

## Sweden in Democratic Decline: A Comparative Integrity Report

This report evaluates Sweden's democratic integrity using five core pillars: Free and Fair Elections, Rule of Law, Accountability, Transparency, and Representation.

Based on ongoing analysis and documented inconsistencies in governance practices, Sweden's performance under these pillars has notably declined. Issues include:

- Tactical voting (~14%) distorting electoral outcomes.
- Coalition deals contradicting party platforms and voter intent.
- Politicians avoiding consequences for misconduct while enforcing harsh laws on the public.
- Lack of public consultation on major policies such as NATO membership.
- Increasing intimidation and politicization of independent investigators.

To contextualize Sweden's condition, the report compares its total democratic score (out of 100) to five other nations.

Sweden's score: 38 / 100 - far below its Nordic peers.

This performance positions Sweden as a 'mock democracy' in practice: preserving the outer rituals of democracy while failing to uphold its core principles.

The chart below illustrates the comparative democratic integrity scores.

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## Case Examples of Political Double Standards

### CASE EXAMPLES OF POLITICAL DOUBLE STANDARDS

These real-life cases illustrate how Swedish politicians across party lines contradict democratic values by acting under double standards - enforcing harsh laws on the public while exempting themselves from similar accountability.

#### 1. STEFAN LÖFVEN - "Consensus Exemption" (S)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, PM Löfven justified undocumented decisions by stating they were made "in consensus." However, Swedish criminal law says civilians who act "together and in agreement" ("tillsammans och i samförstånd") are all held accountable - even without clear evidence of individual responsibility. Politicians used consensus to avoid responsibility. The people face criminal liability.

#### 2. JOHAN FORSSELL - "Hard on Parents, Soft on Self" (M)

Forsell champions punishing parents of gang-involved youth, including mandatory SIS placement and loss of custody. When his own son was exposed by Expo as linked to extremist networks, he dismissed the matter as "handled in private." This represents clear hypocrisy in enforcement of parental responsibility.

#### 3. EBBA BUSCH - "Mandate from the People?" (KD)

Despite KD receiving just over 5% of the vote, Busch repeatedly claims to act on "the mandate of the people." In reality, her party traded away core principles during the Tidö Agreement just to stay in power. This is platform abandonment masked as public mandate.

#### 4. JOHAN PEHRSON & ROMINA POURMOKHTARI - "Negotiated Freedom" (L)

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Both openly stated that joining the government was about political survival. Pehrson once said, "To keep our free society, we need to close it," referring to surveillance expansions. That statement contradicts liberal values. Their admission reveals that power preservation trumps ideological integrity.

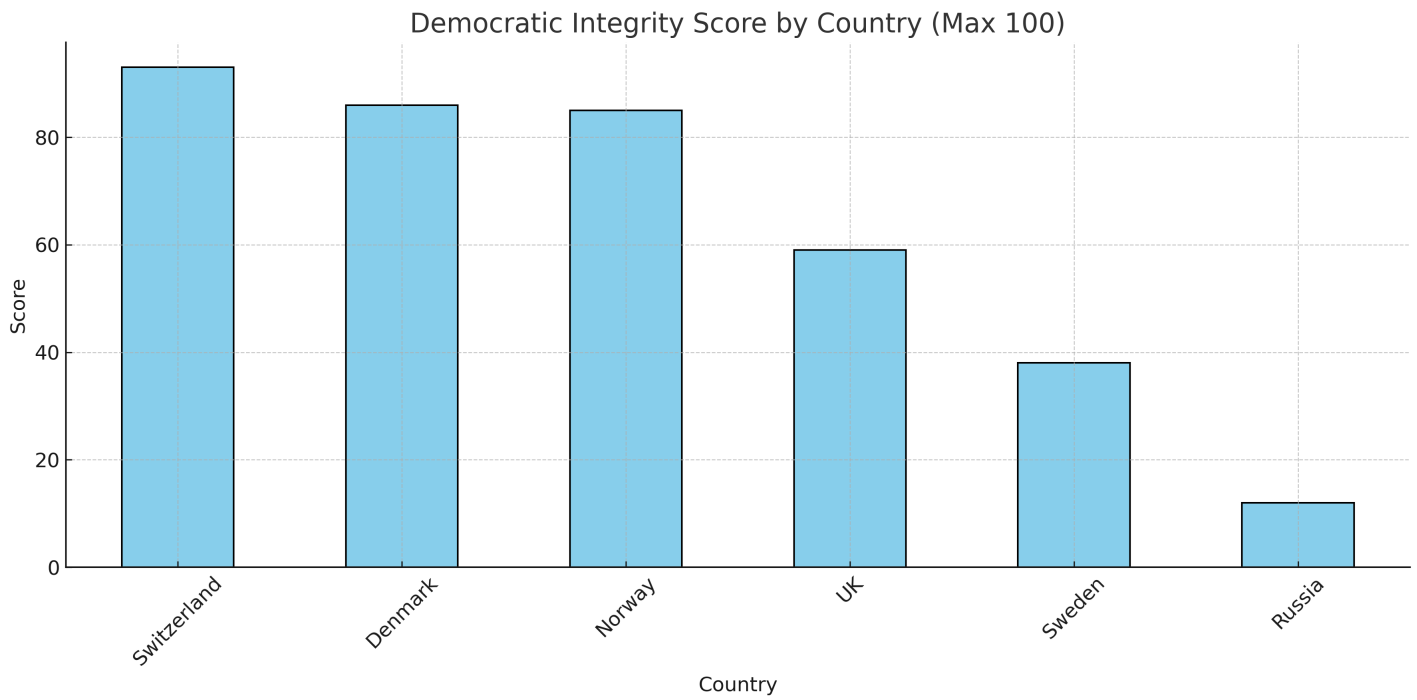
### **5. SD's DECEPTIVE PRESS PRESENCE**

Though not officially in government, SD figures regularly appear at government press conferences behind "Regeringen" signs. This manipulates public perception, granting SD government legitimacy without actual ministerial accountability.

These examples show that Swedish politicians enforce a two-tier society: rule of law and harsh consequences for the public, but impunity and narrative control for themselves.

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## Democratic Integrity Score Comparison



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## Systemic Political Privilege - Case Studies

### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF SYSTEMIC POLITICAL PRIVILEGE IN SWEDEN

#### 1. FABRICATED CVs:

Several politicians across party lines have been caught exaggerating or fabricating their credentials. These misrepresentations would disqualify a private citizen from most jobs. In politics, they are typically written off as "mistakes."

#### 2. SD AT GOVERNMENT PRESS CONFERENCES:

Though Sweden Democrats (SD) are officially not part of the government, their representatives appear at press conferences with government signage ("Regeringen") in front of them. This blurs the public's understanding of democratic roles and falsely signals executive legitimacy.

#### 3. INSIDER TRADING & INVESTMENTS:

Some Swedish politicians have made financial investments in companies or industries where they hold insider knowledge due to their government roles. In other sectors of Swedish society, this would lead to criminal charges under insider trading laws. In politics, it's dismissed as an "honest mistake."

These examples add to the mounting evidence that Swedish democracy is increasingly symbolic. The laws do not apply equally, transparency is often undermined, and accountability is selectively enforced.

The combination of these factors means Sweden maintains the outer appearance of a democracy while functioning with the inner logic of a hierarchical state.