Politics Sweden



Sweden Fundamental Laws

The Constitution of Sweden

Four Fundamental Laws

Fyra grundlagar

The Instrument of C	Government	1974
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The Act of Succession 1810

The Freedom of the Press Act 1949

The Fundamental Law on Freedom of Expression 1991

Regeringsformen

Successionsordningen

Tryckfrihetsförordningen

Yttrandefrihetsgrundlagen

Same amendment procedure: simple majority, two identical decisions separated by a general election Same legal status

The Instrument of Government 1809–1974 Constitutional monarchy Separation of powers



The Instrument of Government 1809–1974 Constitutional monarchy Separation of powers The Instrument of Government 1974
Popular sovereignty
Parliamentary democracy
Majority rule
Unicameral parliament



Svensk författningssamling

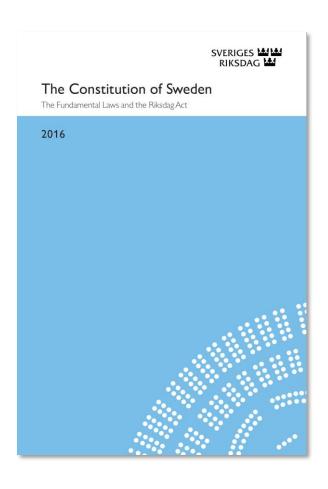
Lag om ändring i regeringsformen

Utfärdad den 22 november 2018

Enligt riksdagens beslut¹ föreskrivs att 13 kap. 7 och 8 §§ regeringsformen² ska ha följande lydelse.

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The Instrument of Government 1974
Popular sovereignty
Parliamentary democracy
Majority rule

Amendments after 1974
Rights and freedoms
Budget rules and fiscal control
EU membership
Courts of law
Audit and control

Basic principles

Fundamental rights and freedoms

The Riksdag

The work of the Riksdag

The Head of State

The Government

The work of the Government

Acts of law and other provisions

Financial powers

International relations

Administration of Justice

Administration

Parliamentary control

Local authorities

War and danger of war

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Chapter 1. Basic principles of the form of government

Art. 1. All public power in Sweden proceeds from the people.

Swedish democracy is founded on the free formation of opinion and on universal and equal suffrage. It is realised through a representative and parliamentary form of government and through local self-government.

Public power is exercised under the law.

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Chapters 3–7

Parliament King Cabinet Riksdagen Kungen Regeringen

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Chapter 14 Local self-government

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Chapter 15 Special arrangements in wartime

The Act of Succession

Art. 1. The right of succession to the throne of Sweden is vested in the male and female descendants of King Carl XVI Gustaf, Crown Prince Johan Baptist Julii, later King Karl XIV Johan's, issue in direct line of descent. In this connection, older siblings and their descendants have precedence over younger siblings and their descendants.

Three principles
Primogeniture (firstborn)
Lineal (descendents)
Full cognatic (eldest heir regardless of gender)

Succession to the throne

Carl XVI Gustaf

Victoria

Estelle

Oscar

Carl Philip

Alexander

Gabriel

Madeleine

Leonore

Nicolas

Adrienne





Photo: Ingemar Lindewall, The Royal Court of Sweden

The Freedom of the Press Act



The Freedom of the Press Act

Right to publish printed matter
Ban on censorship
Strictly defined offences against press freedom
Liability afterwards
Sole responsibility
Special court procedure, jury
Right to anonymity
Immunity from liability for sources
Reprisal ban

Public access to information

Art. 1. The freedom of the press is understood to mean the right of every Swedish citizen to publish written matter, without prior hindrance by a public authority or other public body ...

The Fundamental Law on Freedom of Expression

Parallel to The Freedom of the Press Act

Certain non-print media:

Radio

Television

Film

Sound recordings

Some but not all internet sites

Art. 1. ... sound radio, television and certain similar transmissions, through public playback of material from a database, and in films, video recordings, sound recordings and other technical recordings.

Weak protection

The Instrument of Government
The European Convention on Human Rights

Criminal court procedure

Handwritten messages
Public speeches
Demonstrations
Exhibitions
Theaters
Museums
etc

Strong protection

The Instrument of Government
The European Convention on Human Rights
The Freedom of the Press Act
The Fundamental Law on Freedom of Expression

Special court procedure, jury

Printed matters
Books, periodicals
Photocopies etc with publisher, place and year

Radio
Television
Film
Sound recordings
Some but not all internet sites

Weak protection

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etc

Svensson is a scoundrel

Guilty Publisher, place, year Sentenced to fines or prison

Strong protection

The Instrument of Government The European Convention on Human Rights The Freedom of the Press Act The Fundamental Law on Freedom of Expression

Special court procedure, jury

Printed matters Books, periodicals Photocopies etc with publisher, place and year

Radio **Television** Film Sound recordings

Some but not all internet sites

Photocopied message Not guilty Acquitted

Svensson is a scoundred

Publisher, place, year

"Semi-constitutional" acts

The Riksdag Act

Church of Sweden Act Act on Religious Communities Two alternative amendment procedures:

Two identical decisions separated by a general election, simple majority

One decision, qualified majority

Politics Sweden

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