

National strategy against violent extremism and terrorism

Prevent
Avert
Protect
Manage



The threat from violent extremism and terrorism has become increasingly complex and difficult to combat. Violent extremist environments change constantly and feed off political events and societal crises both domestically and internationally. Digital platforms, in particular, contribute to the spread of disinformation and violent messages. There is also a broader constitutional threat against Sweden aimed at weakening the democratic society by undermining trust in society and its institutions.

Risks



Individuals

Attacks from perpetrators acting on their own are especially difficult to identify, predict and avert.



Groups

International terrorist organisations with followers in and outside of Sweden remain a threat – and that threat can change quickly.



New technology

False rumours, disinformation and propaganda that spread via digital platforms can very quickly affect the threat against Sweden and Swedish interests.

Violent extremism and terrorism must be fought with the full force of society. The Government has therefore drafted a new national strategy for a long-term approach to this work at local, regional, national and international level.

The national strategy applies to four strategic areas



Prevent violent extremism and terrorism

- Integrate work to prevent violent extremism into broader crime prevention efforts
- Decrease the growth of violent extremism
- Direct interventions targeting vulnerable individuals at risk and reduce the risk of children and young people being radicalised



Avert terrorist attacks and other ideologically motivated crime

- Reduce opportunities for perpetrators to commit ideologically motivated crime and terrorist attacks
- Improve access to, and exchange of, information
- Stop the spread of terrorist content on digital platforms



Protect people and society's functions

- Reduce vulnerabilities in society
- Develop preparedness to manage new types of threat
- Protect the exercise of fundamental rights and freedoms



Manage the situation during and after an attack

- Maintain the ability to intervene and stop an attack and manage its aftermath
- Ensure that victims of terrorism receive information, support and assistance
- Arrest and prosecute the perpetrators

Together, we need to remain a step ahead of those who seek to harm Sweden and Swedish interests. This work will be characterised by



- flexibility in the face of a changing threat
- preparedness to take the right measures at the right time
- collaboration between central actors
- the ability to learn from previous events and utilise available knowledge and information.

The strategy is cross-sectoral and cover authorities at national, regional and local level. These authorities need to gather knowledge and experience from civil society organisations, faith communities and actors in the private sector. International cooperation is necessary for an effective exchange of knowledge and expertise from work with preventing and averting violent extremism and terrorism, protecting society, and managing the situation during and after an attack.



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More information about the strategy is available on the Government Offices webpage: government.se/strategy-against-violent-extremism-and-terrorism