



Resolution Bank

Nordiska Centerungdomens Förbund

Adopted resolutions since 2012



norden

Nordisk Børne- og Ungdoms-
komité – NORDBUK



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Top Meeting 2012 – Stockholm, Sweden

Erosion of fundamental rights in Hungary

Top Meeting 2012 – Stockholm, Sweden

Hungary has experienced an erosion of fundamental rights and freedoms during the past year, 2011, which also has affected the democratic institutions. The European Parliament, the European Commission, the UN, Council of Europe, OSCE, the US administration, NGOs and media have expressed their concerns in relation to the development in the country. Not only has the freedom of expression been curtailed by the new media law which entered into force on January 1, 2011, but the entry into force of a new Constitution and the enactment of a series of laws approved by the Hungarian Parliament on December 30, 2011, are proof of the authoritarian development in the country.

The new media law requires all media outlets to register with a media control body, with members appointed by the ruling party in parliament. The control body will be able to impose fines for imbalanced news coverage, insulting a particular group or "the majority", or for violating the public morality. The law also removes legal protection against the disclosure of journalists' sources. According to Human Rights Watch the media law "undermines media freedom and is incompatible with Hungary's human rights obligations".

The European Commission has expressed its concerns that the new Hungarian Constitution is in violation of the legislation of the EU. The main concerns are the independence of the Central Bank, of the judiciary and of the data protection authority. The new law concerning the Central Bank increases the powers of the politicians, since the vice presidents of the bank are to be appointed by the prime minister and the Parliament - where the ruling party Fidesz has more than a two thirds majority. The mandatory early retirement of judges at an age of 62 and limiting the parliamentary budget powers are other matters of concern.

Considering the worrying erosion of fundamental rights and freedoms in Hungary Svensk Ungdom:

- requests NCF to influence UNR to raise the issue in NR, given that the Hungarian government does not completely back on its infringements on freedoms in Hungary
- calls upon all member organizations in NCF to raise the issue in their mother parties
- calls for a joint statement by the Nordic countries condemning the recent developments in Hungary

"The current authoritarian developments in the Hungarian government are unprecedented in the history of the European Union. Revoking the voting rights of the Republic of Hungary in the Council is the only way to show the Hungarian government the seriousness of the situation and to leave no doubt as to the democratic will of the EU" states LYMEC President Alexander Plahr. "The European Union is first and foremost a union of values. Limiting the parliamentary budget powers, the independence of the Central Bank, the judiciary and the media cannot be accepted in any European Member State. The steady erosion of Hungarian democracy and open society by the authoritarian Viktor Orbán must be opposed at all costs."



Repskap 2012 – Tampere, Finland

Environment and Resources

Repskapet 2012 – Tampere, Finland

The understanding of the link between the environment and security, development and economy is rising, with increasing demand of shared action and responsibility of states.

The Nordic Countries have the opportunity to share their expertise and experience in the fields of natural resources, the living ocean, fisheries and renewable energy, and encourage sustainable development, biological diversity, clean climate as well as security and prosperity.

Therefore, the NCF:

- Emphasizes the increased importance of the ocean for these objectives
- Emphasizes the rule of law and the enforcement of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea
- Emphasizes local management of natural resources and rights and obligations of coastal states
- Emphasizes the need to contravene illegal hunting and fishing and protect vulnerable stocks
- Emphasizes the importance of palpable science in decision making.

The Nordic Council upon the agenda

Repskapet 2012 – Tampere, Finland

Sixty years has passed since the Nordic council was founded in 1952. Throughout the years the Nordic cooperation has resulted in important progress which we today take for granted. The Nordic Council was a forerunner and the Nordic cooperation gave us the possibilities to travel within the Nordic countries without passport and the possibility to work and study in the Nordic countries well before the Schengen-agreement and the EU.

The council has 87 elected members, from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the Faroe Islands, Greenland and the Åland Islands. It is still a special and well-functioning agency for cooperation globally. When Finland and Sweden became members of the European Union in 1995 (Denmark 1973) it resulted in a decreased interest for the Nordic Council.

The significance that the Nordic Council and the Nordic cooperation have had is not the same anymore, 60 years after the founding of the council. Nordic Centre youth believes that the Nordic Council can be a key player in Europe and within the EU. Even if all countries in the council are not EU members, still all Nordic countries have a lot to gain from being strong



together within the EU. All Nordic stakeholders will win by agreeing within the Nordic countries before EU-meetings, and we also believe that the EU can gain from it. A 60-yearlong cooperation can't be relocated nor get lower priority. Quite the opposite, new means should be found for the Nordic Council, challenges shall be met with common solutions and development.

NCF invokes a greater engagement from all Nordic countries in the Nordic Council and that the importance also will be noticed through active participation and attendance during the annual session of the Nordic Council from all prime-ministers, ministers and parliament members from the states and Self-Governing areas.

A Nordic emergency plan!

(Sent to UNR 2012)

The Nordic countries have different access to natural resources. As a consequence, they also have different energy sources.

Though the Nordic countries have separate approaches regarding the use of nuclear power, all the Nordic countries share a common interest regarding the safety of nuclear power plants.

From the Chernobyl disaster we learned that there are no borders in the case of contamination of radioactive fuel and core materials. A nuclear disaster in one of the Nordic countries could have a great impact on all Nordic countries.

That is why we need a Nordic awareness concerning nuclear power. Especially as nuclear power is of great importance in the Nordic countries.

In Sweden, about 42% of the energy is from nuclear power, and Finland has just decided to build several nuclear power plants.

Though there are no commercial plants in Norway, the country does have some research-reactors and produce knowledge on safety technology.

Nuclear power will also be of importance in the future for the Nordic countries. Therefore, the safety of nuclear power must be strengthened. The Nordic countries must be an example to other countries concerning nuclear power.

NCF wants:

- A Nordic emergency plan in case of disaster. - use of more resources dedicated to the safety of nuclear power. - to extend nuclear safety co-operation beyond the Nordic countries.



Top Meeting 2013 – Malmö, Sweden

Resolution on the protection of the Arctic area

(Sent to UNR 2014)

The interest and activity in the Arctic area are rapidly increasing, both within EU and on a global level. Minerals, forests, marine resources and tourism opportunities constitute significant renewable and non-renewable resources of high economic interest. Moreover, it is estimated that about a fifth of the remaining undiscovered hydrocarbon resources are located in the Arctic.

Norway has already experience in offshore oil exploration at Snøhvitfeltet; Greenland has approved drilling in the Disko Bay and the U.S. and Iceland has allowed offshore oil exploration. Russia is planning to open an oil rig located in the Arctic seas shortly, about 60 km off-coast – however, the security arrangements surrounding this are yet unclear. Canada has been drilling along the coast of the Arctic, and while not yet approved offshore drilling,

it has been stressed that any emissions caused by such procedure need to be controlled within reasonable time. Furthermore, several non-Arctic states are showing increasing interest in the area, for example by South Korea, China, Italy, Japan and Singapore applying alongside the EU for status as permanent observers at the Arctic Council.

Considering that:

- The Arctic is an extremely challenging environment because of its climate, ice, distance to urban areas as well as the recurring lack of daylight.
- Possible accidents in the area would affect multiple parties, the Arctic question is hardly limited by national borders and calls for a broad-minded approach.
- The Arctic not only is a preserve, but also provides the homes and livelihood for four million people, of which ten percent identify as part of some indigenous people. The inhabitants need to be included in the decision-making process regarding the Arctic, emphasising mutual understanding and dialogue. Preserving the possibility for the indigenous peoples to pursue their traditional livelihoods and way of life must be considered in accordance with the internationally recognized rights of indigenous peoples.

Believing that:

- Minimum standards for ships and oil rigs should be established in order to avoid accidents. Safer technologies and processes also need to be developed, as well as significant improvements in terms of capacity and infrastructure in the case of an accident.
- However big the economic significance of the area, and the interests of several parties involved, the activity in the Arctic cannot be based solely on economic visions. Environmental issues need to be taken into account and prioritized over the interests of the oil industry or possible economic benefits from the Arctic.



- The role of the Arctic Council should not be overlooked and disregarded in favour of national interests and the discussions on the Arctic issues should be guided by the UN Convention of the law of the sea.

Nordiska Centerungdomens Förbund calls for:

- A comprehensive risk analysis and Environmental Impact Assessment to be conducted as a prerequisite to any extraction of oil, gas or minerals in the Arctic areas.
- A safe guard for the protection of the rights of the indigenous peoples when exploiting natural resources of the Arctic, inter alia by implementing the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights by the United Nations, along with the guidelines set up by OECD.
- The Arctic cooperation to be intensified, in terms of capacity-building, developing new technology and managing emissions, as well as setting up requirements for using the safest technology available and the development towards legally binding agreements between the Arctic States on clearing up oil emissions.
- Measures to be most appropriately taken through closer cooperation between the member parties of the Arctic Council, due to the multilateral character of the Arctic question as well as the number of interests at stake.
- Efforts to further develop and strengthen the common Arctic policy of the Nordic countries, in order to facilitate the cooperation and decision-making progress in the Arctic Council.



Free education for all!

(Sent to UNR)

Denmark and Sweden have introduced tuition fees for students from countries outside the EU and EEA. Statistics from Sweden show a decrease of 79 % in students from these countries as a result of the fees, and results from a pilot project in Finland shows that the costs for implementing fees are higher than the income generated.

NCF is worried that this debate is moving to Norway and Iceland as well, and we are worried about the consequences of such a development. All concerned parties agree that all Nordic countries need international students, and the introduction of tuition fees to some of those students will, as statistics show, result in a remarkable decrease in the amount of students from the countries outside the EU and EEA.

In a purely Nordic perspective, since both Greenland and the Faroe Islands are outside the EU and EEA, students from these decidedly Nordic countries today have to pay tuition fees if they want to study in Sweden and Denmark.

Countries not implementing tuition fees have a competitive advantage over countries that do.

Considering that:

- The amount of international students from outside the EU and EEA has decreased rapidly in Denmark and Sweden since the introduction of fees.
- The Finnish pilot project shows that costs for implementing fees are higher than the income generated.
- All Nordic countries need international students.

The NCF calls for:

- No tuition fees for any students studying in the Nordic countries.
- A removal of the tuition fees for students from countries outside the EU and EEA in Sweden and Denmark.
- A continuation of the status quo in Finland, Norway and Iceland.
- Students from Greenland and the Faroe Islands to be included in the Nordic system for no tuition fees.



Top Meeting 2014 – Trondheim, Norway

Maintain the common Nordic labour market for health care professionals

Top Meeting 2014 – Trondheim, Norway

Noting that:

- The first agreement on a common Nordic labour market for health care professionals was signed in 1972. According to the agreement, health care professionals or veterinaries who have acquired required qualifications in one Nordic country are recognized as equally competent in any other Nordic country.
- There is a risk that the agreement will be terminated. The reason for the termination would be directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications, which is considered to overlap the Nordic agreement. In addition, some loopholes between the two legal frameworks have reportedly been taken advantage of.
- Nordic unions and associations for these professions have reacted strongly against the proposal. Press releases with their statements were given in late January 2014.
- Nordic Council of Ministers for Health and Social Affairs (MR-S) will decide on terminating the agreement in June 2014.

Considering that:

- Many health care professionals who have completed their education in one Nordic country are working in another, especially in Norway. It is also commonplace for students to complete their degree in another Nordic state than their home country. Following the agreement, it is easier for health care professionals with a non-EES degree recognized in one Nordic country to also have their qualification recognized in another Nordic country.
- The EU directive excludes 16 health care professionals that are currently covered by the Nordic agreement. Thus, if terminated, the Nordic common labor market would become narrower and more limited in this field.
- Abuses of the inter-compatibility of the two legal frameworks can be solved by less limiting means. For instance, through amending some provisions in the treaty – instead terminating it.

The NCF calls for:

- That the governments of the Nordic countries, for instance through the Nordic Council of Ministers for Health and Social Affairs (MR-S) will keep the agreement for a common Nordic labour market for health care professionals in force.
- That the agreements will be amended in order to prevent abuse in relation to the EU directive.



Enforced Nordic cooperation on infrastructure

Top Meeting 2014 – Trondheim, Norway

Noting that:

- Interaction between Nordic countries needs more common ideas and co-operation on infrastructure. Roads, power grids and information technology networks are coming more and more important for the future of the Nordic countries. At the same time those investments are getting more expensive to make in the current economic situation of Europe.
- The arctic region offers great opportunities to Nordic countries, but we can't fully embrace the huge possibilities in the north without co-operation. It is crucial to our countries to use our full potential at the arctic and not just watch while economic superpowers gather all resources from our backyard.
- There is no need for competition between Nordic countries on infrastructure investments, since together we can achieve more than working alone on similar objectives. Working together on our common challenges can help us achieve more and be more economic and efficient.
- Further Nordic co-operation can benefit all the Nordic people and be the key to a brighter future for the Nordic.

The NCF calls for:

- The Nordic council should put infrastructure politics more strongly on their agenda, including transportation, information networks and power grids. The objective should be in pin-pointing our common interests in infrastructure development and increasing Nordic co-operation in this field. Infrastructure of the arctic area should get special attention in the Nordic co-operation.



Establish more everyday interaction between children and youth in the Nordic countries

Top Meeting 2014 – Trondheim, Norway

Noting that:

- Today the Nordic cooperation covers almost all political fields, from tax and security issues to cultural agreements. The current Nordic cooperation building process has been ongoing for more than 60 years – moreover since 1952 when the Nordic Council was founded – and has over time developed rapidly and intensified.

Considering that:

- The Nordic cooperation agreements cover most aspects of life, and that there are about 30 Nordic institutions supporting this cooperation, hence that the Nordic states naturally are bound together by common values, culture and political system to mention a few aspects. However, still the Nordic dimension among Nordic citizens vary greatly and are in general not so strong. The political communication tools are in place, but the civil tools are still lacking behind.

Believing that:

- By enhancing and bringing the contact surface between Nordic children and youth closer to their everyday life, the Nordic cooperation and the Nordic dimension will also create a true civil community dimension. With a stronger civil sense of a Nordic community, the Nordic cooperation can enter a new enforced stage in developing the Nordic cooperation but also in its international political ambitions. In the current globalized economy and political reality, a united intertwined Nordic power has a lot of to offer the international community. Our Nordic values and knowledge are respected internationally but need a strong voice.

The NCF calls for:

- A common Nordic strategy, implemented by the Nordic Council of Ministers for education and research, MR-U, to increase the contact surface for Nordic children and youth, by:
 - Establishing more twin-school activities between the Nordic countries.
 - Increasing short-term student exchanges within the Nordics at primary school and lower secondary school.
 - Introducing more cooperation and activities between Nordic universities and vocational schools.



Individual and efficient integration measures for immigrants

Top Meeting 2014 – Trondheim, Norway

Noting that:

Today, in every Nordic country, the number of immigrants and people of foreign descent neither in employment nor education is clearly higher than the national average. The disproportion is especially prevalent in the case of young immigrants and young people with parents born abroad. The situation these groups face is likely to lead to problems, both at the individual and societal level.

The population in all Nordic countries is aging, leading towards more elderly people and less youth. If unchanged, these demographics will lead to serious challenges in maintaining the Nordic welfare state in the future.

Considering that:

- According to statistics, it can take up to three years for an immigrant to get a place at an integration or language course and getting in to the labour market can take up to 8-10 years. Many highly educated immigrants never get a job equivalent to their skills and expertise.
- The language courses for immigrants often disregard the different backgrounds and starting points of the participants, and both analphabetic and university graduates are put in the same groups.
- Lack of language skills, employment and social networks outside the family can put whole families at risk of being marginalized, and for the marginalization to be inherited by following generations.

Believing that:

- The integration process could be speeded up by giving individual aspects more consideration. Also, integration and language courses should be available directly after entering a country. In addition to the integration and language courses, participation in common activities is key to integration.
- Anonymous job applications will decrease both direct and indirect discrimination on the labor market. The employers and organizers for leisure-time activities need to be aware of cultural aspects, and take them into better consideration, especially regarding youth.
- The Nordic countries need more and more efficient manpower to stay competitive in a global perspective. Thus, we need immigration and internationalization, and we need not to leave anyone outside the labor market, nor the society, due to discrimination or shortcomings of integration programs

The NCF calls for:

- The governments of the Nordic countries to work on improving integration measures, for instance through the Nordic Council, by:



- The integration process to be speeded up by giving individual aspects, such as education and professional background, more consideration. Also, integration offers, including language courses should be available directly after entering a country.
- Recommending the practice of anonymous job application processes to be used to a higher extent, for positions where otherwise can't be especially motivated
- Encouraging public and private youth or leisure time organizations to become more available and attractive especially for youth with multicultural backgrounds, for instance by getting more educated on cultural diversity. Also suggesting a stronger cooperation between municipalities and leisure time organizations.



Repskap 2014 – Helsinki, Finland

The promotion for the rights of sexual minorities

(Sent to UNR 2014)

Noting that:

- We are concerned about the development of sexual minorities' rights is getting worse in several countries. Sexual minorities should enjoy the same rights as the majority and have their fundamental human rights equally protected. Also, at the moment homosexuals and other sexual minorities do not have equal rights as heterosexuals in Nordic countries, for example the right to marry.

NCF calls for:

- Nordic countries should promote the rights of sexual minorities in an European and a global context.
- The Nordic countries should continue their work towards equal rights for all, for example the right for homosexuals to marry.

Establish a common Nordic strategic energy and climate policy

(Sent to UNR 2014)

Noting that:

- The Nordic countries are precursors for green and smart energy solutions and belong to the foremost pioneers in their work to reduce greenhouse emissions.
- The Nordic countries have the technological know-how and financial strength to set a good example in the global energy and climate policy, and to take the lead in stipulating and developing the global environmental policy.

Considering that:

- The climate is a central part of the Nordic cooperation representing a very important common interest, especially with regards to the Arctic region and the Baltic Sea. Due to the geographic and environmental similarities between the Nordic countries, inter-Nordic cooperation and sharing of best practises on this field may lead to more effective results compared to on an European or global level.
- The Nordic Council has since 1996 operated a climate group to coordinate common climate initiatives, and to implement international climate agreements. The Nordic Council also runs an Environment and Natural Resources Committee, which addresses Nordic and global challenges and raises issues of importance for the Nordic region and the EU agenda.



- The Nordic countries have great green energy advantages, the world's best functioning electricity trade market in Nordel and Nordpool, and an established energy research cooperation in Nordic Energy Research.

Believing that:

- A common Nordic strategic energy and climate policy would enhance the Nordic region as the forerunner in environmentally friendly energy solutions and in that way strengthen the Nordic competitiveness and the Nordic impact on international and European climate talks. The Nordics could become the “Green Valley of Europe”.
- The Nordic energy- and cleantech cooperation would increase and improve, thus develop the Nordic region into a more defined and internationally recognized energy- and cleantech expert.
- The Nordic coordination of future energy- and climate strategies would generate benefits for the environment and community planning and would make it easier to reach national and Nordic environmental goals. The future potential of exporting clean energy could also bring economic advantages as well as help other countries in reaching their environmental goals.

The NCF calls for:

- A common Nordic strategic energy and climate policy, which would stipulate clear, ambitious and sustainable targets for:
 - Reducing greenhouse emissions
 - Investing in green energy solutions/technology and research
 - Developing a sustainable consumption culture on all levels of society.

Combat and prevent Net Hate

(Sent to UNR 2014)

Noting that:

- Anonymous threats over the internet are becoming more common as larger parts of our lives are online. During the last six months two major cases of anonymous online threats and hatred have been noticed by the media, first the myriad of threats towards female journalists in Sweden, made famous by the TV show Uppdrag Granskning in early February, and more recently the threats and hateful e-mails sent to journalists, mostly female, and other public persons who have openly defended the Swedish language and bilingualism in Finland in late May.

Considering that:



- In many cases the hateful and threatening e-mails have been sent using multiple proxy servers, making it hard or impossible to trace the sender, which makes it very hard to prosecute even if the criteria for unlawful threat are met. This might lead to curtailing the internet freedom in order to prevent these cases in the future, which would be a very unfortunate turn of events.
- Whether it is one person sending multiple hate mails, as the authorities implied in the Finnish case, or many individuals acting on their own, creating an atmosphere of fear and hatred is always wrong and should be condemned. Authorities and politicians need to put down their foot and make a statement, in order to make it clear that actions like the ones in Sweden and Finland are not accepted in our Nordic societies.

Believing that:

- Everyone, despite gender, sexuality or ethnic background, should freely and without fear be able to participate in the public debate in the Nordic society, which should be based on the human right of freedom of speech.
- It is a great concern that most of the anonymous threats over the internet are addressed towards women and the problem ought to be recognized as a gender issue. A gender perspective needs to be taken into consideration when discussing this issue, which has to be analysed in a broad context. In order to combat anonymous threats and hate messages over the internet we need to define and analyse the causes for such a behaviour.

The NCF calls for:

- Condemnation of all threats, and an expression of concern with the implications these events may have on internet freedom in the Nordic countries.
- That the governments of the Nordic countries, for instance through the Nordic Council, work together to investigate what can be done to prevent online threats and hatred, without effecting the freedom on the internet.
- That guidelines for what is acceptable behaviour online – and what is not – should be part of education.
- That the gender perspective is stressed when analysing and combatting the phenomenon of Net Hate.



Repskap 2015 – Stockholm, Sweden

Ban ships' sewage in the Baltic Sea

Noting that:

- The Baltic Sea receives more than 350 cruise ship visits with over 2,100 port calls each year and the numbers are rapidly growing. The waste water produced in these vessels is estimated to contain 113 tons of nitrogen and 38 tons of phosphorus. Today, the lion's share of this sewage is discharged into the Baltic Sea.
- The waste water not only increases eutrophication of the sea, but also contains bacteria, viruses and other pathogens, as well as heavy metals. Eutrophication is considered the main environmental problem of the Baltic Sea, causing both biological and economic damage to marine environment and coastal areas.
- Many of the ports in the Baltic Sea region lack sewage treatment facilities and capacity to accommodate nearly 300 cubic meters of wastewater per hour. One particular problem is that the waste water dumping occurs during the summer months when the algal bloom in the Baltic Sea area already is serious.

Considering that:

- In 2010, the UN International Maritime Organization (IMO) decided to introduce a ban on the dumping of sewage from passenger ships, set to enter into force in 2016. However, in the summer of 2014, Poland, Germany and Russia announced that they were unable to achieve the required commitments.
- The problem is not limited to the lack of sewage treatment infrastructure such as facilities, pipelines and pumping capacity, but the lack of prohibition in law.

Believing that:

- Failure to address these shortcomings has negative environmental, social and economic consequences both directly and indirectly on the whole Baltic Sea region, including the Nordic countries. Thus, political measures require full commitment by these actors.

The NCF calls for:

- That a ban on dumping of waste water from cruise ships in the Baltic Sea shall enter into force as soon as possible in all states around the Baltic Sea.
- That the governments of the Nordic countries, for instance through the Nordic Council, work together to raise awareness about this environmental disaster in the Baltic Sea and towards being forerunners in pursuing policy frameworks to ensure adequate protection of the Baltic Sea environment.



Reform the Nordic Council

The Nordic Council is more than 60 years old. Since the birth of the council a lot has changed – the EU was created, the Cold War ended, and a majority of the Nordic countries joined the European community. Unfortunately, the Nordic Council did not change according to its surroundings and has lost relevance for its citizens. We need to rebuild the Nordic Council around our political visions for the Nordic countries.

A new approach to agreements

As of today, nothing goes through the Nordic Council without full consensus. The consequence is that the political aspect of the cooperation is lost, and agreements watered down to being near irrelevant for its citizens as the lowest common denominator is always reached. And when agreements are reached, there is no institution to ensure their implementation.

The Nordic Centre Youth wants to have a Nordic Council that reaches ambitious agreements, and where a qualified majority can close agreements. This will make the Nordic Council much more relevant for both its citizens and the rest of the world. Furthermore, an independent institution is needed to settle disputes and ensure the correct implementation of Nordic agreements.

Deeper cooperation in key areas

The Nordic Council needs to focus on fewer political areas but focus deeper on the ones where the Nordic aspect creates value. We need to position ourselves in the rest of the world and ensure we build on our strengths. The Nordic Council should cover the following areas:

- Environment, energy and climate
- Welfare, equality and employment
- Culture, education and research
- Development and human rights

The Nordic Centre Youth wants stronger cooperation in all of these areas, as it will make us an important and relevant player on the global scene. It will also allow the Nordic countries to focus their efforts to further strengthen our position in these key areas.

Integration in national parliaments

The Nordic Council consists of members of the national parliaments that are indirectly elected to represent their countries. The engagement of the respective national parliaments is not institutionalized, and this damages the legitimacy and engagement in the political process.



The Nordic Centre Youth wants the Nordic element to be incorporated in all national legislation on the 4 key areas of Nordic cooperation. The national parliaments need to be heard on Nordic legislation, which will integrate Nordic politics closely in national politics.

Recognise Western Sahara now!

When the former colonial power Spain withdrew from the area, the liberation movement in Western Sahara (Polisario Front) declared an independent state, The Saharawi Arabic Democratic Republic (SADR). Since the declaration, the SADR has been recognised by more than 80 states and is today a fully-fledged member of the African Union. But in 1975 Morocco occupied Western Sahara and started a long lasting process of moving people in to the southern part of Western Sahara, and a 16 year war started.

In 1991, after 16 years of war a cease-fire was agreed. And it was planned to carry out a referendum in 1992. In the referendum, they were to decide whether Western Sahara should be an independent state or not. Morocco has delayed this referendum and in 2015 the referendum still hasn't found place.

According to the International, Court of Justice in The Hague, Morocco does not have legitimate historic claims on Western Sahara, and no country has recognised Western Sahara as Moroccan territory. Despite of this, and in violation of international conventions, Morocco exploits Western Sahara's natural resources. Internationally Morocco is trying to present Western Sahara as part of Morocco.

Different Nordic businesses are operating inside the occupied Western Sahara on commission by the Moroccan State. In addition, EU have different trading agreements with Morocco that indirectly supports the occupation.

Since 1991, UN has had an operation in Western Sahara, MINURSO, with a mandate to prepare and organize the referendum, monitor the cease-fire, implement the repatriation programme, and verify the reduction of Moroccan troops in the Territory. MINURSO is the only UN operation that don't have human rights as a mandate.

On this background NCF calls for:

- The Nordic countries recognise The Saharawi Arabic Democratic Republic as an independent state. The countries should through their diplomatic channels create a pressure for the Western Sahara cause.
- The Nordic countries to search for efficient methods to stop the Nordic business cooperation with Morocco within the occupied areas and start to do business with the SADR instead.
- The Nordic countries to work together with the EU to stop the trading with Morocco inside Western Sahara as well as putting the issue on the common, European agenda.
- The Nordic countries to work towards the UN operation MINURSO getting human rights in its Mandate.



A common European, humanitarian search and rescue mission to the Mediterranean

Considering that:

- Hundreds of thousands of people are risking their lives to cross Europe's borders.
- The conflict in Syria and Iraq is on-going, and that the UNHCR as of January 2015 has registered 3.7 million Syrian refugees alone.
- The number of refugees trying to access Europe is likely to rise.
- More than 3000 refugees have died, while trying to cross the Mediterranean, during 2014.
- Italy has formally ended their “Mare Nostrum” refugee search and rescue mission, and that the Italian navy from October 2013-14 has picked up over 100 000 refugees.

Recognizing that:

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights article 14 states that “(1) Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.”
- It is not right that Italy takes on this responsibility alone.

Concerned that:

- The number of people dying while attempting to seek refuge in Europe is increasing.

Believing that:

- Everyone has the right to the pursuit of happiness, and that all humans are equal.
- Every life lost at Europe’s borders is one too many, and that the European countries have a common moral obligation to save as many lives as possible.
- The worries that more refugees will try to cross over the Mediterranean, if there is humanitarian search and rescue mission, does not inflict on the moral obligation to save lives when possible.
- Giving this responsibility to FRONTEX will cause a conflict of interest between border patrol and humanitarian efforts.

NCF calls for:

- The creation of a European search and rescue patrol based on a shared responsibility between the European countries.
- That the patrol will be a humanitarian effort, and that this effort will not be a part of FRONTEX. This to ensure that the humanitarian responsibilities will not conflict with border guarding duties.
- The Nordic countries to be at the forefront at putting this issue higher on the European political agenda.



Repskap 2016 – Oslo, Norway

Nordic recognition of the state of Palestine

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been going on for most of the 20th century, and no end seems to be in sight as of yet, even though we are now well into the 21st century. No solution to this conflict is going to be easy, but a major problem for further progress is the fact that most Western states do not even recognise Palestinian statehood (as of today only 2 Nordic

countries and 9 EU member states). To make a two-state solution without illegal settlements and border walls a possibility in the future, it is absolutely essential to recognise that Israel and Palestine are two equal parties with equal rights, and to treat them accordingly.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon:

- All Nordic countries to put forward a joint statement officially recognising the right of the Palestinian people to their own state.
- All Nordic EU member states to work towards a joint recognition of the state of Palestine in Europe.
- All Nordic countries to work towards full Palestinian membership of the UN.
- All Nordic countries to elevate the Palestinian representation in their country to the status of embassy. (-maybe change this word)

Equal parental leave in the Nordic Countries

Equal parental leave is essential for gender equality in the labor market and custody matters. The Nordic countries have long been a frontrunner in gender equality and it is

time for all Nordic countries to impose equal parental leave.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon:

- All Nordic countries to enforce equal parental leave, where one third of the total leave period is earmarked for one parent, one third is earmarked for the other and the last third is free for the parents to dispoise between them as they wish.
- Special parental leave arrangements can be made for families with a special situation.



Top Meeting 2016 – Helsinki, Finland

Protect net-neutrality

(Sent to UNR 2016)

The Internet is a huge source for information, used by millions of people around the world every day. Its growing involvement in today's society ensures informed citizens, and thus it has helped democracy to grow stronger. It ensures opportunities for innovation and growth. It makes communication between people and governments possible. It is an invention of countless possibilities.

Today the Internet is an inseparable part of our daily lives, and our community. However, there has been a growing debate about the Internet provider's right, to regulate speed and information on the Internet.

An involvement that could reduce people's free access to fundamental information and knowledge. The Internet websites with great resources at their disposal could gain more control over our Internet habits, while non-profit websites would lose greatly on such regulation. This would hurt people's freedom greatly on the Internet.

Therefore, NCF requests the Nordic countries to protect net-neutrality, and the possibility to share legal data and information freely on the Internet.

Nordic cooperation for more humane treatment of refugees

(Sent to UNR 2016)

It was estimated that there were approximately 60 million refugees in the world during the end of 2015 and little more than a million made it to Europe that same year.

Politically, a lot of things were being done wrong, some things were done right but the thing that was absolutely clear was that Europe was not prepared for the situation.

Therefore, it is of most importance that we now take a responsible role in preventing this from happening again. This we will do by working for developing more safe opportunities for people in need to seek refuge and a better future.

Therefore, the NCF:

- Emphasizes the need of legal ways for people to seek refuge from war and oppression. Calls for the Nordic countries to give people the opportunity to seek asylum at their embassies around the world.
- Emphasizes the need for an easier system for people from across the world to legally study and seek work within Europe and the Nordic region.
- Emphasizes the benefits that come with a multicultural society.
- Secure and finance the UN food program in their refugee camps.



Resolution on student support in the Nordic countries

As welfare countries the Nordic nations have always had an emphasis on education for all, with a large percentage of the population having a tertiary education. The Nordic nations have also pushed for mobility and equality. However, seeking a higher education is not as easy in all Nordic countries due to financial barriers between the Nordic countries.

Today each Nordic country supports its students in different ways. Icelandic students can only get loans while the Danish can get full funding from the state. For equal opportunities to seek higher education in a Nordic country of choice a common student support policy should be in place. A common policy between all countries where at least 50% support is granted would enable Nordic students to travel between countries and seek education of their choice. Be it a Finnish student in Norway or a student from Greenland in Iceland.

Therefore, the NCF calls for:

- A common student support policy in the Nordic region enabling all to seek education of their choice and further strengthening the bonds between education systems in the region.
- The NCF calls for establishing a working group in UNR that compare already existing student support systems and suggests a common and fair funding solution to balance financial differences between the countries

Resolution on Nordic Energy Perspectives

(Sent to UNR 2016)

The Nordic nations have been leading in green technology for the past decades, powering our countries with wind, hydro and geothermal energy. The ambitious Paris agreement on keeping climate change below 2°C was signed by all Nordic nations. According to recently published Nordic Energy Technology Perspectives (2016) the energy sector is responsible for 57% of emissions in the region, power generation and transport having the biggest shares, 17% and 21% respectively. To achieve a reduction in emission in those sectors an ambitious agreement within the region and directives are needed.

The Nordic nations should continue to lead and set a good example when it comes to environmental awareness and sustainable development. Therefore, the NCF calls for an ambitious strategy from the Nordic council to enhance interconnections within the region, electrification of vehicles and a higher price of CO₂.



Repskap 2017 – Helsingborg, Sweden

Decriminalise the consumption of illegal drugs

Use of drugs is an extensive health and social problem for all Nordic countries and will continue to be so in the future. But the current legislation and battle against illegal drugs, still have limited effect, if some at all.

Considering that a majority of people with drug addictions, can be referred to as social excluded, it is hard to see how long prison sentences and hard punishments can help addictive people rehabilitate. The fight against illegal drugs, should not result in punishing the already affected party, but help them fight their problem.

NCF therefore calls upon the Nordic countries, to decriminalise the possession, and consumption, of illegal drugs in dosages within the limits of personal use. Selling, distributing and producing these drugs, should continue to be illegal, as well as consuming such drugs in public spaces.

Stop the Nord Stream Pipeline

The Russian energy firm Gazprom has formally requested permission, to create a new Nord stream pipeline 2, that runs through Scandinavian territory. The purpose is to provide central Europe, with higher access to Russian gas. The Nord Stream 2, has however, turned out to be both an environmental and security risk.

To escalate gas consumption in Europe, is not sustainable for our climate, and would be a step backwards in the fight against pollution and climate changes. Europe and Scandinavia need to continue the fight, for more sustainable energy.

NCF therefore calls upon the Nordic countries, to decline Gazprom's request for a new Nord stream pipeline, and instead continue the adaption of more sustainable and green energy sources.



The NCF calls for action against plastic pollution

(Sent to UNR 2017)

Plastics are a growing environmental issue and becoming a global problem. It is assumed that only around 20% of plastic used in the world makes it into the recycling system, with the rest ending up in the environment and the ocean where it degrades slowly. Plastics which ends up in the ocean is a big threat to marine life.

The use of plastic has drastically increased over the last 50 years and now it has become such a big problem that there is almost no way back. Therefore, we need to try to stop the usage of single usages items made from plastic, such as plastic cutlery and plastic bags.

Thus, the NCF calls for a common Nordic action which bans non-biodegradable plastic cutlery and bags.



Top Meeting 2017 – Reykjavik, Iceland

Resolution for a common container deposit scheme in the Nordics

(Sent to UNR 2017)

Large amounts of aluminium cans and plastic bottles are disappearing from the deposit scheme as they are purchased in a different country than the intended country for consumption. Beverage cans and bottles imported have a much lower recycling rate and generally becomes residual waste instead. The energy needed for manufacturing a new aluminium can is 20 times higher than using aluminium from a recycled can. The environment, industry and trade would benefit from a common beverage container deposit scheme in the Nordics. All the Nordic countries have a high level of recycling of beverage cans, but with more cross-border trade the need for a common deposit scheme will only grow.¹

The NCF calls upon the Nordic countries to:

- Unite the different deposit schemes in the Nordic countries into one common scheme.

¹ Motion till riksdagen 2016/17:2266, <https://data.riksdagen.se/fil/EF16D779-62CA-490B-92AC-BAEA0ED0FD26> (Accessed 2017-08-13)



Resolution for digital higher education

(Sent to UNR 2017)

Strengthening the tools for online courses will improve the availability of education no matter where you live. With the possibility to move and be able to study in all Nordic countries, more people will have access to higher education.

Expanding the system of massive open online courses and live streaming of classes will help students that have difficulties traveling to schools/universities attending classes. Distance learning will improve the ability to study and live in remote places, strengthening sparsely populated areas. In addition to this it will further improve the mobility of students and contribute to regional development. Being aware of the difficulties and challenges of long distance education NCF still believes in the importance of interactions between teachers and co-students.

Public-private partnerships is a way of strengthening the level of knowledge about digitalization and how to use hardware and software.

The NCF calls upon the Nordic countries to:

- Improve digital infrastructure with regards to higher education, focusing on online courses and/or programmes;
- Ensure that online courses and/or programmes are available for students in all countries;
- Promote the use of massive open online courses and/or programmes (MOOCs);
- Expand the use of technology in education, encourage the use of live streaming of classes;
- Promote partnerships between schools, universities and the private sector.

The Top meeting calls upon the board to:

- Send this resolution to the UNR session in Helsinki 2017.



Towards a more sustainable transportation system

Considering that:

- The Earth is facing remarkable environmental challenges through global warming and climate change.

Recognizing that:

- Transport is one of the biggest carbon dioxide sources in the world and that the shift to the electric-based transportation would decrease the majority of emissions generated by the transportation sector (assuming that the electricity is produced by non-fossil energy sources).

Believing that:

- The Nordic countries have a big potential to be the first area in the world accomplishing a sustainable transportation system, because the Nordic countries represent top knowledge in sustainable technologies and in clean electricity production as well as in circular economy.
- Tax differentiation of environmentally friendly vehicles should be priority to change the transportation system making environmentally friendly alternatives more lucrative.

Therefore, NCF calls for:

- The governments of the Nordic countries to speed-up the shift to the cleaner transportation system by;
- Increasing public funding for the production and distribution of biofuel from both the agriculture and forestry sector; increasing public funding for the production and distribution of biofuel from both the agriculture and forestry sector;
- Building sufficient electric recharging points available for everyone enabling use of electric vehicles in all areas - urban as well as rural;
- Preferring cleaner energy sources in electricity production;
- Encouraging electric vehicle manufacturers and retailers to drop their prices by offering lower taxes for lower price levels of electric vehicles;
- Encouraging citizens to choose electric and other environmentally friendly vehicles more often by lowering their yearly fees and by lowering their prices, in comparison to vehicles driven on traditional non-renewable sources such as gasoline and diesel, through taxation;
- Facilitating the recycling of electric vehicles and their electric batteries, to reinforce circular economy in transportation sector;



- Through changes in legislative environment, easing the development of new experiments related in transportation automatization and new energy storage technologies, for example conversion of renewable energy into hydrocarbons;
- Investments to improve city logistics in order to decrease traffic;
- Encourage investments in cleaner public transport to reduce emissions.

Resolution for archiving redundant resolutions

On 4 July 2012, the European Parliament declined ratification of ACTA, effectively making the treaty redundant and so also the resolution accepted by the Top Meeting 2012 in Stockholm. At the Repskap in Helsingborg 2017 a new resolution concerning drug use was adopted, making the old resolution redundant.

Therefore, the Top Meeting calls upon the board to:

- Develop a system for archiving resolutions.

The Top Meeting calls upon the NCF to:

- Remove and archive “Stop ACTA” from the resolution list;
- Remove and archive “Motion regarding a humane and more cooperative approach towards drug abuse” from the resolution list.

Resolution for electronic border crossings

(Sent to UNR 2017)

Today when a company wants to operate across a border their work equipment is subjugated to tolls. The need to find and visit a customs official when crossing a border is time consuming and inefficient. If the nearest office happens to be closed the worker must travel to the next border crossing. This is not beneficial for trade nor the environment.

An electronic system where one can upload a list of the equipment being moved across the border would not only save time and increase efficiency but would also lead to benefitting the environment with reduced unnecessary transportation. This paired with random controls to check the correctitude of said list.

The NCF calls upon the Nordic countries to:

- Strive for a common electronic toll system for work equipment.
- In general, reduce the number of tolls between the countries.

The Top meeting calls upon the board to:

- Send this resolution to the UNR session in Helsinki 2017.



Resolution on the Baltic-Nordic Participation

Considering that:

- We share our Nordic cultural heritage and history with the Baltics, and the geographical closeness brings us together in many ways;
- We share many values and interests with our Baltic neighbors through trade, alliances, environmental- and security issues.

Recognizing that:

- There are benefits to deeper collaboration and partnership with our Baltic friends, for example an opportunity to influence development in the Baltics in an even more democratic and free direction;
- The Baltic Sea is a growing region, and that the Baltics are and should continue to be a natural part of the Nordic region.

NCF calls for:

- A deeper collaboration within NCF with our sister youth parties in the Baltics;
- An overview of including Baltic sister youth parties in our organization;

Homosexuals should be allowed to donate blood

(Sent to UNR 2017)

Annually most larger cities in the Nordics celebrate diversity and equal rights on pride events. However, the fight for equal rights is not over. NCF should work for actual equal rights in the Nordics.

Men who sleep with men are today not allowed to donate blood. Even though there is help from technology, the stigma is still going strong. The today's technology can show if the blood contains HIV or other diseases and therefore NCF want to make it possible for men who sleep with men to be able to donate blood. Therefore, there are obvious reasons to continuously develop anti-discrimination of homosexuals to reach the goal of equal rights.

The NCF calls upon the Nordic countries to:

- Allow homosexual men to donate blood on the same conditions as any other group
- Acknowledge that the fight for equal rights has not yet been won

The Top meeting calls upon the board to:

- Send this resolution to the UNR session in Helsinki 2017.



Repskap 2018 – Copenhagen, Denmark

Resolution regarding a Universal space policy

Noting that:

- The universe has always been fascinating to humans, increasing our knowledge about space both has a value in itself and is of great importance for technological development.
- Scientific discoveries enhance intellectual and economic growth due the innovations created by new knowledge.
- Research opens up for possibilities to expand and discover space outside of our globe.
- The space entails resources that potentially could be of great importance for humanity
- Since the new area will be a game changer for humanity it is of great need that the international community creates a common space policy that ensures sustainability, liberal values and peace.

Considering that:

- Free movement of people and goods must apply in space. This implies that territorial claims in space should continue to be prohibited in a near future.
- It is important to create a legal framework in space in order to secure the continuation of liberal principles such as free enterprise, property rights and the rule of law.
- The shared science conducted in the area should be of peaceful purposes.

Therefore, the NCF urges that:

- The Nordic Youth Council to declare that the internal conflicts on our planet is not to be expanded into space.
- The Nordic Council to establish a common space policy that ensures universal human rights, and an aim for peace and multilateral collaboration.



A call for deeper and more democratic defence cooperation

Cooperation within defence and security is becoming increasingly important in Norden. The willingness to cooperate within this area is named as the most important one by Nordic citizens in the survey Ett värdefullt samarbete, ordered by the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2017.² Defence cooperation should be trusted with partners that share common values, have similar needs and have a similar strategic culture. Norden is one of the few regions in the world that is as integrated culturally, politically and strategically, and offers great opportunity to build a more cost-effective, coordinated and flexible defence structure, without creating overlapping frameworks with NATO.

As of 2009 the main forum for cooperation within defence has been NORDEFECO, which has made cooperation more coordinated between the Defence Ministries of the Nordic countries. The framework for NORDEFECO does not, however, offer an opportunity to discuss security and defence between members of parliament. Defence and security questions within the Nordic Council are today stacked on the table of the presidium, which already has the responsibility of other large issues. A separate committee with responsibility for defence and security questions would both deepen Nordic integration in defence but also add democratic legitimacy to cooperation that is highly valued by Nordic people, not to mention that it would lift workload of the presidium.

Svensk Ungdom calls upon:

- A committee (utskott) for defence and security to be formed within the Nordic Council

² Andreasson, Ulf, and Truls Stende, 2017, Ett värdefullt samarbete, Den nordiska befolkningens syn på Norden. Denmark: Nordic Council of Ministers and Nordic Council, 2017.
<http://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A1152251&dswid=2327>



The Great Resolution Reform of NCF 2018

There is currently no standard for the structure for resolutions that are sent to the NCF meetings. Some organizations send in resolutions in a bullet point format while some use the format of a longer introductory text with “calls for” -bullet points in the end. A standardization of resolution format would make the writing of resolutions easier and the meeting material clearer and more understandable. We therefore ask for the resolution format to be standardized, following one clear structure.

We would also propose that when referring to any statistics, reports or any other outside sources, these would be clearly marked in a footnote.

After a resolution is passed in the Top Meeting or Repskapet the Member Organisations do not get much information about how the resolutions have been followed-up or how the Board of NCF have worked for the issues agreed upon in the resolutions. Therefore, we would like to see written follow-up reports made by the Board of NCF included in the Repskapet. Materials of each resolution to see what has happened to the resolutions during the NCF work year. The report could be included in the Annual Report of NCF.

A correct example and instructions of a perfect resolution should be found on the organizations web page.

The same problem of not being a structured resolution standard have been met in the Sessions of the Ungdomens Nordiska Råd (UNR). Therefore, we would hope NCF would propose the same kind of structure, instructions and follow-up process for written resolutions sent to the UNR.

Svensk Ungdom calls for NCF to:

- Decide upon one structural standard for resolutions to be used henceforth
- All statistics and other sources that are referred to in the resolutions to be marked in a footnote
- The NCF board to report to the members on how they have worked with the resolutions during the work year (Written follow-up report included in the Annual Report of NCF)



A common Nordic legislation for surrogacy is needed

Surrogacy is a method or agreement whereby a woman agrees to carry a pregnancy for another person or persons, who then will become the new born child's legal parent/parents. Intended parents may seek a surrogacy arrangement when pregnancy is medically impossible, pregnancy risks presents an unacceptable danger to the mother's health, or a man or male couple wish to have a child. Some couples or individuals wanting a child in this manner but who live in a jurisdiction which does not permit surrogacy may travel to another jurisdiction which permits it.

In Finland surrogacy have been forbidden since 2007. In Sweden it's possible but the procedure is rather complex. The laws in both countries are quite ambiguous. In Denmark and Sweden, we can talk about altruistic surrogacy, a possibility where money or payments do not play a part within the process.

Despite an absence of enabling laws, citizens from Sweden, Finland, Norway and Denmark have been creating families via surrogacy for many years. In many cases they have been traveling to other countries such as Ukraine or U.S.A.³

Most of the ones who would like to see surrogacy legalized are women who cannot have a child because of medical reasons or who have not been successful in artificial fertilization treatments.⁴

We believe that each person who wants to give their body for surrogacy should have the possibility to do so. We also believe that nobody should benefit economically of a surrogacy arrangement. In case any party would benefit economically of the child it should and will be considered as human trafficking.

We recognize the negative side of the surrogacy where women are paid to be pregnant for delivering babies, especially in cases where there are large wealth and power differentials between intended parents and surrogates. These interests must be taken into consideration in the legislation.

We call NCF to work for;

- That altruistic Surrogacy should be a possibility within the Nordics
- That a common legislation for altruistic surrogacy within the Nordic region should be established
- That women should have complete autonomy over the decision to be a surrogacy mother

³ <https://svenska.yle.fi/artikel/2018/03/29/senare-familjebildningar-leder-till-storre-efterfragan-pa-surrogatmoderskap-den> (Published 29 March 2018)

⁴ Ibid.



The time has come to enroll mutual Nordic personal identification number

The national bound personal identification numbers of today limit the possibility of using data to conduct health research, which is urgent to the health of people. The current system furthermore relies on the gender and birth date of people for no obvious reason.

The time has come to enrol a mutual Nordic personal identification number to empower health researcher ability to make databased research ultimately leading to better possibilities of treatment. In this regard it is important to ensure protection of the data of the personal identification number to protect people against identity theft.

- NCF calls for establishing gender neutral pan-Nordic personal identification number.
- Retrieving data from a pan-Nordic personal identification system should follow GDPR legislation (General data protection regulation legislation).

The Green Nordics

The Nordic Region is among other labels often synonymous with green energy in the international sphere and that must continue. In 2015 the countries of the world agreed on the Sustainable Development Goals, which create the framework for sustainable development for all countries. The Nordic Region being a resourceful region must continue to promote itself on sustainable development and maintain the position as frontrunner. The goals must be achieved before 2030 according to the official United Nations agreement. The European Union also set various standards for the use of chemicals in production. The Nordic Region shall outrun these goals and show the world that it is possible.

- NCF demands that the Nordic Region shall attempt to the best of their abilities to achieve the UN SDGs ahead of schedule.
- NCF wants the Nordic Region to reduce its emission of greenhouse gasses to represent only 40 % of the level of 1990 in the year 2025
- NCF promotes a mutual Nordic strategy on green and sustainable development.
- NCF calls for the Nordic Region must outrun the laws on the use of chemicals set by the European Union to maintain its position as green frontrunner.



Preservation of the Arctic Region

The Arctic region needs peaceful development between all the countries surrounding the Arctic region to secure preservation. Currently, there are multiple national interests in the Arctic region, which put the region at risk. Therefore, there is a urgent need for laws and regulations to ensure peace and preservation. The Nordic region should join together with a mutual action plan to make the best possible future for the Arctic Region.

- NCF demands to declare the Arctic region beyond 200 nautical miles off the coast of the surrounding countries as world territory like the Antarctica has already been granted
- NCF calls for development of mutual environmental law and regulations for member countries in the Arctic Council to protect and preserve the region



Top Meeting 2018 – Oslo, Norway

The Nordics as the world leading environmental region

(Sent to UNR 2018)

The Nordics are a world leading region when it comes to the work on climate change and environmental policies. The usage of eco-design, waste prevention, recycling and reuse contributes, not only to the fight against climate change, but also to economic growth. Thanks to the role we take, we contribute to the rest of the world. When implementations like these make our community stronger and our environment better, we are showing the world the right path to follow. However, we are not doing enough. If we want to meet goals of the Paris Agreement, we have to do more.

Since climate change and discharge does not take notice of the borders of the countries, we have to work together. Collaboration within the Nordic countries is a perfect way of doing this. As a region, we should be the first in the world to meet the Paris Agreement. This does not only mean that our work on solving the environmental challenges have to continue and increase -we have to develop the systems which measure our effect on our surroundings.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon:

- A mutual Nordic strategy on green and sustainable development, backed by the Nordic Council;
The Nordic Region to be the first in the world to meet the Paris Agreement.
- An update of the system that measures the climate effects caused by the region, to meet the required status.
- For NCF to send the resolution to the UNR.

This resolution is built up on Centerpartiets resolution to the upcoming Alde congress and the resolution Radikal Ungdom sent to this year's Repskap.



Finland and Sweden should ratify the ILO Convention 169!

The ILO Convention 169, adopted 1989 in Geneva during the International Labour Organization's 76th session, is an international agreement on indigenous peoples' rights. The Convention aims to correct negative consequences of earlier attempts of assimilation and integration that indigenous peoples have experienced. The overarching aim is for indigenous peoples, in this case the Sámi, to be in charge of their own future. The Convention works as a framework for how the Sámi's rights can be secured.

The Finnish government program of June 2011 specifically states the intention to ratify the ILO C169, but the Parliament did not manage to do this during its parliamentary term, because of time constraints.⁵ During the current term (2015 - 2019), the Ministry of Justice established a committee with the aim to prepare a revision of the Sámi Parliament law. The committee also considered the C169. In the committee's brief, it is stated that the Convention is not ratified and in the proposed legislation the Convention is not even mentioned.⁶ In 1999, the Swedish ILO-Committee concluded that it doesn't have any objections to Sweden ratifying the C169, if Sweden takes actions regarding the Sámi's rights to land first. According to a report from the Swedish ILO-committee in 2017, it is concluded that Sweden still hasn't ratified the Convention.⁷ NCF recognizes the problem of land ownership in Finland and in Sweden and also the problem with the different definition of the sàmi people with the government, sàmi parliament and the ILO 169.

As Sweden had its parliamentary election in September 2018 and Finland will have its parliamentary election in April 2019, the timing for putting the issue back on the agenda is perfect. The ILO 169 is legally binding and therefore different from the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. C169 can be used to spur and advance national legislation, as well as strengthen the Sámi identity. C169 is also a tool to deepen and strengthen the belonging between indigenous peoples globally. The effect of ratifying the Convention in a single country could grow into more victories for indigenous peoples in other countries.⁸ Norway and Denmark have ratified the ILO 169 Convention, in 1990 and 1996 respectively.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon:

- The Finnish and Swedish government to ratify the ILO C169 - Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention.

⁵ <https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-7867389>

⁶ <https://www.lausuntopalvelu.fi/FI/Proposal/Participation?proposalId=4a99582c-a41d-4fbd-9b78-a1b77fc0da35&proposalLanguage=da4408c3-39e4-4f5a-84db-84481bafc744>

⁷ <https://www.regeringen.se/4ae3dd/contentassets/8f4e22a24d8841c1bc1e15817ee4b28c/ilo.pdf>

⁸ <http://www.samer.se/4935>



Trains without borders

The number one challenge today is climate change. To combat rising emissions, we need to change the way we travel - away from planes to trains.

We need a travel revolution, in the same way low cost airlines revolutionized air travel, with more accessible low-cost tickets. To achieve this, the Nordic countries need to deregulate the rail markets to allow for more competition and lower prices. The signalling systems also need to be integrated between the Nordic countries so travelling across borders is hassle-free, for the people, goods and train operators.

At the moment some Nordic countries are planning to build new high-speed trains. If these proposals are carried out, the planning for the new lines cannot stop at the border.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon the Nordic governments to:

- Deregulate the train market and allow private companies to operate fully on the rails;
- Integrate the signalling systems on the railways;
- Integrate planning of new train lines.
- Nordic high speed railroads to have a common track width in the future.

A Nordic European AI Strategy

Noting that:

- At present, 48 percent of artificial intelligence (AI) investments are made in China and 36 percent in the US - Europe comes in at a distant third;
- AI has tremendous potential for application in areas ranging from education to healthcare and seizing this potential would lead to a significant boost in productivity and growth.

Considering that:

- The Nordic countries, as digital frontrunners, should take the lead in developing AI in Europe. Pooling investments in AI can help the Nordic countries benefit from economies of scale.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon:

- A common Nordic AI strategy, developed in the Nordiska Ministerrådet för digitalisering, which focuses on how to attract venture capital so that the Nordic countries' strength in basic research can be matched by successful commercialization of new technologies.
- Guidelines for ethical use and development of AI should be created and inserted in the Nordic AI strategy in order to ensure it is compatible with the privacy and property rights in the artificial reality.



Resolution for a common Nordic Critical Patient Data System

(Sent to UNR 2018)

Noting that:

- For citizens moving (for recreation, business or as migrants) between the Nordic countries, critical patient information must today be sent on obsolete paper print between the involved hospitals and health systems;
- The inability of health personnel to quickly access information pertaining to, for example, diabetes, anticoagulant treatment and transmissible disease may lead to injury or death, especially in emergent situations;
- The establishment of common, shared registers for health statistics between the Nordic countries could benefit science and the health industries. Statistics which could identify individuals should not be included in such registers.⁹

Considering that:

- For patient safety to be ensured in an increasingly mobile world, patient information must also be more mobile;
- Science benefits from scale, and a large Nordic data repository would surpass the size of any individual national register, while maintaining uniformity owing to the social and economic similarities of the involved countries;
- The reduced amount of paper consumed through digital communication supports the environment.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon:

- The Nordic countries to establish a critical patient data system, which would record:
 - a. Potentially life-threatening chronic conditions (f.e. diabetes);
 - b. Treatments requiring special attention (f.e. anticoagulation, pacemaker implant);
 - c. And hazardous transmissible diseases (f.e. hepatitis B & C, HIV).
- The data system to be safe and secure and guarantee the integrity of the Nordic citizens enrolled within.
- The data system to automatically gather information (after securing the permission of the patient) from the various journal systems employed in the Nordic countries.

⁹ <https://www.chamber.se/rapporter/teknik-for-halsa-sa-kan-stockholm.htm>



Resolution for a Shared Nordic Fixed Wing Firefighting Aircraft Resource

Noting that:

- Severe wildfires blazed in Sweden, Norway and Finland in the summer of 2018, owing to extreme drought conditions throughout Scandinavia;
- Fixed wing firefighting aircraft are key to limiting the spread and duration of a wildfire, but are expensive and require extensive use to be worth the investment, which would not be the case if such a resource was acquired by any single Nordic country;
- Forest fires are likely to become more common in the future as a consequence of climate change.

Considering that:

- The Nordic countries would best protect their forests and property with a readily available fixed wing firefighting aircraft resource;
- Such an asset should be shared between the Nordic countries, thus increasing its likelihood of use and thereby justifying the investment;
- When other European nations call for aid, the resource could be employed to assist, should there be no need for it at the time in the Nordic countries.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon:

- The Nordic countries to acquire a shared Nordic fixed wing firefighting aircraft resource, with the relevant crew and command infrastructure.



Establish COP-conferences on Migration on Refugees

Migration has been and still is, one of the most important political issues within the Nordic countries as well as in the rest of the world during the past few years. In a global perspective, the Nordic countries have a special reputation for their accountability and their continuous quest to contribute to sustainable solutions in international conflicts and proceedings. The NCF encourages the Nordic countries to use their credibility to raise issues about migration and refugees globally, and to enhance and promote sustainable solutions on these extremely complex and important issues.

Considering that:

- According to UNHCR, more than 65.5 million people around the world have been forced to flee from their homes due to conflict and persecution in their homelands and areas (September 2018). More than half of these people are under the age of 18;
- In December 2016, more than 40.3 million people were living in internal displacement, because of conflict and violence. The needs and protection risks that arise in internal displacement includes e.g. family separation, loss of documentation, freedom of movement in and out of camps, loss of property, and further exposure to the risk of secondary or onward displacement;
- Approximately 10 million people in the world are estimated to be stateless (UNHCR). This can among other things imply that they have been denied a nationality and the insurance of basic human rights, such as access to education, health care and the freedom of movement;
- The distribution of refugees among the countries in the world is very unequal. Low- and middle-income countries in the Middle East, Africa and Asia host more than 86 percent of the refugees in the world.

Believing that:

- All people should be free and equal in dignity and rights regardless of ethnic, national, religious, political or territorial affiliations;
- All people should be ensured their basic human rights as these appear in the UN 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights;
- The UN member organizations should work for a more fair and sustainable solution to current and future refugee crises.

Therefore, the NCF calls upon:

- Its member organisations to work together in order to raise awareness of this relevant issue within their membership and among other youth parties and organisations in their countries.



Repskap 2019 – Helsinki, Finland

Outphase all petrol –and diesel cars by 2030

Climate changes are an increasing threat to our society, which requires drastic solutions. The transport sector contributes with 14% of the total global CO₂-emission, and with the increasing population in both the Nordics, and globally, the transport sector will only increase the total CO₂-emissions. With today's modern technology, it is already possible to use electric vehicles for most car trips, without having to stop for a recharge. A phase out of petrol and diesel cars will create a bigger market for vehicles that run on electricity, hydrogen or sustainable fuels. An out-phasing of fossil fueled vehicles will furthermore reduce air pollution especially in the cities.

The NCF therefore calls for:

- The Nordic countries to cooperate towards phasing out the sale of all petrol -and diesel cars by 2030
- The Nordic countries to invest in infrastructure to make transportation via non-fossil fueled cars easier
- The Nordic countries to phase out the use of fossil fuels in heavy machinery

Resolution on the protection and preservation of the Arctic area

Sent to UNR 2019

Resolution on the protection and preservation of the Arctic area (The Arctic WG)

The Arctic ice pack is still a target of interest of various countries due its resources and opportunities. As a result of global warming the area is becoming more and more vulnerable, and even extreme measures should be taken immediately to protect and preserve it. Economic interests of countries and communities shouldn't dictate the future of the Arctic ice pack, especially when changes in the Arctic ice pack can have worldwide consequences.

Considering that:

- The difficult Arctic weather conditions and logistical challenges are drastically increasing the risks of major damages from economic activity, for example oil leaks, to the already vulnerable ecosystems and the homes and livelihood for four million people living on the Arctic area.
- The fossil fuels and minerals stored beneath the Arctic ice pack would add on the environmental issues and the sensitive political situation between the states active in the area if used.
- The faster melting of the ice sheets, among other changes, would cause worldwide damage.



Believing that:

- The future of the Arctic ice pack cannot be decided by countries and companies solely based on economic decisions. Environment should be the number one priority on the Arctic ice pack.
- IPCC report from autumn 2018 calls for global response to the threat of climate change considering also the Arctic.

NCF calls the Arctic council to:

- Make the protection and preservation of the Arctic ice pack a priority over economic issues.
- Step up and to strengthen laws and regulations concerning the area.
- Make a mutual action plan to protect and preserve the Arctic ice pack.
- Prohibit the use of the yet untouched fossil fuels and minerals stored beneath the Arctic ice pack.
- When designing large Arctic projects, put emphasis on specific characteristics of the Arctic society and respect the local population in all decision making.

Voting age

Young adults are being discriminated for being born later in the year by giving the right to vote based on birthday but not birth year. Today's young adults, who went through school together and are considered equals by society, don't have the same rights when it comes to voting. Young adults who haven't reached the voting age can therefore miss the opportunity to vote and have an effect. Young adults born earlier in the year have more voting privilege than those with later birthdays. SUF believes that the right to vote should be given on the 1st of January in the year one reaches voting age.

NCF calls for:

- Equality and giving young people the right to vote at the start of the year that they would reach voting age, no matter what day of the year they were born.



Vaccinations

Sent to UNR 2019

The spread of measles in Europe is a huge concern, which poses a significant risk for newborns and those who are unable to get vaccinations for medical reasons. Children can get vaccinated for measles first at 15-18 months old (depending on the country's health care system). Children can start kindergarten when they are at least one year old in the Nordics, and in some places even down to 9 months old. Therefore, if parents choose not to vaccinate their child they are not only putting their own child's life at risk, but also other young children's lives and children that cannot get vaccinated due to medical reasons. Children that are not vaccinated for measles are particularly vulnerable because the virus is exceptionally contagious.

Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, World Health Organization Regional Director for Europe says *“Following the decade's lowest number of cases in 2016, we are seeing a dramatic increase in infections and extended outbreaks, we call on all countries to immediately implement broad, context-appropriate measures to stop further spread of this disease. Good health for all starts with immunization, and as long as this disease is not eliminated we are failing to live up to our Sustainable Development Goal commitments.”*¹⁰

Measles cases in Europe have increased highly in the last years, as can be seen in these statistics: 2016 = 5.273 cases 2017 = 25.863 cases 2018 = 82.596 cases¹¹

Vaccinations have shown to be highly successful and very important to us. For example, the World Health Organization has estimated that in 2008 were 687.000 deaths prevented in the world, because of pertussis vaccinations.¹² It is important to ensure herd immunity and prevent an outbreak of dangerous diseases.

We call NCF to work for:

- Raise awareness of increasing outbreaks of dangerous diseases.
- Demand on making these vaccinations mandatory:
 - Measles
 - Polio
 - Diphtheria
 - Pertussis (Whooping cough)
 - Rubella
 - Parotitis epidemica(Mumps)

¹⁰ World Health Organization. (August 20, 2018). Retrieved September 2018, from World Health Organization Europe: [http://www.euro.who.int/en/media-centre/sections/press-releases/2018/measles-cases-hit-rec ord-high-in-the-european-region](http://www.euro.who.int/en/media-centre/sections/press-releases/2018/measles-cases-hit-record-high-in-the-european-region)

¹¹ World Health Organization. (2019, February 7). *Measles in Europe: record number of both sick and immunized*. Retrieved March 2019, from World Health Organization: [http://www.euro.who.int/en/media-centre/sections/press-releases/2019/measles-in-europe-re cord-number-of-both-sick-and-immunized](http://www.euro.who.int/en/media-centre/sections/press-releases/2019/measles-in-europe-record-number-of-both-sick-and-immunized)

¹² World Health Organization. (2018, May 9). *Pertussis*. Retrieved March 2018, from Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals: <https://www.who.int/immunization/diseases/pertussis/en/>



Top Meeting 2019 – Malmö, Sweden

Strengthen the Nordic defense

Sent to UNR 2019

The Nordic defense is essential for the enforcement of sovereignty for all Nordic countries. Having a well-functioning, efficient and strong defense is crucial to ensure the safety of our territorial integrity. The Nordic countries need to intensify their defense cooperation through NORDEF. NORDEF has been active in this form since 2009, and is continuously adding forms of cooperation to its agenda in the Nordic region.

Despite of the Nordics size in geopolitical matters, we possess very important strategical positions. One of them being the access to the Baltic Sea, another is the common territories around the Arctic region. In a time with increasing interest for the Arctic and growing tensions between the East and the West, it is important for the Nordic countries to possess the necessary tools and cooperation to defend these positions. The Nordic area is one of the most stable areas globally, and a strong defense cooperation is vital for defending this stability.

The NCF has previously stated the importance of the Arctic region, and we have presented several initiatives to protect the Arctic region.

The NCF therefore calls for all Nordic countries to:

- Creation of a cyberstrategy which secures the infrastructure against cyberthreats, strengthens vital infrastructures and makes cybersecurity available for all citizens, businesses and authorities.
- increase their defense spending in order to add funds to the Nordic defense cooperation
- Cooperate on cyber-criminality in order to prevent cyberattacks
- Create a defense strategy for the Arctic region



Seamless Nordic Health Delivery

Sent to UNR 2019

Notes that:

- On the topic of medication
 - Nordic citizens cannot access prescriptions ordained in their Nordic country of residence in other Nordic countries, even if those prescriptions entail critical medication such as insulin or lithium.
 - Re-prescribing medication without the journal information relevant to the patient's case may sometimes require an appointment with a doctor, which is time and resource consuming.
- On the topic of health accessibility
 - Some Nordic citizens live closer to a caregiver (e.g. primary care station, hospital etc.) in a neighbouring Nordic country than they do to a caregiver in their own Nordic country of residence.
 - For emergent conditions such as myocardial infarctions, treatment options narrow and the long-term outlook worsens as time passes until arrival at the hospital. Proximity to care saves lives.
 - For health conditions managed in an outpatient setting, it is more practical for patients and caregivers to maintain regular contact and follow-up if the distance between the patient and the caregiver is reduced.
 - Healthcare quality is comparable between the Nordic countries, meaning that a Nordic citizen can be expected to be well cared for regardless of which Nordic country they seek medical attention in.
- On the topic of health education and professions
 - Students of medical professions as well as working professionals may benefit from exchanges that expose them to the medical systems of neighbouring Nordic countries.

Considers that:

- Nordic citizens should be able to access Nordic prescriptions in any Nordic country, provided that the medication is available and the relevant mechanisms for compensation are implemented.
- Nordic citizens should be able to access timely healthcare when needed, even if that entails transport to and care at a caregiver in another Nordic country. Cooperation to ensure health accessibility by shortening distances to emergency wards and hospitals for all Nordic citizens throughout the Nordic region is desirable.
- More students and professionals should embark on exchanges to learn from the health systems and practices used in other Nordic countries.



Calls on the NCF to work towards:

- The validation of Nordic medical prescriptions for use throughout the Nordic region, and not just in the patient's country of residence. Medications that are pharmacologically equivalent may be exchanged as appropriate if the prescribed brand of drug is not available. The extraction of medication should be economically compensated as appropriate.
- The establishment of "Nordic Health Regions" for emergent, inpatient and critical care, where proximity and accessibility to ambulance services and a hospital is prioritised over the nationality of the caregiver and the patient, within the Nordic region. The caregiver is reimbursed for the cost of transport and care given. Regional cross-borders cooperation with municipalities and social services should be established as needed.
- The establishment of "Nordic Patient Agreements" for outpatient care. Primary or other outpatient caregivers in a nordic country different from the patient's nordic country of citizenship may take over a patient's case through "Nordic Patient Agreements", which are signed on an individual basis, the use of which are voluntary for the caregiver and which reimburse the caregiver according to the cost of care given.
- The funding of Nordplus to be increased and the number of exchange slots for students of medical professions to also be increased.
- The establishment of Nordic exchange programmes for professionals in healthcare.



Seamless Public Transport in the Nordic Region

Sent to UNR 2019

Notes that:

- On the topic of public transport
 - Since public transport is typically a regional policy issue, a wide range of systems arise even within countries.
 - As a consequence, traveling by public transport is a hassle compared to traveling by car, especially in cross-border regions.
- On the topic of integrated ticketing systems
 - Several EU directives, including the Intelligent Transport Systems Directive (Directive 2010/40/EU), are now in place to ensure that travel and traffic data are easily available to carriers, management bodies and service operators.
 - Moreover, several European governments have adopted or submitted legislative proposals concerning integrated ticketing, i.e. comprehensive ticketing systems that allow passengers using different modes of transport to travel using one single ticket.
 - The most comprehensive legal framework thus far is the Finnish one (Act on Transport Services of 2018), which contains provisions to open up interfaces for normally priced single tickets in road and rail traffic.
 - Likewise, the Danish government presented a similar draft bill last year, and the Swedish government recently announced that it will also look into how to introduce a nationally integrated ticketing system for all public transport.
 - However, at present a truly integrated cross-border ticketing scheme does not exist.

Considers that:

- The Nordic region is particularly well-suited to initiate the world's first integrated cross-border ticketing scheme, since several Nordic countries are already building national frameworks.
- Furthermore, without Nordic cooperation in the area of integrated ticketing there is a risk that a great number of commuters in cross-border regions such as Öresund will not gain from this otherwise beneficial development.

Calls the NCF to work towards:

- A Nordic, cross-border integrated ticketing initiative.
- A distinction between travel information services and Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for selling tickets within this Nordic system.



- APIs to be open so that third-party providers can access essential data to create new integrated ticketing products; ticket sales should not be limited to a select few, but open to new actors.
- A common model for revenue sharing to define e.g. how revenues should be split between public and private transport operators.