



Södertälje  
kommun

# Södertälje – the international capital of Sweden





**SÖDERTÄLJE HAS ALWAYS BEEN** – and always will be – an international city. 1000 years ago this area was a hub of commerce and international relations which generated a groundbreaking exchange of ideas and social development.

**SÖDERTÄLJE'S CURRENT PLACE** in the world is partly shaped to the presence of two world-leading companies and a population with origins in a large number of different countries. This international characteristic is a defining part of Södertälje's identity and strength, so it is only natural that business development should form a natural focal point in the international affairs work.

**WITH ITS DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER** and history, Södertälje is fully justified in calling itself Sweden's international capital. We take part in international affairs work and play an active role in the EU community. Our work is aimed at creating an understanding and contacts between people and different cultures in accordance with the objectives of the UN.

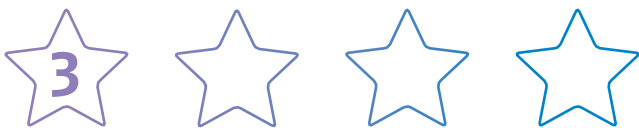
**EDUCATION AND TRAINING**, exchange, collaboration and cooperation are therefore obvious areas of development in our international work. Södertälje's long-standing cooperation with Nordic sister cities is an excellent tool in this context.



**THE OBJECTIVE OF** the international programme is to make people understand that Södertälje is part of a wider world that already affects our everyday lives in different ways. This understanding should open our eyes to the possibilities of developing our activities for the benefit of our residents, businesses and employees. The children's perspective, democracy, diversity, and the immigration and refugee question are examples of key issues on Södertälje's horizon.

**THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME** promotes sustainable economic, social and ecological development, both in our immediate environment and globally. Internationalisation both helps strengthen collaboration and development all around the world and also benefits Södertälje's growth. Key issues in the municipality's international programme are: conditions for industry, business development, commerce, tourism, research, education/training and development, but also labour market and recruitment issues.

**THE POLICY IS** a manifestation of Södertälje Municipality's international programme. The plan has two strategic areas and outlines the control and organisational aspects of the programme based on the international policy. Every year the municipal council establishes in its Goals and Budget the goals for the next few years of the international work.



**THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT** is subsidiary to the municipal executive board. It is headed up by the Head of International Affairs. The department's work is steered by the regular planning process, which is based on the municipality's planning wheel, goals and Budgeting work. This includes drawing up a yearly work plan and performing regular follow-ups and evaluations.

**The international work includes three strategic areas:**

1. EU
2. Scandinavia
3. Global/international

**THE COMMITTEES AND MUNICIPAL COMPANIES** are responsible for ensuring that the EU work is integrated into the regular activities and forms a natural part of the business and administrative development work. In all activities and business development and project work there is an obligation to look for EU financing opportunities.

**THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL** is responsible for initiating EU work; producing ideas and looking for possibilities for taking part in EU projects and taking advantage of the possibilities offered by EU work in general. Each department or office should have a contact person/coordinator for international issues, which will primarily be in charge of contacts with the International Affairs Department.



## Facts of Södertälje

### Area of Södertälje Municipality

Land 526 km<sup>2</sup>, 159 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>

### Population (2007-12-31)

MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
42 042	41 600	83 642

There are 290 municipalities in Sweden. Södertälje is the 21th largest municipality according to the population.

### Age groups (2007-12-31)

0 - 15 ÅR	16 - 64 ÅR	65 ÅR -
16 555	54 743	12 344

### Born abroad (2007-12-31)

MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
11 889	11 939	23 828

### The four largest employers 2007

ASTRAZENECA	8 998
SCANIA	7 705
SÖDERTÄLJE MUNICIPALITY	5 640
SÖDERTÄLJE HOSPITAL	1 250

### Education

PRE-SCHOOL SERVICES: public 58, private 17

COMPULSORY SCHOOLS: 17 schools and 9 independent schools.

UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS: 7 schools, 9 independent schools, 5 of them are antroposophic.

## Contacts

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