

SI. Swedish Institute

Photo: Carolina Romare



**Suggested event;
themes and format**

**Never Violence – Agenda 2030,
End abuse, exploitation,
trafficking and all forms of
violence against and torture of
children**

Never Violence event format suggestion

Format

The event can be in the format of a seminar, conference or roundtable, or a combination of them. You can also invite a speaker from Sweden if a local partner is already planning for an event. SI can provide support in choosing a format. Roundtable is suitable for high level decision-makers, NGO leaders and experts, and is most effective in combination with a seminar or conference that includes a wider target group from the same institutions and organisations. An evening reception at the embassy could also be a good way to conclude an event.

Moderator

Ideally the event should have a local moderator, perhaps from an NGO, or a journalist interested in children's rights. It is important that the moderator has some knowledge of the theme of the event.

Experts

SI can assist by suggesting experts as possible speakers, for example a paediatrician, lawyer, academic researcher, specialist from an NGO, or an officer from the Ministry of Social Affairs or from a public agency. The contact person at SI is found at the toolkit's website at www.sharingsweden.se.

Local partners

Please also involve your local partner as soon as possible. It could be a ministry, agency and/or NGO. SI has partners in Sweden that can help you connect with local organisations, see further information in the manual. For a few years SI has also arranged a Never Violence visitors programme to Sweden with key actors from approximately 20 countries. These decision-makers and agents of change can also be good as partners. If the country you are in is a pathfinding country, you know the government is highly committed to this topic and goal.

Swedish partners

Save the Children Sweden, UNICEF Sweden, ECPAT Sweden, Change Attitude, World Childhood Foundation, Astrid Lindgren AB and the Ombudsman for Children in Sweden.

Theme 1: Ending violence against children

Sweden was the first country to join the Global Partnership as a pathfinding country under Agenda 2030, goal 16, target 16.2. These countries demonstrate successful solutions to eliminate violence against children in different environments, from family settings to society at large. By bringing together governments, United Nations agencies, international organisations, civil society, faith groups, the private sector, philanthropic foundations, researchers and academics, and children themselves, lessons learned can be highlighted and knowledge be exchanged.

Make an event with the theme of ending violence, including all different aspects, to raise knowledge about agenda 2030 and target 16.2. The aim of this would be to put the topic on the agenda and have a starting point for sharing knowledge with Sweden.

Examples of seminar topics:

- *Agenda 2030, target 16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.*
- *What is violence? How are Sweden and country X working to achieve the goal, what has been done, and how can we move forward to eliminate violence against children?*

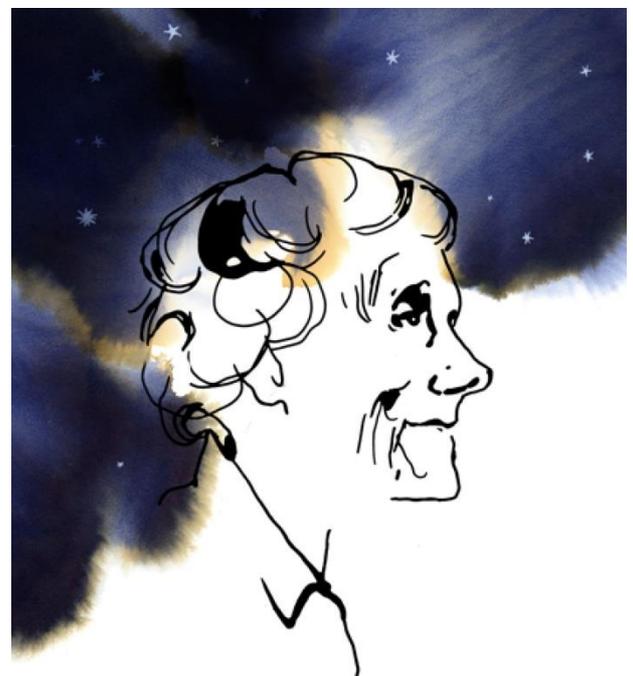
Theme 2: Legal ban on corporal punishment

Agenda 2030, target 16.2 states all forms of violence should be eliminated. This includes corporal punishment in all settings, including in institutions, schools and the home. In 1979 Sweden became the first country in the world to have a law against corporal punishment in the home.

Sweden has a story to share on the process of introducing and implementing a law against corporal punishment. Sweden's well-known author of children's books Astrid Lindgren was an important voice for the perspective of the children through her books, and she also supported the movement of introducing a law in Sweden. In 1978 she held her famous speech *Never Violence*. Also, there are experts as well as data from research in Sweden on how children are affected when exposed to corporal punishment. There is knowledge to share about the making of the law text, about campaigning a new law, and about implementing the law and changing attitudes.

This theme is relevant for countries where there is a law, but attitudes are not yet changed, and the process of implementation is of relevance. It is relevant in countries without a law but with some interest from the government. Keep in mind that the topic can be a very sensitive matter: all countries are against violence against children, but only a few act when it comes to corporal punishment at home since it's often seen as a 'family matter'. It is important and relevant to include decision-makers in the planning process. It could be relevant in countries where there is little interest but you think Sweden can raise that interest. In that situation, a roundtable with decision-makers might be most relevant. There are also more than 30 alumni of the Never Violence visitors programme, which has been held for three years and which brings decision-makers and opinion-makers to Sweden on the theme 'law against corporal punishment'.

Film and more info is available at Sweden's official website Sweden.se.



Never violence!

ASTRID LINDGREN

Examples of seminar topics:

- *Agenda 2030, target 16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children, including ending corporal punishment. How does corporal punishment impact children? How can a law be introduced, and attitudes changed?*
- *Use Astrid Lindgren, if she is well known locally, her books and her speech Never Violence. Experts can speak from this standpoint. The book Never Violence can be ordered for the event. It is available in English, and in a limited edition in the following languages: Japanese, Greek, Arabic, Italian and German. To order just a few, contact: emma.jansson@si.se, and to order for full seminar, contact: anna.forslund@astridlindgren.se*

Theme 3: Ending sexual abuse against children

The topic of ending sexual abuse against children is on the agenda for many countries. One part of it consists of breaking the silence and making it possible to talk about it at all levels of society. Another important part is to engage various stakeholders in the solution of this problem. What can be done by the state, what can companies do and what is the role for the NGOs? How can all parties cooperate in the best way, and what good examples are there to follow?

Examples of seminar topics:

- *Agenda 2030, Target 16.2 focuses on ending all forms of violence against and torture of children. And Target 5.2 focuses on gender equality, specifically on ending sexual abuse and exploitation, including trafficking, violence in the home and in close relations, and child marriage. Pick the theme relevant in your context. You can also add one of the movies from Break the Silence short film project, see appendix 1 in the Manual. Ask for this in the application.*

Are there any laws that can help end sexual violence against children? What can the state do? What are the good example of compaines? What are the NGOs doing? How can all sectors in society collaborate to end sexual violence against children in order to fulfil target 16.2? What are the challenges?

Swedish experts – make the most of their visit

When inviting experts, from the knowledge and position they have, please make sure their visit is utilised in the best possible way. If, for example, you invite a paediatrician, perhaps he or she could also talk at a university. If you invite a director or secretary-general, ask if they would also like separate meetings with other local people. Can they visit some ongoing projects that local partners have?