

POLITICAL PROMOTIONS AND MUSICAL FESTIVALS

Malmström for Sweden

Swedish liberal politician and European Commissioner for Trade **Cecilia Malmström** has been awarded the honorary title of “Swede of the Year” by Swedes Worldwide (Svenskar i Världen). Malmström, who has previously worked as European Commissioner for Home Affairs, Minister for Union Affairs and researcher in political science, was praised for her “strong international leadership”, which has contributed to growth as well as more jobs. Malmström joins the list of Swedes appointed “Swede of the Year” since 1988, including musicians Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus, diplomat and politician Hans Blix, and soccer player Zlatan Ibrahimović.



Cecilia Malmström. Photo: EU Commission

Linde replaces Wallström

Swedish Social Democratic politician **Ann Linde** was appointed new Minister for Foreign Affairs (utrikesminister) on September 10. The Helsingborg native, who replaces Swedish politician Margot Wallström, has



Ann Linde. Photo: Kristian Pohl / The Government Offices of Sweden

worked as Minister for Foreign Trade, Minister for Nordic Cooperation and Minister for European Union Affairs and Trade in the Swedish Prime Minister’s Cabinet.

Linde said she felt proud and honored to take on the role as Minister for Foreign Affairs. She also stated that she strives to continue Wallström’s policy which includes fighting for women’s rights. “We will continue our feminist foreign policy. I recently introduced a feminist trade policy and I care deeply about these issues,” she said.

Trio Takes Melodifestivalen

Swedish singers **Lina Hedlund** and **Linnea Henriksson**, along with comedian/television presenter **David Sundin**, will host *Melodifestivalen* (The Melody Festival) in 2020. Hedlund, who has competed in Melodifestivalen six times, said it’s an honor to host the show. “It has been a dream of mine for many years”, she said in a press release from SVT. Fellow cohost Linnea

Henriksson is known for having participated in the Swedish music TV show *Så mycket bättre*, as well as in several acclaimed albums. David Sundin recently co-hosted the Swedish Television award show *Kristallen* with Swedish comedienne Babben Larsson. Melodifestivalen kicks off in Linköping on February 2, 2020.



David Sundin, Lina Hedlund and Linnea Henriksson. Photo: SVT/TT

Bowling for Gold

Jenny Wegner and Josefin Hermansson. Photo: Sweebowl.se

Swedish bowlers **Jenny Wegner** and **Josefin Hermansson** recently brought home a “Doubles Gold” from the World Cup in Las Vegas. After a very close match against Korea, the Swedish duo managed to defeat the team by 436

to 431. Wegner and Hermansson took the start, but then stepped up their game in the lead end. Wegner and Hermansson did, however, to secure the Swedish title when Wegner bowled down the five pins for the win. Go

Matilda, Peter

Peter Johansson, Bragiann and Matilda

Swedish singer-artists **Peter Johansson**, **Bragiann**, and **Matilda Grön**’s *Bruno & Matilda Unplugged* premieres on October 4 at Kåne in Kalmar, Sweden. The humorous two-show features live vocals, ballads, and rock songs, as well as instruments such as guitar, ukulele and drums. Johansson, whose members had major roles in TV shows, and careers abroad, will lead their tour on November 23 at the “Loui Konsert & Koncert” in Norrköping