

Annual Activity Report 2013



**OLOF PALME
INTERNATIONAL
CENTER**

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A message from our Chairperson

For a few years during the 1990s, I was a board member of the Palme Center while serving as Deputy Chairperson of LO (Swedish Trade Union Confederation) What I remember most from this time is how our board and employees worked together to try to respond to the endless need for assistance to democracy development around the world. At that time, this largely concerned the Balkans and other parts of Eastern Europe. Things were different back then, just a few years after the fall of the Berlin Wall. At the time of writing, the situation in the Ukraine is headline news in all our media outlets. This serves as a reminder that democracy remains fragile in nearby countries.

Today, we live in a world where we are heavily dependent on each other. Sometimes we discover exploitation and oppression closer than we expected. A clear example of this in 2013 was when we collected money together with *Aftonbladet* newspaper to support a group of Cameroonian forest workers. They had left Cameroon with a promise of decent income in Sweden, but were exploited by their Swedish employers and then left without enough money to return home.

The Palme Center's Solidarity Fund is important as it allows us to support groups, regions and countries to improve the opportunities for more people to live in peace and democracy. The purpose of much of our work is for people to be able to have power over their own lives. In my experience, it is easy to fill collection boxes during our fundraisers. When I made a habit of taking a collection box with me in support of Syrian women during the church election campaign last year, it soon filled up. This shows that there is a strong desire to contribute and I hope that we can get more people to be monthly donors to the Solidarity Fund. It strengthens our ability to help people in other parts of the world, but it also strengthens the realisation that everyone can be involved in creating a world with greater solidarity.



PHOTOGRAPH: ANGELICA ZANDER

Now that I have returned to the Palme Center's board, I recognise the same dedication and desire to support the development towards a more democratic and just world. However, I also see a more professional organisation and a clear division of roles between office workers and the board. The work that has begun to get more member organisations to be actively involved in different projects is something that I regard as very positive. We have a great deal of knowledge and experience to share. People who live in countries that have been ravaged by war and conflict, where democracy is weak and trade union organisation is poor, need our support.

The people we meet in our projects are driven by the same desire as we are, but they have knowledge and experience that we do not have. This became very apparent during our recent regional networking meeting in Pretoria, when we gathered representatives of our projects in Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. For the first time, we also included the Swedish organisations that are involved in the projects. This resulted in a fantastic exchange of experiences and it was clear that we all had a lot to learn from each other. Solidarity is always reciprocal!

Wanja Lundby-Wedin

Chairperson of the Olof Palme International Center

Wanting to be involved!

In Burma, there are several thousand people living as refugees in their own country. When I met some of them in a school supported by S-studenter (Social Democratic Students of Sweden), a group of young people read their essays to us. The subject was life dreams. More than half named the word democracy. When asked why, they said that they wanted to be involved and make decisions!

This is just what the Syrian women, who have organised themselves in recent years with the support of ABF Gothenburg (Workers' Educational Association), say. They want to be involved and influence the peace negotiations that are stumbling along in Geneva.

An elderly gentleman in the queue outside the polling station in South Africa's East London, where the Palme Center works with several different partners, had a smile on his face on election day in 2009 as he waited to cast his vote. He had got up early as he wanted this day – on which he could exert the same influence as everyone else – to be as long as possible.

This year is a so-called “super election year” in Sweden. Perhaps it would be better described as a “super democracy year”? This year we have the chance to experience something that others can only dream about. Yet at the last elections to the European Parliament, not even half of the electorate took part, and one in five do not vote in general elections.

It is not uncommon that I meet people who say that they do not intend to vote in the European elections. They say that they “do not want to contribute to more power being moved away from Sweden”. I am of the opinion that decisions should be made as close as possible to those who will live with them. This increases both the opportunity to influence and understand the decisions. However, there is a great deal that we need to determine together in our globalised world. Environmental laws, migration and law enforcement are areas that should be partly determined by us Swedes. However, without making decisions together with others, their effectiveness will remain low.

And if there is something that means that power is lost, it is not participating. Then someone else will be making the decisions. That is a well-known fact to all our partners living in countries where exerting influence is difficult – and often fraught with great danger.



PHOTOGRAPH: YLVA SÄRFVELIN

Democracy does not just fall out of the sky. It is not a natural given. On the contrary! You have to fight for it and reclaim it every day.

That is why we make sure that Olof Palme's spirit lives on in our work to support people all over the world as they fight and organise themselves to gain power over their communities – and thereby over their own lives. We work with women's associations, youth organisations, progressive parties, trade unions and popular educators, who together contribute to the democratic infrastructure that make a representative democracy valid and living.

In Syria, peace and democracy is still a long way off, but women are now seated at negotiating tables. Elections are due to be held in South Africa again this year, and this is a country where a lot still needs to be done. Young people in Burma who want to be involved in decision-making have quite a way to go before they reach their goals. However, patient and courageous organisation will lead them onwards to attain the dream of democracy.

Jens Orback

Secretary General

Our mission

The Olof Palme International Center is the Swedish labour movement's cooperative body for international issues. We comprise 26 member organisations and bring together popular movements that work with social, trade union and political questions. The Palme Center's statutes define its purpose as follows:

“The Olof Palme International Center works in the spirit of Olof Palme for democracy, human rights and peace. The Center is a cooperative body active in international issues on behalf of the Swedish labour movement. Its mission is to support member organisations' international activities.”

The Palme Center's overall aim is a world with peaceful societies founded on the ideals of democracy and the equal value of all human beings. In our development cooperation work, we seek to strengthen people's power to shape the societies they live in, and thus their own lives. In our communication we want to highlight the structures that impede development, increase knowledge, strengthen involvement and increase mobilisation in Sweden for international solidarity, human rights, democracy and peace.

The Palme Center supports member organisations in their work and also provides direct support to organisations in our partner countries to promote democracy, human rights and peace.

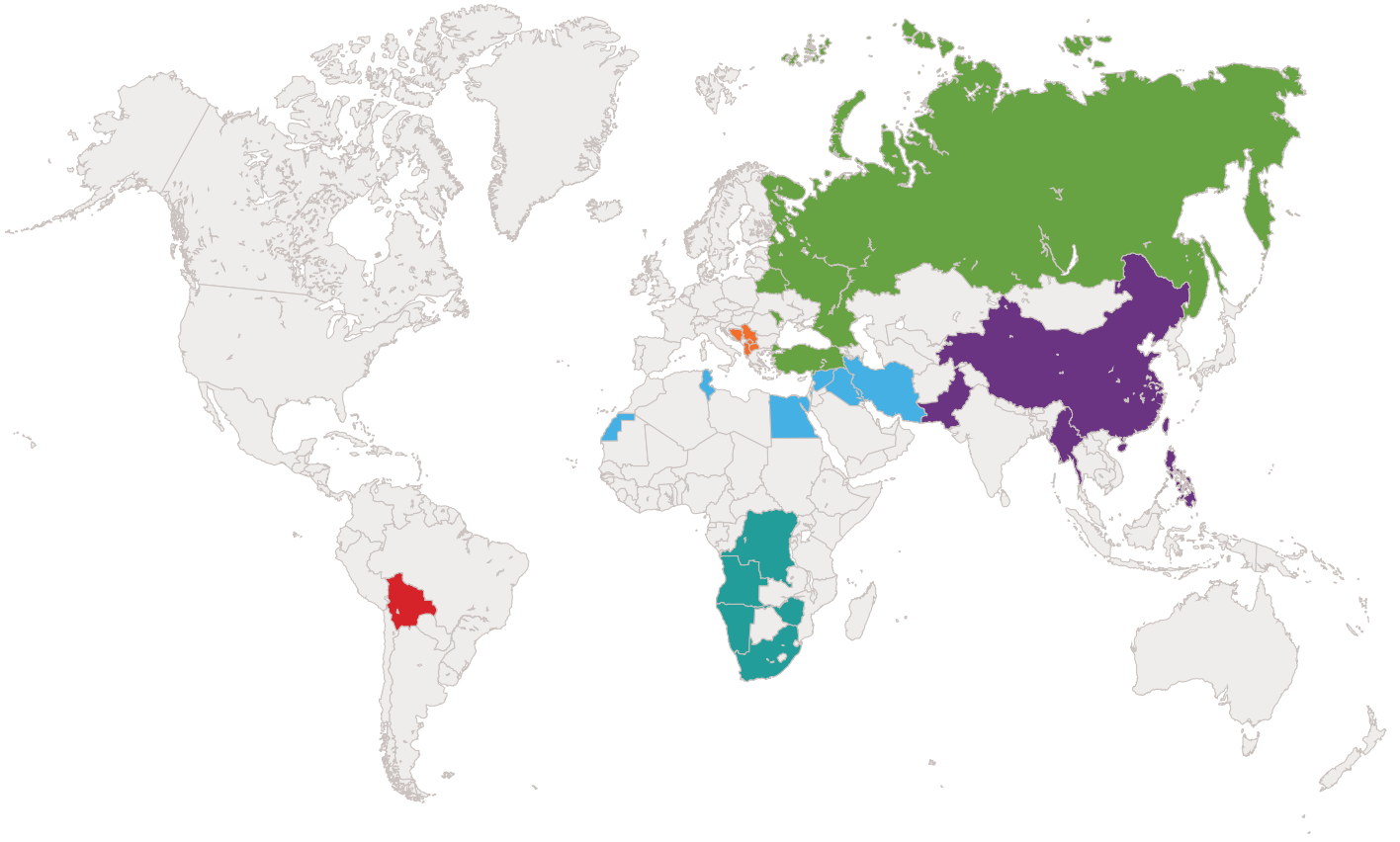
Our work around the world

In 2013, the Palme Center was engaged in 232 projects together with its member organisations and partner organisations in 26 countries around the world. Organisations and stakeholders from many more countries are reached through regional and thematic activities. In total, the number of project cooperations has increased over the years. Namibia, for example, is a country where the activities have been strengthened. In 2013, we prepared several new project cooperations with Namibian partners together with our member organisations, which resulted in more comprehensive activities with the aim of strengthening trade union rights and women's participation. At the same time, the project cooperations in Turkey were phased out in 2013.

People fighting for democracy and human rights in authoritarian states are an important target group for the Palme Center. This year the Palme Center has contributed to the formation of the SWN (Syrian Women's Network). The network, which brings together Syrian women from different ideologies and religions, managed to get representatives involved at the peace negotiations in Geneva to highlight women's issues in the peace process. The support to the SWN is provided in cooperation with ABF Gothenburg, which also supports two other projects with the democracy movement in Syria.

Supporting actors of change in authoritarian states is also the focus of a project that was initiated to support China's only free trade union, the HKC-TU (Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions), together with LO, IF Metall (Swedish Industrial and Metal Workers' Union) and LIVS (Swedish Food Workers' Union). At the end of the year, a new multiparty support project was also launched in Egypt in cooperation with SILC (Swedish International Liberal Centre) of the Liberal People's Party (FP), which seeks to strengthen the role of parties so as to strengthen democratic development.

Last November's Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines hard and many of our partner organisations were badly affected. The Palme Center therefore launched a fundraising campaign for those affected by the disaster. Support was also provided by Norwegian People's Aid (NPA).



Latin America

Bolivia

Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

Egypt

Iraq

Iran

Palestine

Syria

Tunisia

Western Sahara

Western Balkans

Albania

Bosnia-Herzegovina

Kosovo

Macedonia

Serbia

Southern Africa

Angola

DR Congo

Namibia

South Africa

Zimbabwe

Eastern Europe

Belarus

Moldova

Russia

Turkey

Asia

Burma

Philippines

China

Pakistan

Southern Africa

In 2013, the Palme Center carried out 34 projects together with its partners in southern Africa, including 29 as part of support to civil society organisations (CSOs) and five as part of party-oriented democracy support (PAOs) described in more detail on page 21.

The Palme Center's involvement in the region continued to grow thanks to efforts to increase its activities in Namibia. Over the year, two member organisations, IF Metall and the Swedish Young Falcons (Unga Örnar), travelled to Namibia to perform a pre-study and project planning with the aim of launching a project in 2014. The Palme Center has also developed two new direct project cooperations. Through two ongoing projects with ABF Gothenburg and ABF Småland, the activities in the country are thus being developed with a focus on trade union rights and women's participation.

In South Africa, the Palme Center has 14 projects together with its member organisations and partner organisations, thereby making it the Palme Center's largest country of operation in the region. The activities are focused on strengthening the political influence of women, workers and the rural population to increase their ability to assert their rights. Active member organisations in this programme include ABF Skåne and the Swedish Social Democratic Party in Oskarshamn. South Africa has the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the world, so HIV/AIDS is an important issue for the activities there.

In August 2012, police shot 35 workers during strike action in the mining village of Marikana, in the South African province of North West. There were also a number of strikes in the transport and agricultural sectors towards the end of 2012. These events have continued to affect the country in 2013, and both the labour market and the trade union movement have been characterised by instability. The Palme Center works with two trade union organisations in South Africa, LRS (Labor Research Services) and WWMP (Workers' World Media Production), to support the trade union movement in their efforts to reach and organise more members and more sectors, to improve their internal democratic structures, increase their representation, and provide tools and knowledge for collective bargaining.

In Zimbabwe, civil society has continued to play a very central role in the development of society. Over the year, the Palme Center's efforts in Zimbabwe have achieved important results. One example is that the country's new constitution was adopted via a referendum in March following successful advocacy work to strengthen the rights of trade union members, women, journalists and the media. The Palme Center's partner organisations have continued to be among the most important actors with respect to the implementation of the new constitution; for example, through advocacy work



The launch conference of the Africa Domestic Workers was organised with the support of LRS (Labor Research Services).

focused on the government and parliament about modernised media legislation and improved legal certainty. At the same time, there have been high-profile initiatives to strengthen newly elected female parliamentarians and access to sexual and reproductive health care has been improved. Moreover, legislation for trade unionists' rights to health, parental leave and non-discrimination have been strengthened and adapted to the new constitution.

During the year, the Palme Center has continued to provide support to the Swedish Young Falcons' regional project, African Cultural Dialogue on Human Rights and Democracy, which is conducted in southern Africa in cooperation with the Brazilian organisation Movimento Infanto-Juvenil de Reivindicação. Young people from organisations in four different countries are involved in education and experience exchanges concerning information and advocacy as part of the project.

As part of party-oriented democracy support, the Swedish Social Democratic Party conducted four projects in three countries in the region through the Palme Center (South Africa, DR Congo and Angola), as well as a multiparty project focused on politically active young people (PYPA, Program for Young Politicians in Africa). Read more about party-oriented democracy support on page 21.

Middle East and North Africa

In 2013, the Palme Center carried out 35 projects together with its partners in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), including 23 as part of support to civil society organisations (CSOs), 11 as part of party-oriented democracy support (PAOs) described in more detail on page 21, and one project with alternative funding from Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency).

The activities in Palestine are the most extensive of all in the region. In 2013, there was good cooperation between 16 local partner organisations. Most of them bring together women and young people, but many organisations also work to increase understanding for dialogue in society. Through four local networking meetings, the organisations have got to know each other, exchanged knowledge and ideas, and in two cases this has resulted in joint projects. Five Swedish member organisations are involved in the Palestinian activities as direct project partners: Swedish Young Falcons, LO Gotland, ABF Södra Småland, ABF Botkyrka-Salem and the Religious Social Democrats (Socialdemokrater för tro och solidaritet). Four other organisations are providing support without administration or sponsorship, including LO Skellefteå and Elektrikerna (Swedish Electricians' Union). These two organisations became new supporters in 2013. The other two are Akademikerförbundet SSR (Union for Professionals) and ABF Stockholm. At the end of the year, there was a networking meeting that was attended by all the local partner organisations and the respective member organisations.

The progress highlighted by local partners includes women's increased participation in society and newly elected active young leaders in various local authorities. The initiatives have also contributed to increased possibilities for partner organisations and their target groups to use social media as a method to communicate with each other and to spread their messages more widely in society, which is particularly important in Palestine, as it is a relatively closed and fragmented society. The partner organisations are certainly more visible in traditional media channels, in particular independent radio and television stations, but also national television. All the organisations have worked with media strategies, which has contributed to the fact that certain taboo questions, such as violence within the family, honour killings, young marriages, clan cultures, corruption and human rights violations have become more visible and debated in society. The activities have also involved working with good governance as a concept, and about twenty local authorities have actively begun working with this.

Syria has been another priority country in 2013. ABF Gothenburg is running a project in Syria in which leaders of various associations are trained in democracy, gender equality and human rights. These leaders then train their respective groups and organisations to spread the knowledge further. By early 2014, 130 people had participated in the training.

The Syrian Women's Network was founded in spring 2013 as a result of the two conferences for Syrian civil and political actors that the Palme Center hosted in Stockholm between 2011 and 2013. It has established itself as a respected actor in promoting democracy and peace in Syria. Read more about this under the heading "Major events" on page 39.

As part of party-oriented democracy support, the Swedish Social Democratic Party carried out eleven projects in the region (Palestine, Iraq, Egypt, Western Sahara and Tunisia). Towards the end of the year, a new multiparty project was launched in Egypt in cooperation with SILC, which seeks to strengthen the role of parties so as to strengthen democratic development. Read more about party-oriented democracy support on page 21.



Networking meeting in Jericho with joint social analysis on the agenda.

Asia

In 2013, the Palme Center carried out 34 projects together with its partners in Asia, including 28 as part of support to civil society organisations (CSOs), five as part of party-oriented democracy support (PAOs) described in more detail on page 21, and one project with alternative funding from Sida. Most of the projects were located in Burma and the Philippines.

In Burma, the Palme Center has been engaged in twelve cooperation projects with eleven different local partner organisations within the Burmese democracy movement during the past year. The activities are primarily focused on workers, farmers, women and young people from different ethnic minorities, and they have reached thousands of people in the country and bordering regions during the year. Many of the projects are about providing leadership training to women with the aim of increasing women's representation in leading positions within the partner organisations, and to increase women's influence in the ongoing peace and democratisation process. For example, one partner organisation, the Burmese Women's Union, which cooperates with S-kvinnor (National Federation of Social Democratic Women in Sweden) in Hallsberg, has educated more than 1,600 women

about human rights, gender equality and the political situation in Burma.

The changed political situation in Burma has made it possible for the Palme Center to work with organisations that openly operate from within Burma. During the year, we have therefore launched three new projects with organisations that are active in Rangoon and Kachin State in north-eastern Burma. These organisations primarily work with providing education and information about human rights and reporting on human rights violations in their respective areas. One of these, HRDP (Human Rights Defenders and Promoters), has, with the support of the Palme Center, started providing training on information and communication technology for future human rights defenders. Participants learn how to use various forms of media, such as computers, the internet and photography, to document and defend human rights.

In the Philippines, the Palme Center is cooperating with the trade union movement and organisations for people who live in poverty in urban environments. LIVS and different parts of SEKO (Union of Service and Communications Employees) are actively involved in the programme. In August 2013, the central trade union organisation, SENTRO (Sentro ng Progresibong Manggagawa), held its first founding congress in Manila. The new central organisation represents 80,000 members within the private, public and informal sectors. Thanks to the hard work of the Palme Center's partner organisations, the APL (Alliance of Progressive Labor) and LEARN (Labor Education and Research Network), all participating organisations managed to agree on sensitive questions and the statutes were adopted in broad agreement. Almost all of SENTRO's member organisations are industrial associations, and organisation into different sectors is something entirely new in the Philippines, where trade unions were previously organised into trade unions in the workplace or professional associations. This was therefore an important stage in consolidating the fragmented trade union movement in the country.

The greater coordination of the labour movement in the Philippines is a positive development from the past year. However, the Palme Center's partner organisations have also faced great challenges in the country. In July 2013, two trade union leaders within the transport sector were murdered. Dodong Petalcorin had just reported a case of corruption in the local authorities and he had been a frontal figure for members' protests against corruption. Kagi Lucman had been regarded as a leading candidate in the local elections shortly before he was murdered. No one has been convicted of the murders, but the Palme Center's partner organisations have been calling for the authorities to investigate and prosecute those responsible.

In November, Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippines with devastating consequences for the entire country, and several of the Palme Center's partner organisations and many of their members were badly affected. Much of the organisations' time after the typhoon was dedicated to working with disaster response and reconstruction efforts, both societal and social. The Palme Center initiated a fundraising campaign for the ACF (Active Citizenship Foundation's) work with emergency relief and reconstruction work, which raised a lot of money. You can read more about this on pages 36-37.

In 2013, the Palme Center, together with LO, IF Metall and LIVS, started



Participants at HRDP's training in Burma.

cooperating with the HKCTU, which is China's only free trade union. This has helped spread knowledge about the situation facing workers in Hong Kong and China, in both Sweden and within the global trade union movement. In November, HKCTU's Secretary General, Lee Cheuk-Yan, spoke at the annual Palme Day (Palmedagen), which was held in Malmö in 2013.

In Pakistan, the Palme Center's cooperation with the WWHL (Women Workers Help Line) continued in 2013. The organisation educates working class women about trade union and human rights, the political process in Pakistan and the importance of women's participation in society and politics. During the year, more than 2,000 women have been reached with training sessions, seminars and study circles all over Pakistan. WWHL has also provided education to men about women's rights and gender equality with the aim of bridging the cultural barriers and norms that prevent women's social mobility. Results of the project include the fact that women, who were trained by the WWHL, now participate in local elections and that the political parties the organisation has been in contact with have greater awareness of the importance of women's participation in politics. The majority of women who have participated in the training sessions report that they now play a more active role in society. For example, around 1,000 project participants have now registered to vote.

During the year, the Palme Center has participated in a study about civil society in Afghanistan and the requirements for possible future cooperations in the country.

As part of party-oriented democracy support, the Swedish Social Democratic Party was engaged in projects in Burma and the Philippines through the Palme Center. Read more about party-oriented democracy support on page 21.



ABEC holds its annual meeting.

Latin America

In 2013, the Palme Center supported two major initiatives in Latin America. One was a popular education project in Bolivia that is run together with a number of local ABF associations and its partner organisation, ABEC (Asamblea Boliviana por la Educación y la Cultura). The cooperation has allowed the partner organisation to consolidate its structures and operations further. The popular education activities reach thousands of people every year, primarily women, in the Bolivian countryside and they are focused on issues such as human rights, environment, leadership and revenue-generating activities.

The other major initiative was about supporting a regional project focused on social security systems, which is run by LO and the regional trade union organisation CSA (Confederación Sindical de Trabajadores). The organisation supports work on improving dialogue between the government and labour market actors in Latin America. The purpose is to develop the redistribution policy and social security system in the region's new middle-income countries. The cooperation has also led to greater consistency and coordination with respect to promoting decent working conditions and social safety nets. The work has, among other things, led to the formation of a new ministry in Paraguay, which is responsible for questions concerning the labour market and social security systems. The initiative has also resulted in a more cohesive and strong voice from the Latin American trade union movement during ILO (International Labour Organization) negotiations.

Western Balkans

In 2013, the Palme Center carried out 77 projects together with its partners in the Western Balkans, including 16 as part of support to civil society organisations (CSOs), 50 with alternative funding from Sida and eleven as part of party-oriented democracy support (PAOs) described in more detail on page 21.

In BiH (Bosnia-Herzegovina), the organisation continues to focus on mobilising young people. The organisation has, through various educational initiatives, tried to motivate them into charity work and active involvement, so as to increase participation and influence in their local societies. Young people have learned about project planning and advocacy work for change. Local volunteer centres have also been set up to work with questions that affect citizens.

Cooperation with Swedish member organisations has increased during the year. Birkagårdens Folkhögskola (folk high school)/ABF Stockholm performed a pre-study for ABF Busovaca, which resulted in a new popular education project. The main purpose is for young unemployed men and women in Busovaca to increase their local involvement and work to promote their social rights. Hyresgästföreningen Aros-Gävle (Swedish Union of Tenants) performed a pre-study in 2013 to investigate the possibilities of launching a cooperation with an organisation in BiH that is involved in housing issues. Moreover, IF Metall Östergötland has conducted union seminars together with the Center of Civic Cooperation in Livno and local trade union representatives.

During the year, the Palme Center continued to cooperate with around forty organisations in Albania, Kosovo and Serbia to strengthen democracy and political accountability. All activities are about providing support to citizens'



Media training for Bosnian youth.

organisation to be able to participate in and influence local decision-making processes. In Albania, there were special efforts to develop tools to strengthen public insight, participation and supervision of municipal budget processes. In Kosovo, an initiative to develop partner organisations' gender equality work was begun. In Serbia, a pilot project was launched with an organisation to strengthen its active membership base through developing methods for membership recruitment, training and activism. The idea is that other organisations will be inspired and learn from this model.

A main part of the Palme Center's work in Serbia is about providing support to trade union activities. Examples of this include projects involving five Serbian and four Swedish trade unions (IF Metall Gothenburg, LO West Sweden, IF Metall Östergötland, IF Metall avd. 36 Gothenburg). The work is mainly focused on supporting the Serbian trade union movement that is undergoing major changes as a result of extensive privatisation. The backbone of the project is trade union training, and a number of courses and seminars have been held on subjects including labour market legislation, workplace health and safety conditions, and gender equality. Several IT and English courses has been organised for trade union members to strengthen their position on the labour market.

In Novi Sad, the trade union has considered it important to prioritise members with disabilities. The project has contributed to people with disabilities being increasingly included in workplaces on equal terms.

Networking meetings have been held with all partners during the year. The theme has been popular education as a method for learning, gender equality, performance monitoring and how they can work with managing risks in their projects.

As part of party-oriented democracy support, the Swedish Social Democratic Party was engaged in projects through the Palme Center in Serbia, BiH, Macedonia and regionally. Read more about party-oriented democracy support on page 21.

Turkey

2013 was the last year for the Palme Center's Turkey Programme with funding from Sida. Since 2006, the Palme Center has, with member organisations and other civil society organisations in Sweden, cooperated with organisations in the country to promote the participation of women, minorities, children and young people in society. One important focal point during the year has been to strengthen partner organisations' capacity in a way that enables them to continue with their work after end of the programme period.

During the year, the Palme Center cooperated with 19 organisations in Turkey together with twelve organisations in Sweden. The Turkish organisations are spread all over the country, which is characterised by strong regional differences. One of the greatest needs expressed by the Palme Center's partners, apart from economic support and methods to support decision-makers,

concerns platforms to allow different organisations to meet and exchange knowledge. The Palme Center has been actively engaged in promoting networking and cooperation, and the partner organisations are now also talking about how to carry on networking after the end of the programme.

In September, the Palme Center nominated Elmas Arus, Chairperson of the partner organisation Zero Discrimination Association, to the Council of Europe's newly instituted Raoul Wallenberg Prize. Elmas Arus and the organisation are fighting for Roma people's rights in Turkey. In November, the Council of Europe announced that Elmas Arus had been chosen as the winner of the first ever Raoul Wallenberg Prize and she accepted the award at a ceremony in Strasbourg in January 2014.



Elmas Arus, winner of the Council of Europe's newly instituted Raoul Wallenberg Prize.

Eastern Europe

In 2013, the Palme Center carried out 14 projects together with its partners in Eastern Europe, including two as part of support to civil society organisations (CSOs), nine as part of party-oriented democracy support (PAOs) described in more detail on page 21, two with alternative funding from Sida and one with funding from the Swedish Institute (SI).

There was ongoing cooperation with the Russian organisation Egida, which is a resource organisation and training centre for the trade union movement in Russia. The organisation aims to defend workers' rights to better working conditions, living standards and quality of life by developing the capacity of the trade union movement in St Petersburg and the Leningrad Region. Runö Folkhögskola (folk high school) is involved in this cooperation.

ABF Gästrikebygden cooperates with three youth organisations in Belarus to activate young Belarusians to spread a democratic approach in society. Through a network of coordinators in four regions, young leaders have been able to train almost 300 people in topics such as democratic meeting techniques and study circle methods. It is very challenging to run study circles in Belarus alone, as people are suspicious towards certain "sensitive" subjects and the fact that there are regular meetings. However, there is a high level of interest in the study circle method in the country, and there are excellent prospects for success in the future.

As part of party-oriented democracy support, the Swedish Social Democratic Party was engaged in projects in Moldova and Belarus through the Palme Center. Read more about party-oriented democracy support on page 21.

Thematic work

Some of the Palme Center's activities involve partner organisations and actors from several different countries and regions. One such example is the support to actors of change in authoritarian states. The Palme Center and its member organisations support various different networks, organisations and groups that work to promote peaceful reforms in such countries. The aim is to widen the democratic space and increase respect for human rights. A training session entitled "Internet as a tool for social change" was held in Stockholm in late 2013. Participants included representatives from civil society organisations (CSOs) in six different countries with authoritarian governments, including Burma, Syria and Zimbabwe. The aim of the training was to provide the participants with more information about how the internet can be used to mobilise, organise and run campaigns, as well as internet security. One important part of the training was that participants got the chance to exchange experiences and learn from each other.

Another example is the support for global popular education. The Palme Center works with ABF and IFWEA (International Federation of Workers Associations) to strengthen unionised study organisations in ten countries. IFWEA, ABF's international organisation, has developed a virtual platform for study circles and education as part of the project. The OLA (Online Labor Academy) has proven to be a valuable and dynamic platform for the exchange of ideas, discussions and education for participating organisations, and it has provided them with support during collective bargaining negotiations and methods for distance learning.



Training for study circle leaders as part of the cooperation project with ABF and IFWEA.

Party-oriented democracy support

In 2013, the Palme Center cooperated with the Swedish Social Democratic Party to support 46 projects through party-oriented democracy support, of which 25 were run by member organisations. This also included the provision of support to other social democratic parties and party-affiliated organisations (PAOs) in 15 countries. Moreover, representatives from parties in several countries are also involved through regional activities, such as training and meetings for experience exchanges and cooperation.

Since 2012, party-oriented democracy support has been organised into three thematic programmes. By bringing together parties with similar challenges, the programmes contribute to a valuable exchange of experiences, which, together with the individual projects, develop and strengthen the parties. This thereby contributes to the aim of supporting and strengthening well-functioning political parties in developing countries.

All three programmes are based on three components: cooperation with the parties' central organisations, cooperations with local authorities in Sweden and in partner countries, as well as joint thematic training organised by the Palme Center.

In the EU's waiting room

The activities are focused on countries in the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe that are geographically close to the EU, and they bring together all activities with social democratic parties, think tanks and party-affiliated education organisations, primarily in Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH), Serbia, Macedonia and Moldova. The following parties are included: SDP in BiH, DP in Serbia, SDSM in Macedonia and PDM in Moldova. The programme also includes regional projects together with important political networks including the Central and Eastern European Network for Gender Issues, the European Forum, the NDI (National Democratic Institute) and the FES (Friedrich Ebert Foundation). The cooperation contributes to ideological development, political clarity and an ideological platform.

For example, SDSM Bitola in Macedonia and the Social Democrats in Upplands-Bro have been cooperating for many years. The cooperation has fostered greater understanding for the different political conditions in the region. But the project has primarily stimulated closer contact between SDSM Bitola and the citizens in Bitola, which in turn has resulted in a bigger membership with more active members.

Party support in Moldova comprises three projects with the Social Demo-

crats' sister party, the Democratic Party of Moldova (PDM). The projects work in different ways to strengthen the party districts, locally and nationally, and to increase the representation of young people and women, for example, in the party organisation. A central part of the project includes study visits, experience exchanges and increasing the party district's local activities to help increase the number of active members.

In 2013, important steps have also been taken with respect to gender equality, both locally and across Moldova, to increase women's representation in decision-making positions. In the Căușeni District, which cooperates with the Swedish Social Democratic Party in Jönköping, PDM has, for example, introduced so-called alternating party lists (alternating genders). S-kvinnor's cooperation project in Moldova has worked with similar issues. According to PDM's statutes, women should have at least 30 percent of all decision-making positions in the party. In 2013, PDM's women's organisation managed to get a decision passed that requires the party to work actively to achieve higher representation for women in accordance with the party's statutes. This commitment was signed by the party's chairman, Marian Lupu, and represents a very important step towards there being more women candidates ahead of parliamentary elections in 2014 and local elections in 2015.

A networking meeting was held in Brussels in December. This led to greater knowledge and greater contact areas for partner organisations, both between one another and towards different European actors and institutions based in Brussels.

From bullets to ballots

The activities are aimed at providing support with respect to the changes that former liberation movements are undergoing. When the parties have started operating as actors in a parliamentary democracy, there are many challenges to transform decision-making structures for them to become more open, transparent, democratic and less centralised. The following parties are included in the programme: Akbayan (Philippines), ANC (South Africa), Fatah (Palestine), Frelimo (Mozambique), MPLA (Angola) and the PUK (Iraq).

In South Africa, the year has been characterised by preparations for elections in 2014 and the death of Nelson Mandela on 5 December. A delegation from the Swedish Social Democratic Party attended Mandela's funeral and included Stefan Löfven, Carin Jämtin, Andrine Winther, Oscar Stenström, as well as Mikael Leyi from the Palme Center. Swedish representatives from the party cooperation between the Swedish Social Democratic Party Kalmar County and the ANC's provincial organisation in Cape Wineland attended a memorial ceremony in Cape Town. This occurred in association with a project field trip to the Western Cape. The training programme for the participating parties, about issues such as relations between the state and the party, which should have taken place in December 2013, will now be held in 2014 because of national mourning.

Authoritarian and post-authoritarian states

The activities are focused on parties in authoritarian and post-authoritarian states where there is less opportunity for political parties to act. The following parties are included in the programme: DPNS (Burma), UDPS (DR Congo), Ettakatol (Tunisia), four parties in Belarus and the Polisario Front (Western Sahara). In 2013, a cooperation has also been initiated with ESDP (Egypt). During the year, the Palme Center made it possible for members of the ASDF (Arab Social Democratic Forum) to come together in Morocco on 24-25 June. This was the second time the group had gathered and the meeting was attended by senior representatives of twelve social democratic parties from the Arab world. It resulted in the formation of a political framework, as well as statutes and the establishment of a youth and women's network.

In Burma, the partner party DPNS has been able to take advantage of greater political manoeuvring space by establishing an office in Rangoon. The party has applied for registration to the authorities and the party has been able to travel around the country to attract members and set up local branches. Before the party is registered, the DPNS is forbidden from officially recruiting members. The party is active in five regions and three states in Burma, and it has around 400-500 volunteers. Once the DPNS is registered and is eligible to recruit members openly, they estimate to have around 10,000 members.

Multiparty support

In line with the new, Swedish strategy for party-oriented democracy support, 30 percent of the total budget has since 2012 been set aside for activities aimed at developing well-functioning multiparty systems. The Palme Center cooperates with KIC (Christian Democratic International Center) and CIS (Centre Party International Foundation) in Sweden in the PYPA (Program for Young Politicians in Africa). The project is a regional training programme that focuses on young politicians in all African regions.

The aim is to contribute to a more democratic, representative and non-discriminatory political system by strengthening and encouraging a youth perspective in politics. KIC is responsible for running the training in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda in East Africa. CIS works in Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger in West Africa, and the Palme Center runs training sessions in cooperation with the South African organisation ETU (Education and Training Unit) for young politicians from Angola, Mozambique, South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe.

At the end of the year, a new multiparty support project was launched in Egypt in cooperation with SILC, which seeks to strengthen parties' roles in promoting democratic development in the country.

The year that was

How we work

In 2013, the Palme Center employed 41 people in total (adding up to 38.5 full-time positions). Nine of the employees worked at local offices in Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, Turkey, Palestine and South Africa. The office in Bosnia was merged with the office in Serbia to streamline and create more opportunities for employees to work together. The Palme Center also employed one member of staff in Burma in 2013.

The Palme Center had a contract with Sida during 2013 for civil society support, party-oriented democracy support, a Balkan programme (Albania, Kosovo and Serbia), Turkey and Burma. Cooperation with an educational institute for the trade union movement in north-western Russia was granted support by the Swedish Institute, Sida and the EU. An application about strengthening parties' role for democratisation in Egypt was developed together with SILC and was granted support from Sida at the end of the year.

A comprehensive framework criteria assessment was performed by the Palme Center in 2013 by consultants who went through all guiding documents, policy and method documents, and reviewed routines and visited projects. The final report assessed the Palme Center's systems as strong and the areas that were previously criticised received positive results.

Cooperation with the Olof Palme Memorial Fund for interns continued in 2013. Four interns were thereby able to gain practical experience of development and communication work with visits and internships in our countries of operation. The Palme Center also received support from Sida to finance two interns based in South Africa.

The Palme Center's staff handbook was updated to ensure that all members of staff have access to clear information about the working conditions. The

local offices' tasks were thereby clarified, and their administrative systems were also reviewed and updated in 2013.

The Palme Center has successfully worked with the four main issues that were prioritised in the Organisational Plan for 2013: increased cooperation with member organisations, increased coordination, more reporting of results and increased fundraising. The work with the first three main issues is described in the next section. Read more about fundraising activities on page 36.

More member organisations involved

More member organisations have become involved in cooperations with the Palme Center in 2013. To make things easier for member organisations, the Palme Center has defined three different types of involvement: running projects, participating in projects without administration or sponsoring projects.

The number of projects run by member organisations increased from 55 projects in 2012 to 60 projects in 2013. In 2013, the member organisations organised 31 CSO projects (2012:26), 25 PAO projects (2012:25) and 4 projects with special support for Turkey (2012:4). Within the special support for Turkey an additional eight projects were run by other Swedish organisations who form part of that programme. The increase is due to an availability of resources to launch new projects during the agreement period.

Projects without administration give member organisations the opportunity to be involved and contribute with their knowledge and experience of cooperation with partners, while the Palme Center's staff takes care of project administration and results reporting. The number of projects without administration increased from two in 2012 to ten projects in 2013. The increase largely occurred through member organisations becoming actively involved in existing projects.

By sponsoring projects, member organisations provide support to solidarity efforts. They are expected to make an own contribution of ten percent of a project and then receive ongoing information about its development. Sponsorships have increased from five projects in 2012 to nine projects in 2013. A further three projects were sponsored by SSR (Union for Professionals) in 2013.

Since KF (Swedish Cooperative Union) decided to terminate its membership in 2013, the Palme Center now has 26 member organisations. KF is engaged in active development cooperations through its own frame agreement with Sida and it has therefore not been involved in any projects via the Palme Center in recent years.

Strengthened results-based management

Results-based management is a key element to enable the Palme Center to report the results of the organisation and draw lessons for the future. It has previously been complicated to report sufficiently strong conclusions about the results of our cooperations. Much work has been done to strengthen the system for results-based management. This has occurred together with partner and member organisations, largely through networking meetings in partner countries.

The Palme Center can now clearly show the results of our cooperation with



Networking meeting with Swedish member organisations and Palestinian partners.

our member and partner organisations around the world. The reports to Sida have received positive feedback with respect to the results. In addition to this, an organisational review of the Palme Center performed on behalf of Sida in 2013 assessed the systems for following up on results as being good.

Coordination

Cooperation between member organisations, partner organisations around the world and between employees at the Palme Center has received greater focus. Member organisations' participation in networking meetings has increased and there are also ongoing follow-ups of how coordination between partner organisations can be strengthened.

The Palme Center's work in networks

The Palme Center is alone in being a framework organisation that provides support via both civil society organisations (CSOs) and party-affiliated organisations (PAOs). In Sweden, the Palme Center prioritises contacts with other framework organisations; notably the most closely affiliated We Effect (formerly the Swedish Cooperative Centre) and the LO-TCO Secretariat of International Trade Union Development Co-operation. Within party-oriented support, great weight is placed on contacts with the six other PAOs, of which

several are included in joint party projects. In both cases, regular meetings are held, particularly at a managerial level, but other employees also contribute to an exchange of experiences and knowledge that is important for organisational development.

In Sweden, the Palme Center also participates in networks linked to peace and security issues, including the Swedish Network for Nuclear Disarmament, Partnership 2014 and the Swedish OSCE Network (OSSE). The Palme Center's Laila Naraghi was a board member of the Swedish OSCE Network in 2013.

The Palme Center has continued to be engaged in advocacy initiatives together with these organisations. For example, during the past year the Palme Center has continued to work on raising the issue of an international convention banning the use of nuclear weapons. The Palme Center has provided support to interested member organisations on the matter, and both SSU (Swedish Social Democratic Youth League) and S-kvinnor have been involved. The Swedish Social Democratic Party also backed the issue at its party congress in April.

On a European level, the Palme Center has actively participated in several networks and organisations including:

The **EFDS (European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity)** is a network of 20 social democratic parties and affiliated organisations that primarily works with international development cooperation focused on party-oriented democracy support. The Palme Center is in regular contact with the FES (Friedrich Ebert Foundation) through the EFDS, for example. Here there is also a link to the European Network of Political Foundations (ENoP). Lena Hjelm-Wallén, who stepped down as Chairperson of the Olof Palme International Center in 2013, was also Chairman of the EFDS's Steering Committee until July 2013.

ENoP (European Network of Political Foundations) is a cooperation structure for political foundations and partner organisations in Europe. It includes 67 political foundations from more than 20 countries. The Palme Center's Ulrika Lång was elected as deputy chairman of the organisation in December and Mårten Löfberg is the Palme Center's representative in the Working Group on EU-Africa relations. .

FEPS (Foundation for European Progressive Studies) is a think tank linked to the Party of European Socialists and is based in Brussels. FEPS brings together around forty social democratic think tanks and associated organisations.

Solidar is a European network of 60 non-governmental organisation and primarily works with social policy, international cooperation and education.

Communication and advocacy

Information, communication and advocacy are key elements of the Palme Center's work. In 2013, the Palme Center increased its presence by participating in the mass media, organising a large number of seminars and producing information material. The number of followers in social media and on the website has increased considerably, with more than 63,000 unique visitors to the website and 4,800 people who like the Palme Center on Facebook.

The Palme Center's member organisations also play an important role in providing information about our development work. Four member organisations organised 34 seminars and lectures in Gothenburg, southern Småland, Örebro County and Gotland, with 1,150 participants in total.

The Palme Day attracted almost 90 people on the subject of "bridging gaps" and was arranged together with the Swedish Social Democratic Party and S-students in Malmö. More than 2,300 people attended the various seminars organised by the Palme Center last year.

Publications

The Palme Center produced a number of publications in 2013. Some of these were published together with its member organisations or other associated organisations.

Global Respekt – grundkurs i globalisering och mänskliga rättigheter

The book contains updated chapters of previous editions (English title: *Global respect: A basic course on globalisation and human rights*), as well as several new sections on issues such as climate change, migration and financial crises. Authors: Anna-Lena Lodenius and Mats Wingborg. The book was published by the Palme Center, ABF and LO.

Demokrati – arbete pågår ("Democracy – work ongoing")

A publication about party-oriented democracy support including articles on the cooperation between the Swedish Social Democratic Party and its sister parties in Tunisia and SSU cooperation with Fatah Youth in Palestine.

Det är vår värld – tio unga röster om global solidaritet (“It’s our world – ten young voices about global solidarity”)

Young commentators write about how social democracy should address important foreign policy issues such as migration, climate change and poverty. The winning entry in the essay competition “Världen i fokus” (“World in Focus”) is also featured. The book was published by the Palme Center, S-studenter, the Olof Palme Memorial Fund and the Swedish labour movement’s think tank.



Report from the Anna Lindh Seminar 2013: “Legacy and Future – human rights and sustainable development in memory of Anna Lindh”

Each year since 2004, the Swedish Social Democratic Party and the Palme Center have been arranging a seminar in commemoration of Anna Lindh. In 2013, the seminar was attended by Stefan Löfven, Mona Sahlin, Leila Shahid, Radmila Šekerinska and Luiz Antonio Correia de Carvalho.

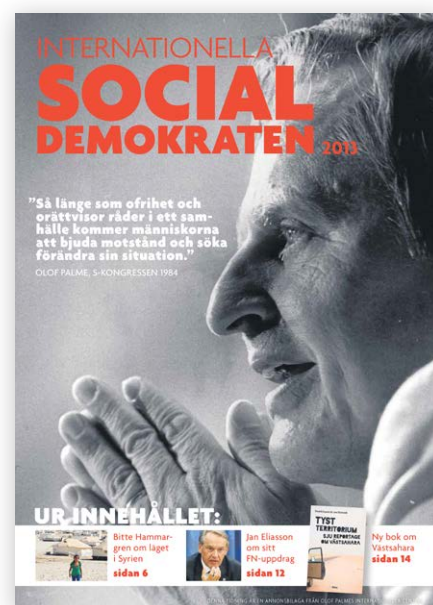
Conference report: “Från vapen till valsedlar” (“From bullets to ballots”)

On 4-5 December, a conference was held as part of the programme for party-oriented democracy support “Från vapen till valsedlar” (“From bullets to ballots”). Parties from different parts of the world gathered in Sulaymaniyah in Iraqi Kurdistan. The subject was dialogue and atonement. The report was published in 2013 by the Swedish Social Democratic Party and the Palme Center.

The 2013 edition of **Internationella Socialdemokraten** was distributed as a supplement in the Swedish Social Democratic Party’s newspaper *Aktuellt I Politiken* that was sent out to 85,300 party members in September. From the contents (translated): With Anna Lindh as a role model; Syria continues to bleed; and Mugabe strengthens his grip in a controversial election.

The Palme Center provided economic support to *Libertas* for two reports on Burma in their anthology **Censur** that was published in December 2013.

The Palme Center provided economic support to the research work that Fredrik Laurin and Lars Schmidt did for the book **Tyst territorium – sju reportage om Västsahara** (“Silent territory – seven reports about the Western Sahara”). The book was published in autumn 2013 by the publishing company Bokförlaget Atlas.



Online guide to running a party: howtorunaparty.org

The Palme Center and the Swedish Social Democratic Party put together a handbook in 2010 for members and elected representatives at our sister parties entitled *How to run and represent a party*. In 2012, digital educational material based on the handbook was published by Houdini AB.

In 2013, the site had attracted 1,855 visitors (1,226 unique visitors) from 104 countries. Most of the visitors came from Sweden, Russia, the United States, South Africa, the UK, Belgium, Egypt, Australia and Spain and 61 percent were aged under 35.

The *How to run and represent a party* handbook won first prize in the industry competition the Swedish Learning Awards in 2013 in the “Best Innovation” category: “The year’s best innovation with its educational and user-friendly design has the possibility of becoming an important piece of the puzzle towards a more democratic world”.

Website and social media

In 2013, 161 news articles were published on the Palme Center’s website www.palmecenter.se. This represented an increase from 96 articles in 2012. The articles covered reports from our projects, political analysis, reports from our seminars, opinion pieces, chronicles, interviews and information about the Palme Center’s fundraising campaigns during the year. Most of the articles were written by employees at the Palme Center, others by freelance journalists. There were 63,142 unique visitors to the website, representing an increase of 44 percent compared to 2012 (43,808 visitors). The increase in traffic to the website is partly due to the Palme Center’s increased presence on Facebook and partly due to the cooperations that the Palme Center has had with Aftonbladet during the year (see more about this under “Fundraising” on page 36).

In 2013, the Palme Center continued an initiative that it started in 2012, namely to have an increased presence in social media. On 31 December 2013, the Palme Center had 4,813 likes on Facebook, compared to 3,144 on 1 January 2013. On Twitter, the Palme Center had 1,093 followers on 31 December 2013, compared to around 330 on 1 January 2013. This represents an increase of 53 percent on Facebook and 231 percent on Twitter. Our Facebook visitors included people from all age categories, with a slight overrepresentation of the 25-34 age group. On Twitter, we largely reached decision-makers, opinion-formers and organisations. We reach our member organisations on both Facebook and Twitter and we can spread information about each other’s messages and campaigns.

Eight digital newsletters were published in 2013. The first newsletter was sent to 3,291 subscribers, and by the end of 2013, the number of subscribers had reached 3,486.

In 2013, work also began on developing a new website. An agreement was made with the web design company Houdini AB, which also developed the prize-winning website *How to run and represent a party* for the Palme Center. The new website is due to be launched in spring 2014.

Seminars

In 2013, the Palme Center was the organiser and co-organiser of 33 seminars and the Palme Day. In total, more than 2,300 people have participated in the seminars.

Most of the seminars were arranged together with other organisations, in particular member organisations, but also others including the Swedish Burma Committee, the Swedish OSCE Network and Amnesty Sweden.

Below is a summary of the seminars (translated) and the names of some of the participants. The seminars were held in Stockholm unless otherwise stated.

- 29 Jan **Burma – On the road to democracy**
Jesper Bengtsson, Frida Perjus and Shantana Shahid
- 25 Feb **How does Turkey view its neighbours?**
Rolf Ekéus, Hanna Ojanen and Mikael Sahlin
- 27 Feb **The Middle East – A zone free from nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass-destruction?**
Rolf Ekéus, Anna-Maja Hultgård and Laura Lodenius
- 5 Mar **Western Sahara – occupied by Morocco (Sundsvall)**
Ralph Praming and Ulf Breitholtz
- 6 Mar **Where is Moldova heading?**
Andreas Johansson and Torgny Hinnemo
- 11 Mar **Vera Baboun – Mayor of Bethlehem**
Vera Baboun and Isabel Lundin
- 14 Mar **Swedish arms exports and human rights**
Pieter D. Wezeman, Karl Evertsson and Britt Bohlin
- 20 Mar **Is a new intifada developing in Palestine?**
Svjetlana Duric
- 20 Mar **Russia: Less room for civil society**
Maja Rusakova, Thair Ismail and Kristina Henschen
- 21 Mar **Africa: Fighting violence against women**
Margot Wallström, Niklas Möller and Mikael Leyi
- 5 Apr **Global Respect (Gothenburg)**
Lena Hjelm-Wallén, Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson and Helén Pettersson
- 11 Apr **Global Respect**
Anna-Lena Lodenius, Per-Olof Sjöo and Per Holmström



PHOTOGRAPH: JENS OHLSSON

Participants at the Palme Day 2013

- 17 Apr **Break the silence: Israeli soldiers talk about the occupation**
Dana Golan, Victoria Strand and Jens Orback

- 23 Apr **Why Libya but not Syria? (essay competition)**
Urban Ahlin, Milischia Rezai and Christina Hertzman

- 24 Apr **A new foreign aid policy for the Social Democrats**
Bo Göransson, Mårten Löfberg and Carin Norberg

- 6 May **Winners and losers of the revolution – three activists talk
about Egypt, Yemen and Syria**
Islam Habib, Atiaf Alwasir and Rafa Almasri

- 7 May **The election in Germany**
Gero Maass, Jens Orback and Yonna Waltersson

- 1 Jul **Foreign aid – on whose terms? (Almedalen)**
Kenneth G Forslund, Désirée Pethrus and Erik Lysén

- 26 Aug **Turkey: Occupy Gezi**
Ekim Caglar and Helin Sahin

- 5 Sep **The tragedy of Syria – is there a way out?**
Thomas Hammarberg, Agneta Ramberg and Pål Wrangé

- 11 Sep **Chile – 40 years after the military coup**
José Goñi, Pauline de los Reyes and Pierre Schori

- 16 Sep **South Africa – where is the country heading?**
Anders Möllander, Pereric Högberg and Tor Sellström
- 27 Sep **Global Respect (book fair in Gothenburg)**
Anna-Lena Lodenius and Mats Wingborg
- 1 Oct **China – the National People’s Congress one year on**
Börje Ljunggren, Malin Oud and Ola Wong
- 10 Oct **Zimbabwe: Is Mugabe more powerful than ever?**
Anders Lindberg and Mårten Löfberg
- 16 Oct **Are Swedish pension funds financing the occupation in the Western Sahara?**
Fredrik Laurin, Lars Schmidt and Christina Kusoffsky Hillesöy
- 19 Oct **Resistanbul**
Pinar Ögunc and Madi Efe Firat
- 24 Oct **Russia – democracy movement under pressure**
Dima Makarov, Kalle Kniivilä and Disa Håstad
- 20 Nov **Willy Brandt 100 years: The challenge of Europe – a future discussion**
Anke Hassel, Ingvar Carlsson and Pierre Schori
- 21 Nov **The dawn of trade unionisation in China**
Lee Cheuk-Yan and Hans-Olof Nilsson
- 23 Nov **The Palme Day (Malmö)**
For more information see “Major events”
- 28 Nov **Different contexts, same oppression – Roma organisation in Turkey and Sweden (Gothenburg)**
Diana Nyman, Domino Kai and Elmas Arus
- 3 Dec **Women workers’ situation in China**
Suetwah Choi and Viktoria Svensson Tordenborn
- 12 Dec **The occupation from within Palestine**
Kerstin Vinterhed and Carl Tham

In addition to this, four member organisations have together organised 34 seminars and lectures in Gothenburg, southern Småland, Örebro County and Gotland, with financial support from the Palme Center. Around 1,150 people have participated in these.

Media

In 2013, it has been an ongoing priority for the Palme Center to be seen and heard in the media to communicate what we do and engage in advocacy work. The Palme Center and our activities were featured more than 560 times in traditional media. Some examples from 2013 are listed below.

Ekot (Swedish national radio programme), 18 February, interview with Jens Orback and one of the participants at the Syrian women's conference, "Syriska kvinnor samlas för att stärka sin roll" ("Syrian women come together to strengthen their role")

SVT Gomorron Sverige (national morning television show), 26 February, Frida Perjus from the Palme Center commentates the Burmese president's visit to Oslo

Dala-Demokraten and several other newspapers

18 April, Jens Orback writes about globalisation and the new edition of Global Respekt "Globaliseringen – och du själv" ("Globalisation – and you")

TT (The Newspapers' Telegram Bureau) writes about the demonstrations in Turkey and the Palme Center's Helin Sahin is interviewed on site; several news channels published "Brandbomber och tårgas i Istanbul" ("Fire bombers and tear gas in Istanbul") on 11 June

Fokus (magazine), 14 June, interview with Jens Orback about the situation in Iran "I väntan på grönska" ("Waiting for spring to break")

Svenska Dagbladet (newspaper), 23 June, full page article about Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia with interviews of various people including the Palme Center's Levend Bicaku and various different partners "Nationalister drömmer om ett Stor-Albanien" ("Nationalists dream of a Great Albania")

Aftonbladet Debatt (newspaper), 27 June, Stefan Löfven and Jens Orback write an article linked to the annual Anna Lindh Seminar and the ten-year anniversary of Anna Lindh's death "Minska utsläppen med 90 procent till år 2050" ("Reduce emissions with 90 percent by 2050")

Aftonbladet (newspaper) encourages Obama to visit the Palme Center during his visit to Sweden, 27 August



SVT's Nobel television broadcast of the announcement of the Nobel Peace Prize winner, 11 October; Laila Naraghi from the Palme Center commentates the choice of prize winner

Sveriges Radio P1 Morgon (radio programme), 14 November, the Palme Center's Viktoria Svensson comments on the disaster in the Philippines

TT writes that the Council of Europe has awarded the newly instituted Raoul Wallenberg Prize to the Palme Center's partner, Elmas Arus, in Turkey; spread in several media channels, 2 December

Two press trips were arranged during the year: one to Zimbabwe in February and the other to South Africa in November. The purpose of the trips was to give journalists the opportunity to determine their own picture of the situation in the country, by meeting with the democracy movement and other actors.

The trip to Harare in Zimbabwe took place from 5-11 February, shortly before the planned referendum about the country's new constitution. Four journalists from three newspapers, *Aftonbladet*, *Arbetet* and *Länstidningen i Östersund* (LT), came on the trip. During the days in Harare, participants met with several of the Palme Center's partners, as well as priests, journalists and representatives from the Swedish Embassy. The trip resulted in increased monitoring of the situation in Zimbabwe, with more informed articles about the referendum and a total of 18 articles in eleven publications.

The trip to Johannesburg in South Africa took place from 22-28 November and three journalists from *Aftonbladet*, *Aktuellt i Politiken* and *Värmlands Folkblad* came on the trip. Some of the reasons for choosing the destination were the 2014 elections in South Africa and the fact that twenty years had passed since the first democratic elections in the country. Moreover, in autumn 2013 it was one year since the shooting in Marikana, in which 34 people were killed. There had also been an ongoing discussion about what would come "after Nelson Mandela". Journalists met with several of the Palme Center's partners, including the ANC, women's organisations and the trade union movement, as well as representatives from other organisations and the Swedish Embassy. The trip resulted in greater monitoring of South Africa and more informed articles with respect to Nelson Mandela's death in December. In total, 18 articles were published in four publications.

In spring 2013, the Palme Center and *Aftonbladet Kultur* (the newspaper's culture section), organised a fundraising initiative together for the deceived and exploited forest workers from Cameroon, which attracted a great deal of media attention. In autumn 2013, the Palme Center, together with *Aftonbladet's* editorial pages, started a fundraising campaign to support Syrian women, which also resulted in a lot of attention on our fundraising activities and those of partners. Read more about our fundraising activities on page 36.

The Palme Center's Secretary General, Jens Orback, continued to write articles in various different newspapers in 2013, including columns in *Norrländska Socialdemokraten/NSD*, *Piteå-Tidningen*, *Folkbladet (Östergötland)*,

Värmlands folkblad, Gotlands Tidningar, AiP and Tidningen Ångermanland.

In 2013, several of the Palme Center's programme managers and management have written Sunday editorials in Dagens Arena on their respective subjects of expertise: Helin Sahin (Turkey), Mikael Leyi (South Africa) and Frida Perjus (Burma), Stina Oskarsson (Kosovo, Syria), Isabel Lundin (Palestine), Anna Sundström (international development cooperation) and Christina Bergman (Bosnia-Herzegovina).

Several of the member organisations' own newspapers have written about the Palme Center and its activities in 2013: *Aktuellt i Politiken, Stockholms-Tidningen, Morgonbris, Tvärdrag, Arbetet* (formerly *LO-tidningen*), *Handelsnytt, Kommunalarbetaren* and *Mål och medel*.

Fundraising for the Palme Center's Solidarity Fund

Fundraising is essential for the Palme Center's activities, both now and in the future. The money partly finances the own contribution of ten percent that is required for projects that are co-financed by Sida. Additional financial support to the Palme Center's Solidarity Fund also makes it possible to carry out projects independently of Sida and other donors.

The Palme Center Solidarity Fund collected 6,071,484 SEK in 2013. A further 1,596,254 SEK was provided by Norwegian People's Aid for redistribution to areas affected by the typhoon in the Philippines. At the end of 2013, the fund's own capital was 23 (25.1) MSEK. The fund's capital is invested in various types of securities. The investments have been chosen by the Ethics & Investment Committee, which is appointed by the board. The committee includes Ingvar Carlsson and Anna-Greta Leijon with overall responsibility for ethics, and Anders Sundström and Lennart Låftman with overall responsibility for investments. The market value of these investments amounted to 26.1 (27.9) MSEK at the end of 2013.

Fundraising sources

Most of the money for the Palme Center's Solidarity Fund's regular funding comes from individuals who donate money by direct debit each month. A negative trend was broken during this year of operation. Another 134 new monthly donors were recruited and there were 1,206 monthly donors in total at the end of 2013 (compared to 1,135 at the end of 2012).

Other than donor solicitation within member organisations, there was also a telemarketing campaign in 2013 focused on those who donated money to the deceived and exploited forest workers from Cameroon ("*Stöd de lurade skogsarbetarna från Kamerun*"). During the autumn, there was also a separate campaign to encourage existing monthly donors to increase their

donation, which resulted in an increase of 160,000 SEK per year.

The next biggest part of the funding comes from the sponsorship activities, which involves organisations paying an own contribution of ten percent of the project costs for specific projects. During the year, this increased to 1,264,755 SEK (890,754 SEK), which represents a 41 percent increase in comparison to 2012.

The third largest part of the funding in 2013 came from donations from organisations. This was followed by salary donations, i.e. gifts from people who agree to donate a small part of their wages to the Solidary Fund.

Fundraising campaigns

In 2013, the Palme Center carried out three themed fundraising campaigns:

“Stöd de lurade kamerunska skogsarbetarna” (“Support the deceived Cameroonian forest workers”): The campaign was carried out in cooperation with Aftonbladet Kultur following a series of high-profile reports on SVT’s television programme Uppdrag Granskning. During three weeks in spring, the campaign raised 1,668,700 SEK and the money was shared out among 45 people according to a principle of equal distribution. The campaign was featured prominently in Aftonbladet’s culture section.

“Stöd Syriens kvinnor” (“Support Syria’s women”): The campaign began on 23 August in cooperation with Aftonbladet’s editorial pages for Syrian women through the SWN. In 2013, the campaign raised 180,764 SEK and continued into 2014. The campaign was featured prominently on Aftonbladet’s editorial section.

“Stöd till tyfonens drabbade i Filippinerna” (“Support those affected by the typhoon in the Philippines”): When Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines in mid-November, a fundraising campaign was initiated for the ACF (Active Citizenship Foundation) in the Philippines, with links to the local labour movement. The money that was raised primarily went to providing humanitarian support in the form of food, water and personal care items. Later on, the resources were used to fund the reconstruction of affected areas. The response from both individuals and organisations has been huge. Within a short space of time, the campaign raised 681,496 SEK. In addition, a cooperation agreement was signed with Norwegian People’s Aid, and the Palme Center was tasked with redistributing the money they had collected to ACF to finance relief efforts in the Philippines.



A campaign to support women in Syria was organised together with Aftonbladet’s editorial pages.

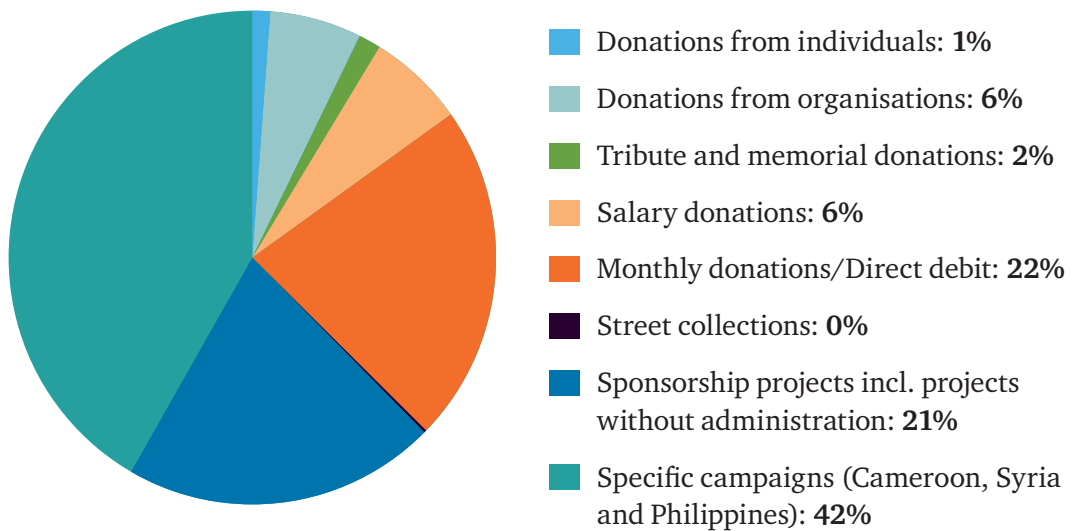
Funds raised (SEK)

Type of donation	2013	2012
Donations from individuals	72,324	131,659
Donations from organisations	369,744	558,643
Tribute and memorial donations	87,670	57,993
Salary donations	388,465	350,870
Monthly donations/Direct debit	1,349,670	1,286,180
Street collections	7,796*	68,889
Donations from wills	0	0
Sponsorship projects incl. projects without administration	1,264,755	631,596
	2,530,960	0
Total:	6,071,384**	3,085,831

* Most street collections in 2013 were campaign-specific and are thus included under "Specific campaigns".

** Plus an additional 1,596,254 SEK for redistribution from Norwegian People's Aid.

Share of funds raised in 2013



Major events

Syria conference

Between 2011 and 2013, the Palme Center hosted two conferences in Stockholm for civil and political actors, in and outside Syria, who work to promote social change, democracy and human rights in the country. The second conference was held in February 2013. Around a hundred female Syrian activists from all over Syria, the Middle East and other countries converged in Stockholm to spend three days discussing how they want to work to promote peace and democracy in their country. Sunnis, Kurds, Christians, Alawites, and left-wing and women's activists were represented. This resulted in the formation of the SWN.

In May 2013, a launch conference was held in Cairo, which was attended by around 140 Syrian women and around ten men. The SWN was formalised as a network through this meeting and committees including a coordination committee were set up. The aim of the network is to strengthen the Syrian women's influence, role and participation in the political process in Syria, to participate and influence laws and constitutions, and to promote peace and security with a clear gender perspective. The participants in the network are not in agreement about everything and there are certainly political differences, but the conviction about the right and necessity of women's participation and influence in political processes is the shared starting point.

The SWN is still supported by the Palme Center and the target audience includes democracy and human rights activists, journalists, cultural workers and gender experts with links to the Syrian National Coalition, the Syrian National Council, Local Coordinating Committees of Syria and different minority groups, as well as women activists from other Arabic countries and international civil society organisations. With support from the Palme Center, the SWN has attended the Geneva II negotiations and run a campaign entitled "Syria – a Home or a State of Detention" that calls for the Syrian government to release prisoners of conscience prisoners.



Carin Jämtin, Luiz Antonio Correia de Carvalho, Margot Wallström, Kilamba Van-Dúnem, Judith Kirton-Darling and Jens Orback at the Anna Lindh Seminar 2013.

Anna Lindh Seminar

Each year the Palme Center and the Swedish Social Democratic Party come together to arrange an international seminar to keep the memory of Anna Lindh's work alive. Last year, it was ten years ago since Anna Lindh was murdered. The 2013 seminar was therefore themed "Legacy and Future" and focused on the issues closest to Anna Lindh's heart – human rights and sustainable development. The seminar was open to the public and there were around 200 participants. Representatives from the Swedish labour movement included the Swedish Social Democratic Party Chairman Stefan Löfven, Secretary General Carin Jämtin, former EU Commissioner Margot Wallström and Wanja Lundby-Wedin, Chairperson of the Olof Palme International Center. There were also a number of international guests, including Thorbjörn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Radmila Šekerinska, leader of the opposition in Macedonia (SDSM), Leila Shahid, EU Ambassador from Palestine, and Judith Kirton-Darling, Confederal Secretary of the ETUC (European Trade Union Confederation).

On the second day, 25 representatives from sister parties around the world took part in workshops to exchange ideas about developing policies for human

rights and sustainable development on a more practical level. The aim was to inspire participants to work more specifically with these issues in their own parties. The seminar was recorded and published as a report entitled “Legacy and Future – human rights and sustainable development in memory of Anna Lindh”.

Congress seminar

Parallel to the congress of the Swedish Social Democratic Party that was held from 3-7 April, the Palme Center and the party arranged democracy training for our partners as part of party-oriented democracy support. The training was attended by 23 people from 19 countries. The programme addressed different subjects such as how to develop a party programme, how to plan and execute an election campaign, how to formulate and implement policies in practice, and issues concerning gender equality and diversity. Presentations were given by Lars Engqvist, Chief Secretary of the Programme Commission, Ingvar Carlsson, former party leader and former prime minister, Mona Sahlén, former party leader and former minister, Wanja Lundby-Wedin, Chairperson of the Olof Palme International Center, Helene Hellmark Knutsson, Opposition County Council Commissioner in Stockholm, and Ylva Johansson, parliamentarian and former minister.

Participants were also able to follow the congress live thanks to simultaneous interpretation, which allowed them to get an idea of what a social democratic party congress in Sweden is like. The Palme Center was at the party congress with a stand where we presented our organisation, answered questions and had material as giveaways and for purchase.

Progressive Alliance

In October, the Progressive Alliance, the newly formed global network of progressive parties, held its second meeting, this time in Stockholm. The meeting, which was themed “A new global deal”, was held in the Second Chamber meeting room in the Swedish Parliament and brought together around 150 participants from all over the world. Representatives from the Palme Center included Jens Orback and Isabel Lundin.

Ahead of the three days of activities, a working group was appointed with representatives from the Swedish Social Democratic Party, LO, the Palme Center and Tankesmedjan Tiden to organise the work. This was a good model to learn from for future projects that seek to find synergies.

As part of the Progressive Alliance meeting, LO and the Swedish Social Democratic Party arranged a high-level seminar on the same topic. The Palme Center also organised a seminar entitled “Work and Welfare – Trade Union Political Cooperation”, which was attended by 25 people from 17 different countries to discuss the Nordic model and trade union political cooperation. Presentations were given by representatives from the Swedish Social Democratic Party, LO, Samak and Tankesmedjan Tiden. Jens Orback moderated the event. The evaluations highlighted the importance of providing a platform for this kind of exchange of experiences for our sister parties.

Participants at the Progressive Alliance meeting held in Stockholm in October 2013.



Participants from Kenya and Somalia were particularly grateful to have the chance to meet up and be able to hold further discussions about the region's development outside the scheduled meetings. The four participants from Belarus were pleased to have the chance to meet outside the country's borders to organise their opposition since the situation in the country does not permit such organisation.

The Secretary General of the Palme Center also hosted a dinner as part of the meeting, which provided a chance for the Palme Center and international party representatives who had come to Stockholm to engage in deeper discussions and exchanges of experiences.

The Palme Day 2013

This year's Palme Day was held on 23 November at Sofielunds Folkets Hus in Malmö. The title was "Bekämpa klyftorna" ("Fighting the gaps"). The Social Democrats in Malmö and S-studenter in Malmö were co-organisers.

More than 90 people participated, and for several of them this was the first time they had attended an event

Lee Cheuk-Yan, Secretary General for the HKCTU attended the Palme Day.



arranged by the Palme Center. Joakim Sandell, Chairperson of the Swedish Social Democratic Party in Malmö and Wanja Lundby-Wedin, Chairperson of the Olof Palme International Center, welcomed the participants.

During the event, participants listened to presentations and panel discussions about different types of gaps in the world and how they can be overcome. Participants included Joakim Palme, Jens Orback, Lee Cheuk-Yan, Urban Ahlin and Andrine Winther. In the afternoon, there were seminars organised by the three local member organisations: ABF Skåne, the Swedish Social Democratic Party in Malmö and S-studenter in Malmö.

Surveys showed that the day was very much appreciated by the participants and that it resulted in increased knowledge about the gaps in the world and how they can be overcome. “The best thing about the Palme Day was the choice of topic to increase the interest in international work” and “Good subject and to leave Stockholm once in a while” were some of the comments from the evaluation surveys.

External events

In 2013, the Palme Center attended events, set up stands, provided material and/or financial contributions to nine of its member organisations’ major events:

March	S-studenter’s “International Spring Congress” (Stockholm)
March	“International Day” in Umeå (organised by: the Swedish Social Democratic Party in Umeå and others)
March	SSU Stockholm County District Council congress
March	Course entitled “ <i>Fredsambassadörerna</i> ” (“Peace Ambassadors”) organised by SSU, S-studenter, S-kvinnor and Socialdemokrater för tro och solidaritet (Stockholm)
April	Party congress of the Swedish Social Democratic Party, Gothenburg
June	LIVS congress, Linköping
August	SSU’s congress in Täby
August	S-kvinnor’s federation meeting (Stockholm)
August	Swedish labour movement’s weekend in West Sweden (Knarrholmen)
October	SEKO’s congress in Stockholm

The Palme Center also attended the book fair in Gothenburg in September. A seminar about the book *Global Respekt* was arranged together with ABF Gothenburg. The book was displayed at ABF’s stand. The Palme Center’s employees have also presented at various events and held courses within the Swedish labour movement.

Member organisations



Workers' Educational Association (Arbetarnas Bildningsförbund, ABF)



Verdandi (political association of students in Uppsala)



Swedish Trade Union Confederation (Landsorganisationen, LO)



National Federation of People's Parks and Community Centres (Folkets Hus och Parker, FHP)



Swedish Social Democratic Party (Socialdemokraterna, SAP)



Swedish Union of Tenants (Hyresgästföreningen)



Religious Social Democrats (Socialdemokrater för tro och solidaritet)



Swedish Building Workers' Union (Svenska Byggnadsarbetareförbundet, Byggnads)



National Federation of Social Democratic Women in Sweden (Socialdemokratiska Kvinnoförbundet, S-kvinnor)



Swedish Electricians' Union (Svenska Elektrikerförbundet, Elektrikerna)



Swedish Social Democratic Youth League (Socialdemokratiska Ungdomsförbundet, SSU)



Swedish Building Maintenance Workers' Union (Fastighetsanställdas Förbund, Fastighets)



Social Democratic Students of Sweden (Socialdemokratiska Studentförbundet, S-studenter)



Swedish Union of Forestry, Wood and Graphical Workers (Facket för skogs- trä och grafisk bransch, GS)



Swedish Young Falcons (Unga Örnar)



Swedish Commercial Employees' Union (Handelsanställdas förbund, Handels)



Swedish Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Union (Hotell- och Restaurangfacket, HRF)



Swedish Transport Workers' Union (Svenska Transportarbetareförbundet, Transport)



Swedish Industrial and Metal Workers' Union (IF Metall)



Föreningen Arbetarrörelsens Folkhögskolor (FIF)



Swedish Municipal Workers' Union (Svenska Kommunalarbetareförbundet, Kommunal)



Swedish Food Workers' Union (Livsmedelsarbetareförbundet, LIVS)



Swedish Musicians' Union (Svenska Musikerförbundet/ Kulturarbetareförbundet, SMF)



Swedish Painters' Union (Svenska Målareförbundet)



Swedish Paper Workers' Union (Svenska Pappersindustriarbetareförbundet, Pappers)



Union of Service and Communications Employees (Facket för Service och Kommunikation, SEKO)

Board and auditors

The Board of the Olof Palme International Center 2013–2014

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Wanja Lundby-Wedin, LO

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Erland Lindqvist, IF Metall

Stefan Carlén, Handels

Björn Lind, Seko

Keth Thapper, LO

Ann Linde, SAP

Kenneth G Forslund, SAP

Lena Sommestad, S-kvinnor

Kristin Spolander, ABF

Mattias Kristenson, SSU

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Leif Isaksson, LO

Mikael Sterbäck, Pappers

Susanne Lindberg Elmgren, LO

Pauli Kristiansson, Livs

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Bertil Kinnunen, SAP

Magnus Falk, Transport

Linnea Lindberg, Unga Örnar

Eleonore Eriksson, S-studenter

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Lars-Erik Engberg, auktoriserad revisor, Moore Stephens Allegretto AB

Anita Modin, SAP

Deputy auditors

Sture Eriksson, auktoriserad revisor, Moore Stephens Allegretto AB

Bo Abrahamsson, LO

