PARTNERS WITH A MUTUAL INTEREST?
SWEDEN AND FINLAND IN A NEW SECURITY ENVIRONMENT

22nd January 2016
Hotel Kämp, Helsinki, Finland

A SEMINAR ARRANGED BY AXEL AND MARGARET AX:SON JOHNSON FOUNDATION
Partners with a Mutual Interest?
Sweden and Finland in a New Security Environment

This seminar will discuss national security for Sweden and Finland in a rapidly changing geopolitical environment. A panel on the history of Swedish-Finnish military relations in respect to national politics and the broader international scene will serve as a backdrop to the current challenges facing the region. Has the security environment changed? Are Sweden and Finland in a different position than during the Cold War?

Two panels will deal with both the political and practical aspects of defence collaboration. What can we gain from a Swedish-Finnish partnership agreement? What is the state of Sweden’s and Finland’s military capabilities? Is NATO membership an option?

The last panel will focus on Russia, hybrid warfare and propaganda. Are we prepared for the on-going propaganda war from Russia? Can Sweden and Finland collaborate in the realm of defence against hybrid warfare? We will discuss the techniques of hybrid warfare and the state of psychological defence in Sweden and Finland. Are we ready for a new way of waging war?
Program

09.00 Kurt Almqvist Welcome
09.05 Ulf Wickbom, Moderator Introduction

History of Swedish-Finnish Relations

09.10 Alpo Rusi Finland and Sweden – Security Dilemmas After the Cold War
09.25 Anneli Portman Comparing Political Rhetoric in Finland and Sweden from 2000-2015: Values, Trust, Identity, and the Making of “Us”
09.40 Martin Hårdstedt Past and Present – Geopolitical Perspectives on Swedish and Finnish Foreign Policy and Military Planning
09.55 Discussion
10.15 Coffee & Tea

The Politics of Bi- and Multilateral Cooperation

10.45 Heidi Hautala Finnish-Swedish Security Cooperation in the European Context
11.00 Tomas Bertelman Common Destiny or Common Diversity? Questions About Mutual Interests
11.15 Helena Partanen Policy and Politics of Cooperation
11.30 Discussion
11.50 Lunch

Practical Aspects of Defence and Security Cooperation

13.05 Bo Stennabb The Finnish-Swedish Defence Cooperation: Symbiotic or Symbolic?
13.20 Mike Winnerstig Security Policy Consequences of Enhanced Finnish-Swedish Military Cooperation
13.35 Discussion
13.55 Coffee & Tea

Russia, Hybrid Warfare and Propaganda

14.25 Jyri Raitasalo The False Promise of the Hybrid Warfare Thesis
14.40 Robert Seely Perspectives on Hybrid Warfare
14.55 Katri Pynnöniemi Analysis of Russian Propaganda: Crimea, Donbass and ‘Novorossiya’ Compared
15.10 Peter A. Mattsson Warfare Without Armed Confrontation – The Russian Psychological Methods Directed Against Sweden
15.25 Discussion
15.45 Ulf Wickbom Summing up
LECTURERS

TOMAS BELTLMAN
Ambassador, Sweden (Retired)

HEIDI HAUTALA
Member of the European Parliament, European Parliament

MARTIN HARDSTEDT
Professor of History, Umeå University

RISTO KOLSTELA
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Dr, Member of the Royal Swedish Academy of the War Sciences

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