other initiatives for the regions' work with the cultures of the national minorities and the indigenous Sami people.

The Swedish Arts Council also conducts annual consultations with the Sami Parliament at the official level, as well as network gatherings with the regions. The national network gathering in 2024 was arranged jointly with round table discussions with the regions' heads of cultural affairs, where reconciliation after the Truth Commission for Tornedalians, Kvens and Lantalaïset was in focus.

As the host for the government agency network for Roma inclusion, the Swedish Arts Council highlighted the opportunities for young Roma for participation and cultural creativity during the spring of 2025.

Most of the central government funding for the film area is distributed by the Swedish Film Institute. The Swedish Film Institute distributes funding in accordance with the Ordinance on central government grants for film (2016:989). The Ordinance states that central government grants may be awarded to increase access to films in the national minority languages. In the guidelines for the central government grant to the Swedish Film Institute in 2026, the Institute is also tasked with reporting in particular on the work to promote access to films in the national minority languages.

The Finland Institute in Sweden has been awarded a central government grant for 2026 amounting to SEK 2 million for activities aimed at promoting cooperation between Sweden and Finland and promoting and communicating Finnish and Sweden Finn culture in Sweden.

The Sami Parliament distributes funds each year to Sami cultural activities. The purpose of the grants is to contribute to the development of a rich and varied Sami art and culture life, to make visible and strengthen a living Sami culture in the public arena, and to lay the foundation for a stable infrastructure for Sami civil society. In 2025, the Sami Parliament distributed SEK 21.7 million in project and activity grants to Sami cultural activities.

Literature, libraries and reading promotion programmes contributing to the revitalisation of the minority languages

In the period 2022–2024, the Swedish Arts Council was tasked with working with literature and reading promotion measures for the national minority languages. In 2024, the Swedish Arts Council issued a special call for proposals for the promotion of reading and literature and distributed grants to a small number of projects to further strengthen the work of those minorities who have not previously been able to access as many initiatives. Several initiatives have been carried out during the year to promote the languages. In early 2025, the Swedish Arts Council published a report that brings together knowledge about language preservation efforts. Leading up to 2026, the Swedish Arts Council invited other government agencies to a round table discussion to develop structures for working in the long term with the promotion of reading and literature in minority languages.

In the period 2020–2024, the National Library of Sweden was commissioned to implement an initiative to make the national minority libraries into resource libraries for each language group and for Sweden's municipalities (Ku2020/02691). The final report shows that the resource libraries are functioning well and are considered to have the capacity to produce more support material and deal with more enquiries. The Government sets aside SEK 10 million annually through the National Library of Sweden for long-term funding of the national minorities' libraries in the form of resource libraries.

National minority traditions in intangible cultural heritage

The Government has decided to nominate the landing net fishery in the Torne River for listing on UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Landing net fishing in the Torne River is a cultural heritage that has a strong support among its practitioners

and connects people in a cultural and linguistic community. See more information about intangible cultural heritage under the same article in Sweden's Fifth Report.

ARTICLE 6

6.1 The Parties shall encourage a spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue and take effective measures to promote mutual respect and understanding and co-operation among all persons living on their territory, irrespective of those persons' ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity, in particular in the fields of education, culture and the media.

6.2 The Parties undertake to take appropriate measures to protect persons who may be subject to threats or acts of discrimination, hostility or violence as a result of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity.

Recommendation for immediate action: The Advisory Committee urges the authorities to step up their efforts to prevent and combat racism, hate crimes and hate speech, including on social media, in particular against the Jewish, Roma and Sami minorities. To this end, the authorities should take appropriate measures targeting the entire population, such as awareness-raising and information campaigns, and evaluate them in close consultation with minority representatives. They should also record, investigate and sanction all cases of such offences and collect disaggregated data.

A large number of measures have been implemented to prevent and combat racism and hate crimes against, among others, Jews, Roma and Sami. To supplement the National plan to combat racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime, the Government decided in June 2022 on specific action programmes to combat Afrophobia, antisemitism, antigypsyism, Islamophobia and racism against the Sami. The action programmes aimed to make these forms of racism visible and to combat them with various measures during the period 2022–2024. Among other things, MUCF has implemented initiatives to prevent and combat racism against Roma and Sami, and the Living History Forum has implemented awareness-raising efforts to combat antisemitism among children and young people. These initiatives in the action programmes have led to increased knowledge about specific forms of racism and hate crime, improved the supporting materials and training tools, and strengthened the cooperation between stakeholders.

The Government's work to combat racism will continue on the basis of the new Action Plan to combat racism and hate crime that the Government adopted in December 2024. The overarching objective is a society free from racism. The work is based on concrete targets linked to four focus areas that will be used to monitor progress towards the objective: Schools, the Judicial system, Working Life and the Welfare system and public sector activities. The action plan also aims to highlight and, through various measures, to combat the following specific forms of racism: anti-Muslim racism, antisemitism, anti-Black racism, antigypsyism and racism against the Sami. Around twenty government agencies are involved in implementing the action plan. The Living History Forum is responsible for coordinating and monitoring progress on the Action Plan. The Living History Forum is to develop a monitoring system to analyse and report the results of this work in relation to the objectives and sub-objectives in the National Action Plan.

Several government agencies have been commissioned to implement initiatives to increase knowledge about antisemitism, antigypsyism and racism against the Sami. The Living History Forum has a task to provide continuing professional development and awareness-raising initiatives concerning various historical and contemporary forms of racism to school staff and other relevant public sector occupational groups.

As part of an assignment to support municipalities and regions in their work with human rights, the county administrative boards are to include efforts to combat various forms of racism, including antisemitism.

The Government carries out focused discussions on racism, including antisemitism, antigypsyism and racism against the Sami. Questions concerning racism are also highlighted in dialogues within the national minorities policy. Representatives of the Jewish, Roma and Sami minorities are also involved in various ways in the work of the government agencies in this area.

Work against antisemitism and for Jewish safety

Work to combat antisemitism is a priority for the Government. Antisemitism has been on the rise in recent years, especially in digital environments, but also more openly and in the public arena. Many Swedish Jews today describe a sharp increase in antisemitism following the Hamas terror attack on 7 October 2023.

A number of measures have been decided within the framework of the strategy to strengthen Jewish life and to combat antisemitism so that Jews in Sweden can live openly, safely and securely (for more information, see Article 4). Among other things, the Swedish Defence Research Institute (FOI) has been tasked with continuously developing and presenting new knowledge about the incidence of antisemitism in digital environments and to create the basis for the continuous dissemination of knowledge about antisemitism in digital environments to actors in for example the judicial system, in the form of networks and similar initiatives. Furthermore, the Living History Forum has been tasked with implementing awareness-raising initiatives to tackle antisemitism which aim to improve the capacity of teachers and other staff relevant within the education system to prevent, manage and combat antisemitism.

In order for Jews to feel safe and secure and openly express their identity without being subjected to hatred, threats and violence, efforts are being implemented to increase the security of individuals and of Jewish institutions. The strategy to strengthen Jewish life and combat antisemitism includes measures to increase awareness of antisemitism, including in digital environments, among relevant actors in the judicial system in order to develop their capacity to identify and investigate hate crime motives, among other things. Work within the strategy is also to include ensuring protection and support for Jews, and Jewish institutions and organisations, including by developing situational assessments, preparedness and tools for rapid information sharing between national government agencies and municipalities.

Organisations and faith communities, including Jews, can apply for central government grants to increase the security of the premises in which they carry on their activities. As of 2024, central

government grants for this purpose have more than doubled. In addition to these funds, the Government has decided to earmark an additional SEK 10 million for the Jewish minority from 2025 onwards. Furthermore, changes have been made in the Ordinance on central government grants for security-enhancing measures to civil society organisations (2018:1533) in order to better publicise the grants and to prioritise those who are most in need of the grants.

The Government's Task Force for Jewish Life was established in January 2023. The Task Force collaborates and conducts dialogue on preventive measures and initiatives to strengthen the conditions for Jewish life and to prevent and combat antisemitism in Sweden. The Task Force includes state secretaries from several ministries, representatives from Jewish civil society organisations, relevant government agencies and organisations and other experts. The Task Force is led by the Prime Minister's state secretary.

Work to combat hate crimes continues

On 1 July 2024, protection under criminal law against racist hate speech was strengthened through legislative amendments clarifying and expanding the provision on agitation against a population group in the Sweden's Criminal Code. Among other things, the amendments mean that individuals who are victims of the offence *agitation against a population group* can be granted injured party status and the right to damages. Furthermore, the provision has been clarified to explicitly state that denial of the Holocaust and certain other international crimes are criminalised. In addition, it is now clear from the legal text that the provision also covers incitement to violence. Corresponding legislative amendments are proposed to enter into force in the Freedom of the Press Act and the Fundamental Law on Freedom of Expression on 1 January 2027.

The work of the Swedish Police Authority is key in more hate crimes being reported and being person-based cleared. The ability to identify a crime as a hate crime right at the start is particularly important. The Swedish Police Authority has created better conditions for the early identification of hate crimes and for improving the legal certainty of the assessments.

The Police Authority's democracy and hate crime groups in Sweden's metropolitan regions and within the Police Authority's internal networks for hate crime continue to develop. The network of democracy and hate crime groups provides training and support to other police regions. The Police Authority has formulated a goal for its work: that all hate crimes will be investigated by a special resource with in-depth knowledge in the area. The Police Authority has also decided to establish regional cybercrime centres in the seven police regions.

The Swedish Police Authority carries out a number of knowledge-enhancing activities both individually and together with other actors and has integrated democracy and hate crime into existing training programmes. The result is more knowledge in the field, which means more opportunities to identify, prevent and investigate these crimes.

Considering developments in the law at EU level through the EU's Digital Services Act (DSA) and Regulation on addressing the dissemination of terrorist content online (TCO Regulation),

government agencies now have new tools to combat the spread of illegal content online. The Swedish Police Authority has established an Internet Referral Unit to counter the spread of terrorism-related and other illegal material on digital platforms. The Swedish Police Authority also cooperates with several online platforms and contributes knowledge about illegal content to enable service providers to develop their own countermeasures. In Sweden, oversight of the DSA is exercised by the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority, the Swedish Consumer Agency, and the Swedish Agency for the Media. The DSA has meant that online platforms now have a greater obligation to deal with illegal content online, and they are also required to report suspected offences that involve a threat to the life or safety of one or more people to a law enforcement agency; in Sweden's case the Police Authority.

Since 2022, the Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI) has a permanent mission to map and analyse racism and violent extremism in digital environments.

The Swedish Prosecution Authority is one of the government agencies involved in the implementation of the action plan to combat racism and hate crime. The Swedish Prosecution Authority has specially appointed prosecutors who handle hate crime cases. The Authority also has a specifically appointed specialist in hate crime who works closely with the specialist prosecutor to raise the level of awareness among operational prosecutors. This is done by regularly updating the legal guidelines in this area, and by creating the conditions for these prosecutors to share experience and information, for example, establishment through networks and annual conferences. Within the framework of the Action Plan to combat racism and hate crime, the Swedish Prosecution Authority is now developing the structure for this work and improving opportunities for these prosecutors to meet online to discuss issues that arise, and to disseminate relevant information to others within the organisation.

In its appropriations directions for 2024, the Swedish Crime Victim Authority was tasked with developing and disseminating information to those who are at risk of being or have been subjected to hate crime. The material was to target both vulnerable persons and professionals working in government agencies and civil society who encounter vulnerable persons in their work. This work was to build on a previous task concerning Islamophobic hate crime but now covering hate crime regardless of motive if the offence aims to insult the victim's identity. The objective of the task was to get more people to report incidents that may constitute hate crime to the police. The final report on the task was presented on 1 March 2026.

The trend in reported hate crimes

Every two years, the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå) publishes statistics on identified reports of hate crime. The statistics on reported hate crimes can provide an indication of how hate crime is being addressed in police reports and information about the reported incidents, but say very little about the prevalence of hate crime in the community, because many crimes are not reported.

Of all hate crime motives identified in 2024, 8 per cent were antisemitic. This is an increase from 4 per cent in 2022. The number of reported antisemitic hate crimes increased from 111 crimes in

2022 to 217 crimes in 2024. The National Council for Crime Prevention was previously tasked with gathering new knowledge about the Jewish minority's exposure to hate crime in Sweden. The final report from this task revealed that 110 hate crimes with antisemitic motives were reported between 7 October and 31 December 2023, which was almost five times more than in the same period the previous year. In about 20 per cent of the reported crimes in autumn 2023, some form of reference was made to the Hamas attack on 7 October 2023 or the subsequent violence in Gaza. The final report also revealed that representatives of Jewish congregations and organisations are experiencing that expressions of hatred and other antisemitism have escalated following Hamas' terrorist attack on 7 October 2023. Public, visible Jewish people and children and young people are perceived to be particularly exposed.

The Government has also assigned the National Council for Crime Prevention with studying the judicial system's handling of antisemitic hate crimes from the report of a crime to the sentencing. Among other things, the National Council for Crime Prevention is to identify difficulties and success factors in investigation and prosecution, and provide suggestions on how the judicial system's handling of antisemitic and other hate crimes could be improved. The assignment will be reported on in April 2027.

In 2024, 31 cases of crime with antigypsy motives were identified. In 2022, 33 offences were reported. Hate crime motivated by antigypsyism accounted for 1 per cent of all reported hate crimes in 2024. In 2026, as assigned by the Government, the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention presented a study on antigypsy hate crimes. The study shows, among other things, that verbal offences such as unlawful threats, insult, defamation or molestation occur in approximately half of the studied reported offences.

The number of reports with anti-Sami hate crime motives amounted to 7 in 2024. This was a decrease from the 15 hate crimes reported in 2022. Hate crime with anti-Sami motives accounted for 1 per cent of all reported hate crimes in 2024.

The statistics also contain data on crimes that have been personbased-cleared, i.e. crimes for which at least one suspect has been prosecuted through the commencement of a prosecution, the issuance of a summary sanction order or a waiver of prosecution. The proportion of reported hate crimes is generally low. The low person-based clearance rate is not unique to hate crimes, although hate crimes are generally difficult to investigate and require special skills. In general, this rate is also low among the most frequently occurring types of crimes against persons, such as molestation, defamation and inflicting damage.

ARTICLE 7

The Parties shall ensure respect for the right of every person belonging to a national minority to freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association, freedom of expression, and freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
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Developments in Sweden do not necessitate any further reporting under this Article. A report is given under Article 5 of measures concerning consultation and support for organisations representing the national minorities. See also the information under Article 6.

ARTICLE 8

The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to manifest his or her religion or belief and to establish religious institutions, organisations and associations.

Developments in Sweden do not necessitate any further reporting under this Article. For further information, see the corresponding article in Sweden's fifth report.

ARTICLE 9

9.1 The Parties undertake to recognise that the right to freedom of expression of every person belonging to a national minority includes freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas in the minority language, without interference by public authorities and regardless of frontiers. The Parties shall ensure, within the framework of their legal systems, that persons belonging to a national minority are not discriminated against in their access to the media.

9.2 Paragraph 1 shall not prevent Parties from requiring the licensing, without discrimination and based on objective criteria, of sound radio and television broadcasting, or cinema enterprises.

9.3 The Parties shall not hinder the creation and the use of printed media by persons belonging to national minorities. In the legal framework of sound radio and television broadcasting, they shall ensure, as far as possible, and taking into account the provisions of paragraph 1, that persons belonging to national minorities are granted the possibility of creating and using their own media.

9.4 In the framework of their legal systems, the Parties shall adopt adequate measures in order to facilitate access to the media for persons belonging to national minorities and in order to promote tolerance and permit cultural pluralism.

Media have an important role in strengthening the identity of the national minorities and in revitalising the minority languages. At the same time, Sweden has far-reaching press freedom and freedom of expression and therefore takes a very restrictive view of all forms of media control. That said, an account is given below of the language-promotion measures taken by the State in this area.

Minority language content in public service media

Programming in the national minority languages is a central part of the remit of the public service media companies Sveriges Radio (SR), Sveriges Television (SVT) and Utbildningsradion (UR).

In 2025 the Government decided, in line with the direction laid down by the Riksdag, on new public service remits for the three public service companies (Govt Bill 2024/25:166). The new remits are for the period 2026–2033. Against the background of the ongoing development of the media with more people accessing radio and TV via various internet-based platforms, the public service remits are technology-neutral, and some changes have been made to the conditions regarding programs in the national minority languages. The requirements apply regardless of

whether the offering is broadcast or provided on online platforms. The public service companies may jointly determine how to divide the responsibility for programming in the national minority languages.

The public service companies' first publications of programs in the national minority languages are to increase in the remit period compared with 2025 levels. First publications can be new productions, new programme purchases or adaptations of a programme in a new language. This requirement shifts the focus to new programming and away from aggregate programming.

During the period 2026–2033, the combined programming in Finnish, Meänkieli, Romani Chib and Sami will also amount to at least the same level as in 2025, while the combined programming in Yiddish will increase during the remit period compared to the levels in 2025.

One of the most important factors in assessing programming quality is that the programming is relevant for the target groups concerned. A new requirement is that the programming must be relevant to the groups concerned. As before, the programming companies are required to maintain a continuous dialogue with these groups.

During the last remit period (2020–2025), the total programming in national minority languages increased compared to 2019. The public service companies have also produced a joint index to measure how the total programming in the languages has developed in relation to their requirements. The index shows some increase between 2019 and 2025 in terms of both aggregate programming and first broadcasts.

According to the public service companies' reports, in total in 2025 SR, SVT and UR broadcast and provided a total of 7 941 hours in Finnish, of which 4 796 hours were first broadcasts. The corresponding figure for Meänkieli was 1 158 hours, of which about 410 hours were first broadcasts. The number of hours in Romani Chib was 680, of which 207 hours were first broadcasts. The number of hours in Sami was 1 648, of which 850 hours were first broadcasts. The number of hours in Yiddish was 36, of which about 21 hours were first broadcasts.

Support for media and periodicals in minority languages

On 1 January 2024, a new technology neutral media subsidy was introduced, replacing the previous press subsidy and media subsidy. The purpose of the subsidy is to strengthen democracy by supporting the public's access to independent, high-quality news.

The new media subsidy is means-tested and there are now fewer forms of subsidy compared with the previous press subsidy and media subsidy. Editorial aid is provided for the editorial activities of general news media. Extended editorial aid is provided for initiatives to provide local journalism in areas with poor coverage and initiatives in one or more of the national minority languages.

To make it easier for media aimed at national minorities to meet the requirements for the new media subsidy, there are reduced requirements concerning some of the criteria that need to be fulfilled. Media aimed at national minorities need to have at least 750 regular users (instead of 3

000 regular users, which is the requirement for editorial aid in coverage areas with at least 20 000 inhabitants) and to be published or broadcast at least 10 times a year (instead of 45 times a year).

For 2026, the Media Support Board at the Swedish Agency for the Media approved aid to a total of three titles for a total of five initiatives in Finnish and Meänkieli. The total funds granted for these initiatives is SEK 3 000 000.

There is no state support for TV production in Sweden over and above the funding allocated to public service broadcasting.

The Swedish Arts Council allocates funding for the culture journals in the national minority languages or aimed at the national minorities.

ARTICLE 10

10.1 The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to use freely and without interference his or her minority language, in private and in public, orally and in writing.

10.2 In areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities traditionally or in substantial numbers, if those persons so request and where such a request corresponds to a real need, the Parties shall endeavour to ensure, as far as possible, the conditions which would make it possible to use the minority language in relations between those persons and the administrative authorities.

10.3 The Parties undertake to guarantee the right of every person belonging to a national minority to be informed promptly, in a language which he or she understands, of the reasons for his or her arrest, and of the nature and cause of any accusation against him or her, and to defend himself or herself in this language, if necessary with the free assistance of an interpreter.

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee calls on the authorities to expand the Discrimination Act to explicitly include 'language' as a protected ground against discrimination and to cover all actions of public authorities.

See information about the strengthened Act on National Minorities and National Minority Languages in Sweden's Fifth Report. Regarding the right to use minority languages in the judicial system, please refer to Sweden's ninth progress report on the Language Charter.

Action programme for the preservation of the national minority languages

The action programme for the preservation and promotion of the national minority languages ran until 2024. Within the framework of the action programme, a number of tasks intended to strengthen and develop the work to promote and preserve the national minority languages have been implemented, including the Swedish National Council of Adult Education, the Swedish Arts Council, the Sami Parliament, the National Board of Health and Welfare and a number of higher education institutions. The Government considers that the action programme and the measures implemented as part of the action programme have helped to create a basic infrastructure for the revitalisation of the languages and better conditions for the survival of the minority languages.

Language centres for the national minority languages and language planning

Since 2009, there is a Sami language centre that is tasked with developing and stimulating the use of the Sami language and its varieties using an innovative and forward-looking approach. Since 2022, ISOF has been responsible for the language centres for Finnish, Meänkieli, Romani Chib and Yiddish. In November 2025, the Government decided to amend the instruction for ISOF in order to ensure long-term planning for the Institute's language centres. The Sami Parliament already had this task for the Sami language in their instruction.

In the period 2022–2024, ISOF had a temporary funding boost for its work with language planning and then returned to the regular level in 2025. During 2025, ISOF organised a number of language seminars, and language promoters and language advisers have spread knowledge about the national minority languages in the media. ISOF also has a specific government assignment that aims to strengthen the work with language technology and language planning for Meänkieli. The assignment includes building language models to strengthen digital access to the language. The assignment runs for three years until 2027.

The Sami Parliament is responsible for language planning for the Sami languages. The Sami Parliament works with language planning initiatives such as distributing grants to short-term studies in Sami that aim to give more people the opportunity to learn to read and write in Sami and thereby increase the use of the languages. The work with Sami place names is contributing to making the language more visible in the public arena, and the Sami Parliament's participation in the International Decade of Indigenous Languages has lifted the standing of the languages in a global context. In the period 2022–2024, the Sami Parliament had a specific assignment to take language planning initiatives and work with language technology to strengthen and develop the Sami language.

Care of older people in minority languages

Since 1 July 2025, provisions concerning the right to care for older people in minority languages have been transferred from the Act on National Minorities and National Minority Languages (2009:724) to the Social Services Act (2025:400). The Government assesses that the rules will be clearer when the rights of the national minorities in elderly care are regulated in an integral way with other provisions governing elderly care (Govt Bill 2024/25:89 pp. 287–289).

During 2022–2024, the National Board of Health and Welfare was tasked with developing and disseminating knowledge support and implementing initiatives to increase knowledge and skills concerning the rights of national minorities and the national minority languages. The support was to target staff working in healthcare, social services and care of older people.

In 2023, the National Board of Health and Welfare conducted a survey of the situation for national minorities in municipal elderly care, which concluded that the greatest availability of care of older people out of all of the national minority languages is offered in Finnish, and mainly in the municipalities that are part of the administrative area for Finnish. Of these municipalities, 85

per cent say that they offer services and care by Finnish-speaking staff. The least availability of care of older people in minority languages is offered in Yiddish and Romani Chib.

The Elderly Care Initiative aims to strengthen knowledge and skills within municipally funded healthcare and elderly care by providing new and current staff the opportunity to educate themselves during working hours. These funds can also be used for language courses for staff working in elderly care. Since 2024, the funds can be used, for example, for courses in the national minority languages.

Language as a ground of discrimination

The Discrimination Act (2008:567) includes protection against discrimination on seven different grounds. These grounds correspond largely to the grounds that follow from various EU directives on equal treatment. At present there are no plans to look into the question of increasing the number of grounds of discrimination. Language is not an explicit ground of discrimination. However, the Discrimination Act does provide protection against discrimination on grounds of ethnic origin. According to the legislative history of the Act (Govt Bill 2007/08:95), the ground of ethnic origin includes a person's national or ethnic origin, skin colour and other similar circumstances. It is also stated that the ground includes national minorities such as Sami and Roma. Discrimination that is linked to language requirements, for instance, can be covered by the protection against discrimination on grounds of ethnic origin.

ARTICLE 11

11.1 The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to use his or her surname (patronym) and first names in the minority language and the right to official recognition of them, according to modalities provided for in their legal system.

11.2 The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to display in his or her minority language signs, inscriptions and other information of a private nature visible to the public.

11.3 In areas traditionally inhabited by substantial numbers of persons belonging to a national minority, the Parties shall endeavour, in the framework of their legal system, including, where appropriate, agreements with other States, and taking into account their specific conditions, to display traditional local names, street names and other topographical indications intended for the public also in the minority language when there is a sufficient demand for such indications.

There are no barriers to adopting family or surnames in minority languages. See information about personal names under the corresponding Article in Sweden's Fifth Report.

Work with place names in minority languages continues

Lantmäteriet (the Swedish national mapping, cadastral and land registration authority) is working to expand on the place names in minority languages in the multilingual areas as information about missing or incorrect place names is received by the government agency. Requests for place names in the different minority languages on maps are regularly received by Lantmäteriet's place name function. Names can also be channelled to Lantmäteriet via the Sami Parliament.

The table below shows the number of place names per language in Lantmäteriet's place names register on 30 January 2026.

Language	Number of place names
Meänkieli	16,499
Lule Sami	7,729
Ume Sami	3,960
North Sami	3,739
South Sami	3,199
Finnish	240

Source: Lantmäteriet, 2025.

Today, there is no option to choose Pite Sami as a language code when place names are registered in Lantmäteriet's place names register, and for this reason, Pite Sami names have had to be tagged as Lule Sami. The language code list will be added to in the coming period so that Pite Sami place names can also be identifiable in the statistics. However, this requires that the referral bodies have knowledge and skills in Pite Sami, which is not currently the case. During the period, Lantmäteriet along with the municipalities of Kiruna, Arjeplog, Jokkmokk, Pajala and Gällivare have initiated a project with the aim of enabling the use of minority languages in the register of location addresses.

Lantmäteriet has also started a project to ensure that all systems and databases that the government agency manages can handle diacritics correctly. This is because the property register currently cannot handle the diacritics used in Sami, and as a result, not all names included in the various parts of the real property register can be stored or reproduced with the correct spelling.

ARTICLE 12

12.1 The Parties shall, where appropriate, take measures in the fields of education and research to foster knowledge of the culture, history, language and religion of their national minorities and of the majority.

12.2 In this context the Parties shall inter alia provide adequate opportunities for teacher training and access to textbooks and facilitate contacts among students and teachers of different communities.

12.3 The Parties undertake to promote equal opportunities for access to education at all levels for persons belonging to national minorities.

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee calls on the authorities to ensure that teaching according to the new school curricula is made possible through education materials adequately reflecting the ethnic and linguistic diversity of Swedish society, including relevant and up-to-date information about the past and present situation of national minorities. The authorities should ensure that teachers in all schools are adequately trained in the fields of intercultural education to accommodate diversity in the classroom and have sufficient knowledge about national minorities to be able to teach about national minority cultures, traditions and histories.

Changes in the Education Act to strengthen the quality of teaching and learning materials

As described in Sweden's Fifth Report, teaching and learning materials are not controlled by central government in the Swedish school system.

The bill *Stärkt tillgång till läromedel* (Enhanced access to teaching and learning materials) (Govt Bill 2023/24:21) was decided by the Riksdag in December 2023 and amendments to the Education Act (2010:800) came into force on 1 July 2024. The amendments aim to strengthen pupils' access to the learning tools needed to achieve the intended learning outcomes. The terms teaching and learning materials, textbooks and other learning tools are also defined in the Education Act. In order for teaching and learning materials to be high-quality, effective and adapted for different pupils, and for the quality to be assured, in the bill the Government states that teaching and learning material should be published by a professional publisher, such as a publishing house or a producer of teaching and learning materials. Based on the changes in the Education Act, the Swedish National Agency for Education has been commissioned by the Government to produce guidelines to support school organisers, school principals, teachers and preschool teachers in choosing and using learning tools in teaching (U2025/01180). The Agency has completed a first partial publication related to this commission. The final report will be presented in January 2028.

Teaching in and about national minorities and national minority languages

The syllabuses for comprehensive school have been recently revised. As a result of this revision, teaching about the national minorities is now concentrated to and has been strengthened in primarily the subject of civics. The purpose of this change is to allow more time to be spent on the area. The Swedish National Agency for Education assesses that, taken together, the changes will broaden and strengthen the area compared to the current syllabuses. In the earlier syllabuses, there were formulations on the national minorities that were distributed across more of the subjects, which the Swedish National Agency for Education believes led to a fragmentation of the tuition. These amendments came into force on 1 July 2022. The Government considers that changes to the curricula that have emphasized facts and comprehension more than previously have been a step in the right direction, but that more needs to be done. The Government therefore appointed an inquiry in December 2023 that has reviewed the curricula and submitted a report titled *Kunskap för alla – nya läroplaner med fokus på undervisning och lärande* (Knowledge for all – new curricula focusing on teaching and learning (SOU 2025:19) in December 2025.

Internationally, the Swedish school system is comparatively highly decentralised, and it is ultimately the responsibility of the municipal and private sector organisers to train teachers in the new curricula.

The Swedish National Agency for Education first received an assignment concerning teaching and learning materials in 2013, and since then the Agency has provided teaching and learning materials in all the national minority languages. The Agency has also produced supporting material for teaching about Sweden's national minorities in various subjects via its website. The Swedish National Agency for Education's materials also cover training and support in

intercultural understanding and awareness and show how to include an intercultural dimension in teaching. This material is freely available. Since 2019, the Swedish National Education Agency has had a combined responsibility (sectoral responsibility) for questions related to the national minorities and national minority languages within its remit, which involves bringing together, supporting and advocating for the parties concerned. For many years, the National Agency for Education has also been responsible for the national coordination of teaching in the national minority languages, and this includes the issue of access to teaching and learning materials. It is important that the production of teaching and learning materials has a long-term focus. As of 2026, the previous assignment is therefore included in the Agency's instructions, which makes it clear that the Agency's public sector responsibility includes supporting good-quality teaching in national minority languages and supporting access to teaching and learning materials. ISOF also supplies teaching and learning materials about minority languages and about the minorities via its website. According to the Ordinance with instructions for the Sami Education Board (2011:131), the Board is required to support the development and production of teaching and learning materials for teaching Sami. In its appropriations directions for the years 2021–2024, the Sami Education Board was required to increase the resources spent on developing teaching and learning materials in Sami. This strengthening has remained but is now part of the total appropriation for administrative operations.

Education initiatives concerning the national minorities and minority languages

As regards programme and course syllabuses in higher education, the Swedish higher education system is designed in such a way that the Riksdag and the Government have the overall responsibility for higher education and research, but the higher education institutions operate with a considerable degree of autonomy. This means that, within the statutory framework, it is the higher education institutions themselves that decide about their internal allocation of resources, the education they offer and the content and design of that education. Thus, there is no provision in any statute requiring the curriculums and syllabuses for teacher education to contain information about national minorities.

Four higher education institutions have specific undertakings to offer courses in the minority languages. Umeå University is responsible for Sami and Meänkieli, Stockholm University for Finnish, Södertörn University for Romani Chib and Lund University for Yiddish. These undertakings are set out in each higher education institution's appropriations directions and include an obligation to pursue development work and provide education that is evidence-based, this includes teacher education programmes.

In 2022, the Government tasked the four higher education institutions with strengthening and developing their work to revitalise and preserve the minority languages Finnish, Meänkieli, Romani Chib, Sami and Yiddish. in the period 2022–2024 (Ku2022/00584). The purpose of this task was to improve the conditions for revitalising and preserving the minority languages and, in the long run, to help strengthen the supply of public sector staff with knowledge and skills in the minority languages. The task was assigned as part of the Government's work for the development, promotion and preservation of the national minority languages. The Government set aside SEK 10 million annually for the years 2022–2024 for this purpose. This work was to

promote teaching of and in the minority language at preschool and in compulsory school, upper secondary school and higher education. In this work, the higher education institutions were to take into account the special needs and conditions of the language and engage in dialogue with representatives of the national minority. The higher education institutions were to cooperate with relevant actors, including other higher education institutions that had tasks related to the national minority languages, in Sweden and, where relevant, in other countries that have experience of working with the language in question.

On 13 November 2025, the Government decided to task Lund University with strengthening its efforts to promote and preserve the national minority language Yiddish. For this task, SEK 500 000 was set aside in 2025 and SEK 1 million in 2026. It is estimated that a further SEK 1 million will be set aside in 2027, provided that the Riksdag allocates funding to this grant.

Within the framework of the Government's strategy for Roma inclusion for the period 2012–2032, the Swedish National Agency for Education and the National Board of Health and Welfare were tasked during the years 2022–2024 with producing and disseminating a study programme for bridge-builders with Roma language skills and cultural competence working in schools. This study programme also included preschools. The study programmes aimed to contribute to Roma inclusion in line with the Government's strategy, where the bridge-builders are intended to act as a link between individual children in preschool or pupils in school and their homes. The final report on this task was submitted in March 2025.

Information to individuals about education in national minority languages

Through an amendment to the Ordinance (2012:811) with instructions for the Swedish Council for Higher Education, UHR, from 1 September 2022 the Council has been tasked with promoting the rights of national minorities and the national minority languages in higher education.

UHR's 2023 report on higher education studies from a national minority perspective (*Högskolestudier ur ett nationellt minoritetsperspektiv*) indicates that many students experience fewer challenges related to belonging to a minority than they did at earlier stages of the education pathway. However, problems related to the lack of knowledge and prejudices of the majority society still persist. In the report, UHR makes proposals to Sweden's higher education institutions to reduce ignorance, racism and discrimination concerning the national minorities. The results have been presented in several contexts, including presentations for Sweden's national minority organisations and for the higher education institutions. UHR also publishes up-to-date statistics on higher education courses and study programmes in the languages and cultures of the national minorities, cooperates with other government agencies on tasks within the area, and participates in consultations.

ARTICLE 13

13.1 Within the framework of their education systems, the Parties shall recognise that persons belonging to a national minority have the right to set up and to manage their own private educational and training establishments.

13.2 The exercise of this right shall not entail any financial obligation for the Parties.

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee reiterates its call on the authorities at all levels to provide all necessary support to “independent schools” catering for national minority children. At the same time, the authorities should ensure that availability of bilingual education shall not rely on independent schools only and should consider providing bilingual education in regular public schools in administrative areas if there is such a request.

No changes have been made to the provisions governing independent schools since the previous report. This means that both private natural persons and legal persons can apply for approval as the education provider of an independent preschool, school or leisure-time centre in Sweden. The Swedish School Inspectorate makes decisions to approve private actors as education providers of independent schools, while municipalities decide in cases concerning independent preschools. All private natural persons or legal persons who are approved as education providers for educational establishments under the Education Act are entitled to municipal grants to finance their establishment, regardless of the specialisation of the establishment.

In Sweden there is one secondary school that organises a special course in Jewish studies. In order to incentivise more schools to organise such a course, an incentive payment has been introduced as of April 2026. The incentive payment is intended to compensate organisers for the specific additional costs they incur in organising Jewish Studies in years 7 to 9 under the Ordinance on Special Courses in Jewish Studies in Compulsory School (2011:398).

Bilingual tuition

Chapter 9, Section 12 of the Education Ordinance (2011:185) states that for pupils who have a language other than Swedish as their daily means of interaction with one or both their custodians, parts of the teaching in years 1–6 may be organised in this language. For Finnish this also applies in years 7–9. The Government sees bilingual tuition as an important part of language revitalisation and the Government has therefore decided to extend the Ordinance on pilot activities in bilingual tuition in compulsory school (2020:824) until 1 July 2027. The pilot activities concern years 7–9. There are five Sweden Finn independent schools in Sweden with a permit from the Swedish School Inspectorate to provide bilingual tuition. There are five Sami schools in Sweden that offer teaching from preschool class to year 6 according to the curriculum for Sami School, preschool class and leisure-time centre. The aim of the Sami Schools is that the pupils will be functionally bilingual in Sami and Swedish. In addition to Sami School, the Sami Education Board conducts integrated teaching in Sami, which is organised in compulsory schools and means that pupils can receive tuition with Sami elements in addition to mother-tongue tuition (Chapter 10, Section 7a of the Education Act).

ARTICLE 14

14.1 The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to learn his or her minority language.

14.2 In areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities traditionally or in substantial numbers, if there is sufficient demand, the Parties shall endeavour to ensure, as far as possible and within the framework of their education systems, that persons belonging to those minorities have adequate opportunities for being taught the minority language or for receiving instruction in this language.

14.3 Paragraph 2 of this article shall be implemented without prejudice to the learning of the official language or the teaching in this language.

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee calls on the authorities to increase the number of teaching hours in minority languages, provide additional financial support for the recruitment and training of teachers speaking minority languages and make the profession of minority language teacher more sustainable and attractive career-wise. The authorities should also consider including in compulsory education “mother tongue” classes in regular schooling hours, and not as extracurricular activities as is too often the case.

Right to mother tongue tuition

Since 2022, the National Agency for Education has been responsible for the national coordination of teaching in national minority languages. In order to put in place conditions to support the initiatives in the long term, as mentioned above the Government has decided to amend the Ordinance with instructions for the Swedish National Agency for Education (2015:1047) from 2026. It clarifies that the public sector responsibility for matters relating to the national minorities and national minority languages includes supporting good-quality teaching in the national minority languages and promoting access to teaching and learning materials.

Since 1 January 2019, children in preschool have the right to develop their mother tongue, which under Chapter 8 Section 10 of the Education Act may be a national minority language. From 2019, the legislation has been tightened to enable a larger part of preschool activities to be offered in minority languages in the administrative areas. According to Chapter 8, Section 12b of the Education Act, a municipality of residence which is part of an administrative area under the Act on national minorities and minority languages must offer children whose custodian requests it a place in a preschool where the whole or a significant part of the education is provided in Finnish, Meänkieli or Sami. Custodians who apply for a preschool place for their child must be asked if they would like a place in such preschool.

Pupils who belong to one of the national minorities have the right to mother tongue tuition even if the language is not the student’s language of daily social interaction in the home, in compulsory school and equivalent types of schools as well as in upper secondary school and upper secondary school for pupils with intellectual disabilities. The requirement for the upper secondary school pupil to have good knowledge of the language has been removed, applicable to education starting after 30 June 2025. In upper secondary school and upper secondary school for pupils with intellectual disabilities, the pupil is also able to study their minority language in the context of

mother tongue tuition. Studies can start at a level based on the pupil's existing skills. Organisers are obliged to arrange mother tongue tuition in the national minority languages even if only one pupil at the organiser's schools applies for tuition in the language concerned. However, the requirement that a suitable teacher must be available also applies to the national minority languages. The limitation whereby a pupil is only able to receive mother tongue tuition for a maximum of seven academic years if the pupil is receiving the tuition outside the guaranteed teaching time does not apply to tuition in the national minority languages. A Roma pupil who is from abroad may also be given mother tongue tuition in two languages if there are special reasons for doing so.

As stated above, pupils in upper secondary school can study a national minority language in the context of the subject mother tongue and the subject modern languages. Room for this has been made within the structure of a number of national programmes, and there is room for all pupils to do this, in university entrance programmes as well as in vocational programmes, as individual choices or as extension programmes.

There is no specific timetable for mother tongue tuition in compulsory school. However, pupils can choose to study their minority language as the language choice offered within compulsory schools in order to ensure that teaching in minority languages takes place within the timetable for the compulsory school. The total number of hours for a language choice is 320. Pupils can also study their national minority language outside the guaranteed tuition time.

On 1 July 2024, the compulsory school syllabus in the Sami language was expanded to include a new track for Sami as a second language for beginners. For mother tongue tuition in Sami in other types of compulsory school, the same syllabus and grading criteria for the subject Sami in Sami School are used.

The following table shows the number of pupils in compulsory school, years 1–9, participating in mother tongue tuition for minority languages in the school year 2023/24 in Sweden. The table shows for example that a number of pupils do not participate in this tuition even though they could choose to do so.

Table 1. Pupils in compulsory school entitled to and participating in mother tongue tuition in minority languages in the school year 2023/24

Mother tongue	Participate	Entitled	Share (%)
Finnish	4,561	8,278	55%
Yiddish	18	26	69%
Meänkieli	156	569	27%
Romani Chib	539	2,323	23%
Sami	395	763	52%
Total	5,669	11,959	47%

Source: Swedish National Agency for Education, National minority languages in the school year 2023/24.

Table 2 shows the number of pupils in the stated year who have completed their studies in upper secondary school with a grade in a national minority language.

Table 2. Number of students who graduated from upper secondary school with a grade in the subject 'mother tongue' in minority languages

	2015/16	2019/20	2021/22	2022/23
Finnish	47	72	58	62
Yiddish	..	..	..	..
Meänkieli	..	..	..	..
Romani Chib	..	..	..	..
Sami	..	9	8	10
Total	47	81	66	72

Source: Swedish National Agency for Education, National minority languages in the school year 2023/24.

Remote teaching

Remote teaching has increased the possibilities for organisers to be able to arrange teaching in national minority languages even if the school unit or the organiser does not have a suitable teacher. Remote teaching may be provided in the subjects mother tongue (national minority languages), Sami in Sami School, modern languages, sign language and to give pupils study guidance in their mother tongue and for integrated Sami tuition in compulsory school. Remote teaching may also be used for study guidance in minority languages. The Government decided to introduce a central government grant for remote teaching in the national minority languages from 1 July 2025. The purpose of the grant is to enable more pupils to access remote teaching in one of the national minority languages.

The Swedish National Agency for Education's task to coordinate teaching in national minority languages has included the Agency reimbursing additional costs for remote teaching in the languages, and has been responsible for how remote teaching in the national minority languages can be made available to organisers. The National Agency for Education's final report on the task shows that the number of organisers who applied for central government grants for remote teaching and the number of pupils for whom the organisers applied for grants has increased (U2025/02437). Within the framework of the task, the Swedish National Agency for Education has also purchased contract education from higher education institutions to increase the proportion of qualified teachers in the national minority languages and to improve skills in a national minority language for staff in preschools.

Strengthening of teaching in Sami

With the aim of strengthening Sami tuition, for a number of years the Government has been increasing the administrative appropriation to the Sami Education Board, reaching SEK 68 million for 2026. For example, during the reporting period additional funding has been provided that is intended to boost the Sami Education Board's work with integrated teaching and to expand the production of teaching and learning materials in Sami. In 2022, the Government commissioned the Sami School Board to develop and document the work of Sami preschools with the Sami languages and the Sami culture in care, development and learning. The commission has resulted in guidelines on how to include even more of a Sami perspective in the preschools.

In spring 2025, the Government clarified the qualification requirements for teaching in the subject of Sami in Sami School in the Ordinance on qualification and certification for of teachers and preschool teachers (2011:326). These requirements aim to provide a better basis for good-quality teaching.

Since 2019, the Swedish National Agency for Education has been tasked with increasing the proportion of teachers qualified to teach in Sami through contract education. From 2025, the task was changed to also include strengthening knowledge and skills in Sami for preschool teachers.

Supply of teachers

One major obstacle for education providers in organising teaching in national minority languages, whether in regular classrooms or remotely, is the great shortage of teachers in the minority languages and the shortage of teachers in Sweden more generally. Teachers who are qualified to teach in national minority languages do not generally work full-time. Table 3 highlights the availability of teachers in minority languages and their percentage of full-time service in compulsory schools in the school year 2023/24.

Table 3. Mother tongue teachers in the minority language in the school year 2023/24 in compulsory and upper secondary schools

Language	Number of teachers	Teacher education degree (%)	Permanent employment, share (%)	Average service rate, share (%)	Number converted to full-time positions
Finnish	207	59%	69%	60%	124
Yiddish	5	..	..	11%	1
Meänkieli	11	64%	82%	57%	6
Romani Chib	30	7%	73%	44%	13
Sami	34	44%	53%	40%	13
Total	282	51%	67%	56%	157

Source: Swedish National Agency for Education, National minority languages in the school year 2023/24.

In the memorandum *Ökad kvalitet i lärarutbildningen och fler lärare i skolan* (U2021/00301) (Increased quality in teacher education and more teachers in schools) the Government proposed that the Degree of Master of Arts in Primary Education – Pre-School and School Years 1–3 and the Degree of Master of Arts in Primary Education – School Years 4–6 should be able to include mother tongue, which also includes national minority languages.

Furthermore, it was proposed that postgraduate certification to teach in the subject ‘mother tongue’, including national minority languages, should be introduced for those who hold a degree of Master of Arts/Science in secondary education or a degree of Master of Arts in Primary Education and who have supplemented their degree with further studies of at least 30 higher education credits, or the equivalent, in language education specialising in the subject of mother tongue tuition which also includes the national minority languages. The reform entered into force on 1 July 2022. All proposals have been implemented and the Ordinance (2021:1335) on

education to teachers and preschool teachers has been updated in accordance with these proposals.

In Februari 2020 the Government decided to extend the initiative to support continued professional development for teachers until 2025 and to expand it to cover more teachers, school levels and subjects. During 2021, courses in Finnish for mother tongue teachers (60 credits), corresponding to one year of full-time study are being offered at Stockholm University.

See information on the specific obligations of four higher education institutions under Article 12.

ARTICLE 15

The Parties shall create the conditions necessary for the effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs, in particular those affecting them.

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee reiterates its call on the authorities to further strengthen the oversight mechanisms of the Act on National Minorities and National Minority Languages and to consider measures that could ensure the enforcement of the law and strengthen the accountability of municipalities and state agencies in the implementation of their obligations, notably by providing for remedies in case of non-compliance. The authorities should provide further guidance to municipalities and state agencies on the implementation of this Act when shortcomings originate from them being given too wide a margin of appreciation.

In the 2024 report on the development of minority policy by the Stockholm County Administrative Board and the Sami Parliament, it is clear that there has been good progress in terms of how many municipalities and regions have objectives and guidelines for their work with minority policy efforts. The clarity of the legal requirement and the possibility of mandatory monitoring are contributing to municipalities and regions complying with their statutory obligations to a greater extent. The report also shows that administrative authorities are educating their staff regarding the legislation concerning Sweden's minorities to a greater extent. However, there are still great differences between municipalities and regions in the administrative area and other municipalities and regions.

See information about the Sami Consultation Act under Article 5.

ARTICLE 16

The Parties shall refrain from measures which alter the proportions of the population in areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities and are aimed at restricting the rights and freedoms flowing from the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention.

Developments in Sweden do not necessitate any further reporting under this Article.

ARTICLE 17

17.1 The Parties undertake not to interfere with the right of persons belonging to national minorities to establish and maintain free and peaceful contacts across frontiers with persons

lawfully staying in other States, in particular those with whom they share an ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity, or a common cultural heritage.

17.2 The Parties undertake not to interfere with the right of persons belonging to national minorities to participate in the activities of non-governmental organisations, both at the national and international levels.

Developments in Sweden do not necessitate any further reporting under this Article.

See Article 18 for information on Sweden's transfrontier work in the area of minority policy.

ARTICLE 18

18.1 The Parties shall endeavour to conclude, where necessary, bilateral and multilateral agreements with other States, in particular neighbouring States, in order to ensure the protection of persons belonging to the national minorities concerned.

18.2 Where relevant, the Parties shall take measures to encourage transfrontier cooperation.

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee calls on the authorities to harmonise and facilitate the referral procedures for Sami patients seeking specialist mental health care support from the Norway-based Sami competence national service for mental health care and intoxication (SANKS).

Recommendation from the Council of Europe: The Advisory Committee calls on the authorities to continue to seek consensus on the ratification of the ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries so as to secure the rights of the Sámi as an indigenous people.

Roma inclusion

For Roma inclusion, there are well-developed networks at European level. The Government Offices was previously Sweden's National Roma Contact Point (NRCP), but MUCF took over this responsibility on 1 January 2026. The Government Offices continue to participate in the Council of Europe's expert group ADI-ROM.

Nordic co-operation

The Nordic Sami Convention is a Convention whose purpose is to strengthen the rights of the Sami people so that the Sami people can preserve and develop their culture, their languages and their community life, with the least possible hindrance of the country borders between Sweden, Norway and Finland. The three governments and the Sami Parliament in each country participated in the negotiations leading up to the Convention. These negotiations began in 2010. The chairs of the six delegations initialled the text of the Convention in January 2017. After this, differences of opinion arose concerning the text, which led to a halt to the process of signing the Convention. In 2022 and 2023, the Swedish Government took an active role in trying to overcome these differences. These attempts failed however, and since 2023 the process of signing the Convention has stalled.

In May 2024, a new Declaration on Nordic Language Policy was signed by the Nordic Council of Ministers. The aim of the Declaration is to form the basis for an overall, cohesive, long-term, and effective language policy. The objectives in the Declaration will be followed up by way of work programmes in the Nordic Council of Ministers which will be regularly reviewed.

In the period 2019–2022, ISOF coordinated the project *Små språk i Norden* (Minority languages in the Nordic region), funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers. The project has highlighted and spread knowledge about the situation for the minority languages in the Nordic countries and how the languages can be revitalised. The initiative developed Nordic language cooperation and contributed to strengthening the minority languages in the Nordic region.

Sami Giellagáldu is the joint Nordic language cooperation body that has the task to carry out language maintenance and standardization for the Sami languages. The body is formed by the Sami Parliaments in Sweden, Norway and Finland. During 2022–2024, funds were added to the Sami Parliament's work regarding Sami Giellagáldu.

A number of government agencies and several national minority organisations also cooperate transfrontier in their respective spheres of activity.

See information about the Nordic Government Officials Body for Sami Affairs under the same article in Sweden's fifth report.

SANKS

Kunskapsnätverket för samisk hälsa (the knowledge network for Sami health), which is a collaboration between the five northernmost regions of Sweden, has been working since 2017 to promote good health and equal treatment for the indigenous Sami people. The network has an ongoing dialogue with SANKS (the Sami national advisory unit – mental health and substance abuse) with the aim of simplifying and improving the procedure for referring patients. This concerns both being able to clarify and make it easy for those who refer patients (primary care and psychiatry) and satisfying SANKS's need for relevant information about the patients. The knowledge network for Sami health has developed a proposal for an improved referral procedure and is awaiting feedback from SANKS on the proposal. The knowledge network for Sami health also continuously informs the regions about the existence of SANKS and about the possibility of referring patients there. Information about SANKS can be found on the regions' intranets and at the healthcare service 1177. Information for patients is available on 1177 and at all healthcare units.

ILO 169

ILO Convention No. 169 is broad and covers many areas. A prerequisite for ratifying the convention is the approval of the Swedish parliament. Before the parliament takes a position, all questions regarding the legal consequences of accession to the convention must be investigated. There is currently no set timetable for the work.