



Submission from the
Sami Parliament in Sweden
to the Committee on Economic,
Social and Cultural Rights for
the review of Sweden

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I. About Sámediggi, the Sami Parliament in Sweden

1. The Sami people are the indigenous people of Sápmi (the Sami homeland) stretching over Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia. Sámediggi, the Sami Parliament in Sweden, established through the Sami Parliament Act in 1993 is the popularly-elected representative body of the Sami people in Sweden. The Sami Parliament also functions as a government agency on Sami issues.¹
2. The overall task is to advocate, promote and protect Sami rights and interests in order to ensure our economic, social and cultural development. The activities carried out by the Parliament cover a wide range of areas such as Sami economic development; including traditional livelihoods, reindeer husbandry, hunting and fishing, strengthening and revitalizing the Sami languages, promoting and protecting Sami cultural expression, cultural heritage and traditional knowledge.
3. The Sami Parliament see a large need for increased work on international issues and activities to safeguard indigenous and human rights. The situation of the Sami people is a pressing human rights concern and issue of particular relevance. The Sami people is living under an increased pressured situation due to climate change and land exploitation projects affecting Sami traditional lands and waters.
4. The Sami Parliament have limited resources for reporting but want to contribute to the important review process of Sweden's fulfilment and implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Please, do not hesitate to contact us for further information or questions.

II. Lack of information and data on the situation of the Sami people (art. 2)

5. There is no official statistical data on Sami wellbeing and health, economic development and livelihoods, social status, cultural practices including Sami languages and traditional knowledge etc. This lack of data makes it challenging to present a comprehensive picture of the situation of the Sami and the nature of change over time. It also creates challenges to follow-up and monitor the national implementation and fulfilment of international human rights instruments as well as the Sustainable Development Goals.
6. The Sami Parliament is responsible for the production of some statistics (e.g. on the reindeer herding) but has limited resources and no mandate with which to collect further data. While the Sami Parliament has an electoral roll which could be a useful source and tool, it cannot use this list to produce statistics as legislation prohibits government agencies to collect data on ethnicity, including collection of such data on voluntary basis. The lack of disaggregated data on the situation of the Sami people and

¹ <https://www.sametinget.se/lang/english>

legislative hurdles were recently highlighted in the OECD country study on Sweden *Linking the Indigenous Sámi People with Regional Development*.²

Q: What measures are Sweden undertaking to enable the collection and analysis of disaggregated data on the situation of the Sami people in Sweden (health and well-being, economic development, recognition and respect of their rights), in accordance with their free prior and informed consent?

III. Self-determination and consultation (arts. 1 and 2)

7. The constitutional structure of the Sami Parliament with its dual role as a parliament of the Sami people and a government agency has been subject to criticism in several international human rights reviews. The Sami Parliament is dependent on funding provided by the government. It is furthermore obliged to report to the government on its activities and allocation of funds and to follow directives and instructions from the government on the same. Our self-determination will continue to be highly limited until the Sami Parliament has the power to make its own decisions on internal Sami issues and priorities, influence relevant decisions on matters affecting the Sami, and has sufficient funding of its own to allocate as desired. We regret to say that we are witnessing how the development on this issue is moving in the wrong direction, where the Swedish government now works to reduce the Sami Parliament's room for action instead of respecting our right to increased Self-determination.

Act on Consultation

8. For several years an Act on Consultation with the Sami has been negotiated between the government and the Sami Parliament. The Act sets out a duty and procedure for the government and Agencies to consult the Sami people on matters affecting them. An Act on Consultation entered into force in March 2022. Although the proposal has received criticism for not adequately reflecting the norm of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) we expect the Act to strengthen the Sami voice and our meaningful and effective participation in public affairs. We see a need to monitor and evaluate the implementation and elaboration of practice of the Act. The Sami Parliament stress that due to the Act there is a large increase in requests for consultations, however the government is not providing increased funding for the Sami Parliament and Sami organizations to participate in meaningful consultations.

Nordic Sami Convention

9. Unfortunately, we regret to inform that the Nordic Sami Convention still has not been completed and adopted. Negotiations on the Convention have been under way between Sweden, Norway, and Finland and the Sami Parliaments in the three countries for decades. The purpose of the Convention is to strengthen domestic norms for Sami rights

² <http://www.oecd.org/development/linking-the-indigenous-sami-people-with-regional-development-in-sweden-9789264310544-en.htm>

in accordance with international standards and to harmonize legislation relating to the Sami in the three countries. The Convention, containing a chapter on Sami governance, is a crucial instrument to ensure Sami autonomy and to reform inadequate national legislation.

Sami Truth Commission

10. The Sami Parliament's work for a Truth Commission has lasted for many years. We are glad to report that finally a Truth Commission for the Sami people is ongoing. The Truth Commission is currently collecting testimonies from the Sami people. The commission's task to propose actions that contributes to amends and promote reconciliation is key to make the Commissions work successful. To establish measures that will lead to a change. The Sami people will need monitoring from UN bodies and human rights organizations for the Commission to have impact and cause a real change. To make Sweden act upon the call-to-actions the Commission will present. We expect the Truth Commission to be an important tool for justice if the state, authorities and decisionmakers takes responsibility and amend the abuses submitted by the Sami people. The Truth Commission ends in December 2025.

Shaping national work on Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement

11. As a people of the Arctic, the Sami People are disproportionately affected by the adverse impacts of climate change. The Sami Parliament is participating in the Swedish delegation during negotiations and meetings under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and is mandated to work on climate adaptation measures together with the Sami reindeer herding communities. However, the Sami people are not involved in shaping the national response and strategies to combat climate change and implement the Paris Agreement. The same goes for the national work on implementing Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. Sami perspectives are not included or considered in the Government Action Plan 2018-2021 adopted in 2018. This despite the recognition of indigenous peoples' crucial role as a major group for reaching the goals and targets.

Q: What measures does Sweden intend to take so that the Sami Parliament and Sami representatives have a real opportunity to participate in consultations according to the Act on Consultation, such as sufficient resources?

Q: What is Sweden doing to ensure a speedy ratification and adoption of the Nordic Sami Convention?

Q: To what extent and how are the Sami people able to shape Sweden's policies, strategies and action plans in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement?

IV. Land-use and land rights (art. 1)

12. To have access to our lands and exercise control over how it is used and managed is essential to the Sami people. The lands are fundamental to our livelihoods, culture and languages, to our environment, kinship, intergenerational transmission of our knowledge, well-being, food systems and spirituality. The issue of rights to land and natural resources is therefore front and centre of our everyday efforts. Several recommendations have been made by special procedures, UN treaty bodies, to Sweden regarding the lack of protection of Sami land rights including recognition of the norm of free, prior and informed consent. Regrettably, the Sami Parliament cannot report positive progress on these recommendations.
13. The Sami Parliament underlines that the recommendations presented earlier by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights during a review of Sweden are still valid and remain unsolved:³

“Sami land rights

13. The Committee is concerned that the Sami people still encounter obstacles to the full enjoyment of their indigenous rights that include access to their ancestral lands and maintenance of their traditional ways of living. This situation is exacerbated by the increase in extractive and development projects being carried out on or near to Sami lands (arts. 1 and 2).

14. The Committee recommends that the State party redouble its efforts to resolve the remaining disputes related to Sami lands. In particular, the Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Ensure that all Sami, including non-reindeer-herding Sami, enjoy equal access to water and land, and, to that end, that it introduce the necessary legislative changes to avoid unnecessary distinctions among the Sami people in such access;
- (b) Reconsider its position on the burden of proof in court cases concerning Sami land rights with a view to assisting Sami in providing the necessary evidence and thus strengthening their ability to claim their rights effectively, and undertake to further facilitate Sami access to legal aid;
- (c) Ensure, in law and in practice, that the necessary efforts are made to obtain the free, prior and informed consent of all Sami people on decisions that affect them, and provide legal assistance in that regard;
- (d) Review relevant legislation, policies and practices that regulate activities that may have an impact on the rights and interests of the Sami people, including development projects and the operations of extractive industries, and in particular the Minerals Act, the Minerals Strategy and the Environmental Code;
- (e) Expedite the negotiations leading to the adoption of the Nordic Sami Convention, and in case of further delays adopt the necessary legal solutions at the domestic level;
- (f) Consider ratifying the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).”

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https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=E/C.12/SWE/CO/6&Lang=En

“Sami Parliament

15. The Committee, while welcoming the State party’s efforts to increase resources allocated to the Sami Parliament, remains concerned about the Sami Parliament’s limited powers, especially on issues related to land rights.

16. The Committee recommends that the State party continue increasing the resources allocated to the Sami Parliament, which are necessary in order for it to discharge its role effectively.”

The state’s division of the Sami people

14. The Sami parliament want to highlight that the earlier recommendation to Sweden is still important: *“Ensure that all Sami, including non-reindeer-herding Sami, enjoy equal access to water and land, and, to that end, that it introduce the necessary legislative changes to avoid unnecessary distinctions among the Sami people in such access.”*

15. Today, we have a reindeer husbandry Act (1971:437) that prevents Sami people outside of reindeer husbandry from exercising their inherited right to their culture, including hunting and fishing. There is now an ongoing investigation to change this legislation. A parliamentary committee “Renmarkskommittén” shall submit a proposal for a new reindeer herding Act to replace the current reindeer husbandry Act. See the directive for “A new reindeer herding legislation - the Sami people's right to reindeer herding, hunting and fishing.” The “Renmarkskommittén” committee shall follow the obligations Sweden has according to international principles and agreements, for example, the UN Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), UN Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).⁴

16. Sweden has divided and harmed the Sami people due to racial biological and colonial view upon the Sami people. This has affected the legislation, especially the reindeer husbandry Act, and state policy that is still affecting the Sami people today. The Sami Parliament stress that a new reindeer herding Act which regulates the ability for Sami to practice their rights regarding land and water, must include all Sami – also non-reindeer herding Sami – according to the obligations Sweden has to the Sami people.

Extractive industries and cumulative effects

17. The commercial use of land for resource exploitation and extractive industries, large infrastructure projects, mining activities, energy installations, forestry activities. In addition, increased tourism, carnivore populations and climate change create cumulative impacts endangering Sami livelihoods and culture. Currently, concession permits on Sami land are pending decision by the Ministry of Climate and Enterprise. Through these decisions, the Ministry has the power to determine the future of reindeer herding, all traditional Sami livelihoods and the Sami people’s rights in these areas.

⁴ <https://regeringen.se/rattsliga-dokument/kommittedirektiv/2021/05/dir.-202135>

Gállok and ongoing land grabbing

18. On 22 March 2022, the Swedish government decided to grant permission for a mining concession in Gállok, Sápmi. The government decided to put short term financial interests and mineral extraction above the protection of nature and safeguarding of Sami rights, culture and livelihoods. A mine in Gállok will cause severe damaging impacts on Sami culture and livelihoods, including reindeer husbandry. And it will bring harmful, lasting impacts on the Lapponia World and Cultural Heritage Area. The Swedish government made its decision contrary to the opinions of UNESCO, regional authorities, the Sami Parliament, affected reindeer herding communities and local Samis, and most notably without consent. The Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment have both expressed their concern over the mining project in Gállok and requested any steps taken by the Government of Sweden to ensure that the Sami have access to effective, adequate and timely remedies for business related human rights abuses.
19. We regret to inform that Gállok is one example of many on the current land grabbing of Sami territories. The Sami Parliament's 91st plenary session in Julevu/Luleå adopted a unanimous statement⁵ on 2 June 2022 that the state continues to prey on the Sami people and colonize Sami lands. The government's decision on granting concession in Gállok is currently under review by the Supreme Administrative Court. The government has recently written to the Court that there are no grounds for overturning the previous government's decision to grant a mining concession in Gállok.⁶
20. In September 2023 the Government tore up a decision not to allow a mine in Kyrkberget, Storuman municipality, in the County of Västerbotten. The government stated that they want the mining interest to weigh more heavily in relation to other interests – in this case reindeer husbandry. The government stated that they wanted their decision to be a guide for other mining permits, which would mean that mining interests automatically come before reindeer husbandry and Sami indigenous rights. This is deeply worrying.⁷

Adoption of European mining legislation Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)

21. In the end of 2023, the European Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA) were adopted by the EU. The law will lead to increased land exploitation in Sápmi where the consequences of the CRMA and the designation of so-called 'strategic projects' will have devastating consequences for the Sami people – for reindeer husbandry and all other traditional Sami livelihoods. Hence, negative affect on the Sami people, economically, socially and culturally.

⁵ <https://www.sametinget.se/167407>

⁶ <https://sverigesradio.se/artikel/regeringen-haller-fast-vid-gallok-beslut>

⁷ <https://www.svt.se/nyheter/lokalt/vasterbotten/regeringen-river-upp-beslut-om-gruva-i-storuman-ska-provas-pa-nytt-vagledande>

22. Sweden's government has not consulted the Sami people's legitimate representatives, the Sami Parliament, in the development of Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA). The consequences are of such magnitude that consultation is required. The law threatens the continued existence of the Sami people and all Sami traditional livelihoods. Sweden violates its obligations towards the Sami people.⁸
23. The EU's mineral legislation (CRMA) and the states' actions also violate the core EU agreements that were signed when Sweden and Finland joined the EU. The agreements form the basis for entry of the states into the EU. In Protocol No 3 on the Sami people, the states recognize the obligations and commitments of Norway, Sweden, and Finland regarding the Sami people under national and international law. It also states in particular that Norway, Sweden and Finland are committed to preserving and developing the means of livelihood, language, culture and way of life of the Sami people. The protocol also considers the dependence of traditional Sami culture and livelihood on primary economic activities, such as reindeer husbandry in the traditional areas of Sami settlement.⁹
24. The Sami people are Europe's only indigenous people. Sweden and Finland have also weakened the protection of indigenous peoples in the new EU law by blocking the issue of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and ensuring that this human rights principle is not mentioned in the text of the law. The Sami Parliament advocated for the inclusion of Free Prior and Informed Consent in the legislation but to no avail.

Energy projects and so-called green colonialism

25. The Sami Parliament have earlier reported on a growing area of concern, namely how the strive for “green sustainable energy” is violating Sami rights. In line with target 7.2 of the SDG's, Sweden has set out to become the world's first fossil-free welfare state. This means increased focus on wind power and establishment of wind parks and other energy projects, creating a tangible conflict of interest with Sami land use for reindeer herding, hunting, fishing and other Sami traditional livelihoods. Large industrial scale wind mill parks, mining projects, forestry, infrastructure etc., are established on Sami lands without consent from the Sami people. At government level we see no changes as to how Sami rights are safeguarded in its policy and priorities or respected in land exploitation processes. We see the situation becoming worse since there has been an increased interest for so-called green industrial projects. Both reindeer herding and non-reindeer herding Sami, and The Sami parliament try to affect land exploitation projects but there is a lack of resources and lack of influence in land exploitation processes. The Sami Parliament and Sami all over Sápmi have stated that we don't want any green colonialism.

⁸ <https://sametinget.se/185964>

⁹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C:1994:241:FULL>

26. Parliamentarians from the three Arctic Sami parliaments have at the Sami parliamentary conference in May 2023, particularly emphasized the binding responsibility and obligation of the states to maintain a real consultation and dialogue based on human rights: “As the Indigenous people in Europe, we deny all attempts of exploitation on our lands, waters and seas without our consent and safeguarding our culture, livelihoods and lifestyle.”¹⁰

Increased carnivore populations

27. The large populations of large carnivores (wolverine, wolf, lynx, bear and eagle) within Sápmi are causing high losses and damage to reindeer herding. Statistics show that reindeer herding communities lose between 30 to 40 percent of their herd to carnivores. This, despite a Riksdag-decision from 2013 stating that maximum losses should not exceed ten percent of the total reindeer herd. The damages and losses are compensated financially, but only to a limited extent and according to the same rates since 1995. The vast losses are a key reason behind psychological ill-being among reindeer herders and threaten the generation change of reindeer businesses.¹¹

Q: Why have Sweden not consulted The Sami Parliament before adopting the EU legislation Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)?

- **Have Sweden abandoned Protocol No 3 on the Sami people which was signed when Sweden became a member of the European Union?**

Q: What measures are adopted to guarantee adequate protection of the right of the Sami people to own, use and freely dispose their lands, territories and natural resources?

- **What is Sweden doing to ensure that the Sami peoples and the Sami Parliament are consulted in land use matters, spatial planning, environmental permitting processes (including i.a. infrastructure, forestry, mining, wind energy) and what are their possibilities to impact the outcome according to the principle of free prior and informed consent?**
- **To what extent are social and human rights impacts considered before decisions are made to grant abovementioned activities?**
- **In what way is Sweden taking measures to amend relevant legislation on land use in accordance with previous recommendations from UN monitoring mechanisms and treaty bodies?**

Q: What is Sweden doing to ensure that legislation and policies on management of carnivores does not impact or prevent the Sami people from practicing their culture and livelihoods – including through implementation of the 10%-loss-limitation?

¹⁰ Declaration from the Seventh Conference of the Sami Parliamentarians in Árviesjávrrie/Arvidsjaur, 31 May 2023: <https://www.sametinget.se/179379>

¹¹ Report ”Rennäringsens tillstånd 2019” <https://www.sametinget.se/147808>

V. Sami languages and education (arts. 1, 13)

28. Sami languages are one of five nationally recognized minority languages according to the Act on National Minorities and Minority Languages. The Sami people is also recognized as a people and indigenous people. As such the Sami have more far-reaching and additional rights than minorities. The current Act on Minority Languages is not adequately addressing and protecting Sami language rights as an indigenous people.

Education on and in the Sami languages

29. There is consensus among language workers and scholars that education plays a central role in how language is transmitted to the next generation. Therefore, possibilities of education in the Sami languages are crucial for their existence. We note the acute shortage of teachers, who can both teach in Sami and teach the Sami languages. Available and functional higher education in Sami languages is a prerequisite for the future recruitment of teachers, preferably in combination with scholarships, aiming to make this course of study more attractive to prospective students. The lack of Sami language teachers at university level continues to be a great concern.

30. According to a report from Skolinspektionen (the Swedish Schools Inspectorate) in 2019, there are serious shortcomings in the municipalities' fulfillment of their responsibilities to provide education in the Sami languages to Sami children.¹² Sweden have repeatedly received recommendations by the Council of Europe to address this matter.¹³

31. However, we see that the years are passing, and generations of Sami do not have the possibility to revitalize their Sami language. The Sami Parliament advocates for strong funding from the government for Sami language reforms etc. We want to stress the enormous profit the state-owned companies LKAB, Vattenfall and Sveaskog make¹⁴ from their operations of land and water exploitations in our traditional territorial area, Sápmi. Profits in these state-owned companies have arisen through exploitation of our lands. These gains have been financed by the loss of Sami lands, language, culture, and traditional livelihoods. A larger proportion of the values that are taken from Sápmi should be used to meet the wishes and needs of the Sami people to revitalize, keep, and develop our languages, culture and livelihoods.

¹² https://www.skolinspektionen.se/globalassets/publikationssok/granskningsrapporter/fordjupat-tema-reg-tillsyn/nationella-minoritetsprak-2020/ratten-till-modersmalsundervisning-i-nationella-minoritetssprak-i-ak.7-9_slutversion.pdf

¹³ https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectID=0900001680711410 and https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectID=09000016808d5a35

¹⁴ <https://www.sametinget.se/176629> page 33

Q: What measures are Sweden undertaken to guarantee the fulfillment of language rights of the Sami people – especially in the light of the Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032¹⁵?

- **How is Sweden ensuring enhanced revitalization of the Sami languages in the light of previous reports from monitoring bodies and mechanisms and in accordance with the demands from The Sami Parliament?**
- **What measures are undertaken to increase the amount of teachers who teach in Sami and teach the Sami languages at all levels of the education system?**

VI. Health and well-being (art. 12)

32. The education on Sami issues in the school curricula in elementary school and upper secondary school is limited and inadequate. The Swedish population lack knowledge and information about the Sami people; our rights, culture, knowledge, practices and livelihoods. The injustices and rights violations the Sami people have been subjected to by Sweden are unknown to far too many. The invisibility and ignorance of Sami issues feeds racism and in turn create negative impacts on psychological and social well-being. Land exploitation projects and Sami rights violations severely affects the health of Sami.

Racism and hate crime

33. We see that hate crimes and racism and threats against Sami communities, Sami individuals and parliamentarians have increased. Following the ruling of the Supreme Court in the Girjas case this tendency have become more alarming. Prejudice, lack of knowledge and information along with the lack of political solutions to conflicts of interests between the Sami and other groups in society further exacerbate the situation.

34. The Sami Parliament have seen tendencies to try to target and question Sami rights and efforts and the legitimate right to influence in all matters that affect us. There is a lot happening now; the consultation Act is expanded this year to include municipalities and regions, Sami struggles against land exploitations and the so-called the green transition (including the EU law CRMA), the ongoing “Renmarkskommittén” stirs up emotions and racism and the Truth Commission regarding the Sami people is ongoing. Generally, there is a shift in the social debate in Sweden and a fear that The Sami Parliament and the Sami people will have more influence and respect for our rights.

Psychological and social well-being

35. Although there is not sufficient data on Sami well-being and health surveys indicate negative developments in the mental health - emotional, psychological, and social well-being. For instance, 53 percent of all young Sami women and 20 percent of all reindeer herders state they have had thoughts of suicide, according to a study from 2016.¹⁶

¹⁵ <https://en.unesco.org/news/upcoming-decade-indigenous-languages-2022-2032-focus-indigenous-language-users-human-rights>

¹⁶ https://www.sametinget.se/rapport_psykosocial_ohalsa

In Norway there is a Sami center for mental health (SANKS). Although SANKS, since 2015, are cooperating with some regional public health care providers in Sweden a national Sami center for health in Sweden is needed in order to document, analyze and inform about Sami health and establish mechanisms to safeguard Sami rights to health.

36. Currently an assignment research project is ongoing to report on violence against Sami women and girls. This is an important issue where there is a huge lack of information and a need for further measures. The Sami Parliament need resources to be able to work continuously and long-term on this and other health and equality issues.

Q: What efforts are Sweden taking to increase the knowledge about the Sami people and their rights, culture and livelihoods among the general public and among decision makers?

- **To what extent is knowledge and information about the Sami part of the curricula in elementary and upper secondary school (gymnasium)?**

Q: What measures are Sweden undertaking to protect Sami individuals and communities from hate crime, racism and discrimination in private and public spheres?

Q: What measures are Sweden taking to ensure availability of health care adapted to Sami needs?

- **What is being done to reduce and halt the suicide rates and improve the emotional, psychological, and social well-being among the Sami people?**

VII. Repatriation (art. 1)

37. Sami objects, including ceremonial objects, and human remains are mainly possessed and managed by Swedish museums, institutions and educational centers. To a large extent these collections are held by institutions and museums and institutions outside Sápmi (the Sami homeland). To our knowledge, there are human remains in at least 66 Swedish museums and Sami human remains in at least eleven of these.¹⁷
38. In 2018 the Swedish National Heritage Board was given a government assignment to develop guiding documents to museums on repatriation procedures for cultural objects and the handling of human remains. The guiding documents released in the beginning of 2020 were developed in consultation with the Sami Parliament and set out to serve as a leading practice globally.¹⁸ Still, there are no binding rules determining how to

¹⁷ Further information in Sweden's response to the UPR recommendations regarding during its third review cycle Para. 156.268

<https://www.regeringen.se/49be62/contentassets/49b69f19914542d2ab6c00d1e2ed56b2/response-from-the-swedish-government-regarding-upr-recommendations.pdf>

¹⁸ <https://www.raa.se/museer/samlingsforvaltning/sa-fungerar-samlingsforvaltning/aterlamnande-av-kulturforemal-och-manskliga-kvarlevor/>

evaluate a request on repatriation or stating the right of a Sami individual or collective to have objects belonging to their cultural heritage returned.

39. The absence of binding legislation and fair, effective and transparent mechanisms on repatriation causes difficulties and unclarity about when and how repatriation processes should be conducted. More distinct and robust structures and mechanisms to facilitate and carry out repatriation are required. In addition, the Sami Parliament, museums educational centers and other relevant institutions must be secured financial resources and clear mandates to carry out repatriation efforts. Since this regards the Sami cultural heritage the Sami Parliament needs resources to take responsibility and coordinate. The Sami Parliament stresses the urgent need for capacity building for the Sami Parliament and in the Sami society preparing for receiving repatriated cultural objects and remains.

Q: What mechanisms are Sweden planning to facilitate further repatriation processes of Sami human remains and cultural objects?

On behalf of the Sami Parliament



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