

THE JARL HJALMARSON FOUNDATION

Created in the aftermath of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Iron Curtain, the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation promotes co-operation and European development founded on freedom, democracy and market economy. Our means are education and information on democracy and European integration aimed at political parties and organizations.

During the first years of its existence, the Foundation focused its activities in the immediate surroundings, in countries such as Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and the St. Petersburg-area. Later on, the Foundation has proceeded and expanded to additional countries and regions. At present, we work in Africa, the Balkans, the Caucasus region, Eastern Europe, Latin America and Turkey.

The Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation is affiliated to Moderaterna, a political centre-right party. The primary funding of the activities comes from Sida, the Swedish International Development Agency within the Party Affiliated Aid. The main goal of the Party Affiliated Aid is to support the development of a well functioning party structure as well as promoting a representative democratic system.



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Activities abroad

Most of the Foundations work is conducted through education and information on the various components needed to build democracy and integration in Europe. While prioritizing operations aimed at women and youth, the Foundation strives to reach those who will, in ten to twenty years time, become the leaders and the policy creators in these newly developed democracies.

The study guide "Principles for a Free Society" is written for the Foundation by Dr. Nigel Ashford. Translated into e.g. Russian, Serbian, Spanish and Turkish, this study guide constitutes the base for our education in how to create a free and democratic society. The book is available on our web page. www.hjalmarsonfoundation.se.

The Hjalmarson Foundation seeks to strengthen its partner organization's commitments to democracy, market economy, the rule of law, human rights and tolerance. Another crucial element is to promote co-operation with other parties on the democratic system in each country.

"We emphasise the importance of dialogue and mutual respect for other parties and organizations in order to build strong coalitions and develop democratic structures," Eva Gustavsson, managing director of the Foundation, states.

Jarl Hjalmarson was the chairman of Moderaterna 1950-1961. He was deeply committed to foreign and security policy. For Jarl Hjalmarson the Swedish neutrality policy imply that Sweden should turn its back on the oppressed citizens of Eastern Europe. He claimed that the Social Democratic Government too often showed acceptance and compliance with the Soviet Union.

Activities in Sweden

The Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation arranges multiple seminars on burning foreign policy topics. At some occasions, this is done in connections to visits by interesting guests from partner parties or other democracy foundations to Sweden. In 2009/10, these seminars varied in topics from the political situation in Belarus to the EU prior to the Swedish chairmanship. Other appreciated seminars covered were Azerbaijan, Rwanda and Latin America.

In addition to the seminars, the Foundation presents itself and its operations at a few major external events, e.g. the Gothenburg Book Fair. It also continuously publishes and presents books and reports. The published titles of 2009 included:

- *Demokratins triumf - 20 år efter Berlinmurens fall* (Triumph of Democracy - After the Fall of the Berlin Wall)
- *Röd tornado - kommer demokratin i Latinamerika att överleva?* (Red Tornado - Will Democracy Survive in Latin America?)
- *En god kraft i världen - EU efter Lissabonfördraget* (A Force for Good - EU After the Lisbon Treaty)
- *Zimbabwe - från kornbod till krutdurk* (Zimbabwe - Granary turned into a Powder Keg)

Finally, the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation arranges classes for writers. The courses cover both theory and practical exercises and aim at writers interested in foreign policy.

The Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation is a small organization with a dedicated corps of volunteer lecturers who offers their time and expertise. The education is tailored by the Foundation to the needs of its co-operation partners abroad.

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