

A photograph of a diverse group of people gathered outdoors near a body of water at sunset. The warm, golden light of the setting sun is visible in the background, creating a soft glow. In the foreground, a woman with dark skin and braided hair is seen in profile, looking towards the right. Next to her, a woman with blonde hair is adjusting her sunglasses. To the right, another woman with brown hair and sunglasses is also in profile, looking towards the left. The background is filled with other people, some looking towards the water, others talking. The overall atmosphere is relaxed and social.

# NORDIC SAFE CITIES ALLIANCE

2020 - 2021 Membership Programme

# Building Safe Cities Together

*Dear Nordic city*

We invite you to embark on the next journey within the Nordic Safe Cities alliance. Together we will work to prevent, and counter extremist hate and violence, creating safer cities across the North.

## Why Nordic Safe Cities

Democracy is deeply rooted in the Nordic countries. We respect fundamental human rights and freedom, and we see ourselves as open-minded, trustful and tolerant. These are Nordic values that unite us, values that have made our societies strong and are worth protecting.

In recent years these values have been challenged by actions and beliefs that sometimes result in violent behavior. Motives vary across individuals, groups, national borders, religious, political, socio-economic factors and, circumstances. Whatever the reasoning, radical and violent-promoting behavior directly threatens our cities' safety and foundational values.

With the rise and normalization of extremism in society the Nordic values and democracies are under pressure. We need to act together to defend and safeguard democracy, peace, human rights and social cohesion in the Nordic countries, in our cities and in our local communities. The Nordic Safe Cities alliance has shown itself as an impactful platform to drive this agenda forward.

## Take part of the Nordic Safe Cities Alliance

Since the establishment of the Nordic Safe Cities alliance in 2016, we have united +30 Nordic cities and more than +800 practitioners, experts, politicians, organizations, and youth in the activities and sessions of the network. All with the purpose

of sharing know-how and tools that all cities can use in collaborating around new solutions to local challenges. From Helsinki to Aalborg, Kristiansand to Viborg and Borlänge to Copenhagen we have united our cities and worked together to make Nordic cities safer.

The Nordic Council of Ministers and the Nordic Safe Cities Team invites your city to be part of the next journey within the Nordic Safe Cities programme in 2020 and 2021. It is our vision to fight for light and help safeguard people from extremism in our member cities across the Nordic. We aim to help you build social cohesion in your town and mobilize youth and communities to defend the Nordic values and prevent hate, crime and violence from extremist groups and individuals. We will work with your city and front line personnel; the practitioners, the police, the teachers, civil society and local youth to improve the work and prevent and counter extremism of all kinds. With the help of all the partners in our alliance of safe Nordic cities.

We hope your city will take part in our joint efforts to make the Nordics a safer place to live.





# Nordic Safe Cities Today

»This is the one setting where the Nordic countries can come together and talk about how we can make our societies safer and better. We share so many similarities that without a forum, where the focus is solely Nordic, we would absolutely lose something.«

**Anneli Portman,**  
**Helsinki Municipality, Finland**

»The Nordic Safe Cities network takes a wider perspective on safety in our communities. Not just looking at radicalization and extremism but viewing cities as ecosystems with individuals whom we need to tailor particular solutions for different types of problems.«

**Magnus Ranstorp,**  
**Research Director, Centre for Asymmetric Threat, Sweden.**  
**Defense College**

»Many of the new strategies implemented in our city are inspired by inspiration and the network established through the Nordic Safe Cities sessions and events.«

**Erica Gutterød,**  
**Larvik Municipality, Norway**

## NORDIC SAFE CITIES IMPACT SURVEY

By being a member city:

# 81%

Report a **better knowledge and understanding of radicalization, extremism and violence**

# 81%

Report that Nordic Safe City membership has given them a **stronger network and new access to resources**

# 63%

Report that Nordic Safe City membership has led **to local improvements and an ability to create a safer city**

## TODAY WE ARE

# 5

**Nordic countries**

# 30

**Participating cities**

# 800

**experts, NGOs and social prevention practitioners**

Reaching and safeguarding

# 10 mio.

**people in the Nordic region**

# Nordic Safe Cities Tomorrow

A large group of people are sitting on a grassy hill, looking out over a city at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. The city in the background is visible through the trees, with some lights starting to appear. The people are mostly seen from behind, looking towards the city.

## The Nordic Safe City 2025 Vision

### WHY

Fight for light

- Safeguard 20 million people in the Nordics from extremism
- Advance the Nordics as a global pioneer region for creating safe cities

### HOW

- Reduce extremist hate, violence and terror incidents and the public fear of attacks in +40 Nordic cities

### WHAT

- Help cities act and show they are safe

## Nordic lighthouses

We aim to launch three lighthouses in the Nordic Safe Cities programme that all cities can access by 2021:

- We will give light to the Next Generation by training and mobilizing 10.000 Safe City changemakers to build local safety, trust, and cohesion in the Nordic Safe Cities.
- We will create light in your city and help member cities create safe and liveable urban spaces through Nordic security by design programme and toolbox.
- We will create light online and help member cities act and build new digital citizenship for citizens to improve their ability to oppose recruitment from extremist groups and resist the spread of online misinformation.

# The Nordic Safe Cities Charter

## A Foundation for action

The Nordic Safe Cities program is built upon the Fight for Light Charter.

The charter is designed as a foundation for the programs vision and activities for cities. The charter illustrates the six action arenas that Nordic Safe Cities member cities work together within to make your city safer.

As a Nordic Safe Cities member, we invite you to sign the charter, pledging to work locally to create a safer city that safeguards your citizens from extremism and promotes the democratic and Nordic values.

## FIGHT FOR LIGHT



### OUR URBAN SPACES

Safe streets and public spaces for everyone



### OUR ONLINE LIFE

SoMe without fear and fake news



### OUR FAMILIES

Families safeguard children



### OUR YOUTH

Young change-makers create safe cities



### OUR CIVIL SERVANTS

Teachers, police & social workers prevent extremism



### OUR COMMUNITY

Civil society at the forefront of safety



Nordic  
Safe Cities





# Connect with cities and thinkers

## Connect and innovate your projects at Nordic Safe City Camps

- Receive real-time sparring to your local challenges and efforts from Nordic Safe City colleagues, leading Nordic and international experts through our two-day camps where we rethink and build local strategy and actions together.
- Use the camps to address current themes and challenges and implement the newest knowledge into your local strategy and action plan to prevent and fight extremism.
- Expand your city network and inspiration and get new partners for your local initiatives and get key insight on trends and tendencies from the Nordic and international scene.
- The camps are arranged 2 times a year and will address current themes and challenges in a Nordic context. The camps are for practitioners, politicians, experts, and organizations to share key issues, challenges, and best cases.

## Connect online in pier-to-pier exchange

- Access to webinars with experts and practitioners from other cities share peer to peer exchange on relevant topics.

## Showcase and collaborate with cities at high level political summits

- Showcase your projects and meet Nordic politicians to gain inspiration for local policymaking.
- Address and work with Nordic colleagues to jointly voice practices and needs to national and international decision-makers.
- Arranged every 2nd year for politicians, mayors and practitioners.

## Influence the strategic direction of the alliance

- Participate at the annual steering group meeting and influence the strategic direction of the program and the development of new concepts and activities in the alliance.
- Opportunity to influence your membership and strengthen the connection between cities, ensure faster information flow and increased awareness on the topics at hand, relevant for your city.

## Share and get new inspiration from international networks

- Access the newest international research and development as a Nordic Safe Cities member through our partnerships with EU RAN and Strong Cities Network.



## Local advisory for your innovation

- Develop your annual action plan with the Nordic Safe cities programme to help us tailor-make the membership period for your city's current projects and challenges. Decide which local topic or case you wish to uncover with the partners in the Nordic Safe Cities programme during each year to improve your local work.
- Get one-to-one sparring 2 times a year from the Nordic Safe Cities team on your projects and action plans. e.g. on revising a strategy or a local action plan, developing a new project or concept with local partners, reviewing new themes and areas to be aware of.
- Get quick access to Nordic best practice as the Nordic Safe Cities team will gather best cases, trends, and information on key challenges from all membership cities and share them with you to make a fast track to existing best practice in other cities.



## Join communication with cities and partners

### Showcase your city as a Nordic Safe City

- Promote your stories and help share the Nordic prevention models in the North and into the world.
- Inspire other cities with your newest projects, policies and actions.
- Share your work together with Nordic Safe Cities at European and international events and summits.
- Share stories in local, national and Nordic media regarding your city's actions and projects.
- Get access to a digital brand toolbox with membership logo for a united NSC communication narrative.



# Membership investment

Membership and participation at Nordic Safe Cities activities cost **75.000 DKK annually with a two years membership** payment (year 2020 + 2021). Allowing you to send your team of city practitioners to all events, connect with other cities and experts and access the 1:1 local advisory.

Travel expenses and accommodation at events are not included.

The Nordic Safe Cities Alliance is a non-profit initiative.

