



## **Time Travel, Kalmar 2069**

### **Goal**

Reflect on and create curiosity about the future, especially regarding society and the environment.

Reflect on how everybody can be involved in shaping and influencing the future.

Investigating whether a Time Travel event to the future is useful in a reflection of contemporary issues in a historic environment.

### **Facts, Sweden and the world 2069**

#### **Population**

In 2004, Sweden had nine million inhabitants, in 2017 10 million. The increase was largely due to increased immigration. The population reached 11 million in 2024, 12 million in 2040 and 13 million in 2069.

In 2014, life expectancy was 84 years for women and just over 80 years for men. For each decade, the average life expectancy has increased by about 1.1 years for women and 1.4 years for men. In 2069, average life expectancy is 90 years for women and 87 years for men.

If we take a look at the world, the population increased from about 7.2 billion at the beginning of the 2000s to 9.6 billion in the middle of the 2000s. A large part of this increase occurred in Africa, which more than doubled its population, from 1.1 billion to 2.4 billion in 2050. By 2069, the population has passed 10 billion.

Europe's population has been sustained during the 2000s, partly through increased life expectancy, and partly because people moved to Europe from other parts of the world until the 2040s. As a result, Europe's population declined only marginally until 2050. After 2050, the rate of decline has been increasing.

The countries that have declined most in the last 50 years are located in Eastern Europe, ex. Bulgaria, Moldova, Serbia, Ukraine and Belarus, countries that have reduced their population by 15-20%. But population decline is affecting the whole of Europe. Neither Russia nor China are increasing their population.

Source: Statistics Sweden

#### **Climate and environment**

- The average temperature in southern Sweden has increased by 1.5 degrees in 50 years. It is, as we know, unusual with snow cover in southern and central Sweden.
- Temperature zones have moved north. The length of the vegetation period has increased the last 50 years by between one and two months throughout the country, the furthest south, including Kalmar, up to three months.
- Increased rainfall across the country. There has been a general rainfall increase across the country for 50 years. The number of times of intense rainfall has also increased. In the

mountainous regions, precipitation has increased by up to 25 percent. This means a large supply of water in a rainy area.

- Water levels are generally 1.5 meters higher in southern Sweden and during storms 2.5 -3 meters higher than 50 years ago. Increased rainfall and more intense rainfall have caused more flooding.
- Water shortage and drought in southern Sweden. Changes in precipitation as well as increased evaporation have led to increased summer drought in southern Sweden in recent decades. At the same time, the number of heavy downfalls has increased, even in southern Sweden.

Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

## **Economy**

In the 2020s, the Central Bank of Sweden announced that Sweden's physical currency would be liquidated and replaced with the E-Krona launched a couple of years earlier. This has reduced the climate impact but also provided new opportunities for the state to combat corruption and undeclared work. As a counter-reaction to this, exchange economics has become a widespread phenomenon, primarily for political reasons but also as a real alternative in the places where technology limitations make trading with E-Krona impossible. Economic centers have been developed at all university cities as well as Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö. In the rest of the country, urbanization and depopulation have increased at an accelerating rate over the past 50 years. This, combined with increased computerization, has made it possible to maintain welfare, but today very few people live in rural areas.

Sweden was one of the countries that succeeded in converting, from an economy focused on consumption and fossil fuels to sustainable solutions for production, consumption and energy supply. Those countries that have not yet succeeded in the transition are currently experiencing difficult living conditions with energy shortages as well as economic and political sanctions from other countries. Sweden's new strong export market consists of sustainable energy solutions based on forest raw materials and digital solutions, which resulted in a boom in the 2040s when the economy flourished.

The circular economy has prevailed. There are car-pools and condos, everything from screwdrivers to computers are leased, clothes and food are part of a circular cycle. This has meant that the space for low-quality goods has decreased, most clearly this was noticed in the late 2030s when several of the cities' external shopping centers/ malls went bankrupt and were replaced with distribution centers for leased goods.

In order to maintain the welfare of the country as the population grows older and older, more people have come to work. Thanks to automation, several of the heaviest jobs have become easier to manage, which means that people in healthcare and elderly care are more and are working longer. The number of early retirement and long-term sick leave has decreased as a result of more individualized healthcare and effective medicine. On the other hand, there are problems with the last illness period in life becoming ever longer. People can live with their dementia for many, many years.

## **Swedish society**

Sweden is a less homogeneous society than 50 years before, multiculturalism is evident. Global contacts are extensive. The individual's wishes have a strong impact and the individual's brand is important.

There has been no war in the immediate environment for the past 50 years, but several wars / conflicts in other parts of the world.

Sweden is an extreme society when it comes to the view of most things, but perhaps that is changing as other countries now have higher growth and standard of living.

For many years, the Swedish society worked well. Sweden was seen as a leading country in the world and, above all, we considered it ourselves. Migration from other countries provided labour. New celebrations and creative socializing were positive. And every person seemed to be able to get exactly what he/ she wanted. Both climate change and the social problems in the 2020s and 2030s Sweden managed in a good way. We even turned it into something positive. The increased length of the vegetation period resulted in increased harvests. As the weather became warmer, more and more tourists came to the country. People fled the heat on the Mediterranean and in northern Africa. The Swedish summer was just right warm. During the winter, more and more tourists came to the Swedish ski slopes in the mountains, where there is still plenty of snow. But competition with the Himalayas has increased in recent years, so people in the mountain resorts have become worried.

Our values have been considered exemplary. Since many years, women are in the management both in public and private contexts. It initially produced positive effects, creative solutions and fewer conflicts.

The town is full, but in the countryside there is plenty of space. Many go there on holiday, live an exotic life for a couple of weeks and have an exciting story to take home.

### **Global**

Countries other than the Western countries have gradually become world leaders, not least Asian countries such as India and China, but also some African countries. They have, for many decades, created social and technical solutions that have achieved great success. Peculiar enough, religion remains an important part of these societies. Experts from India, China and some African countries are now often called to Sweden to present and inspire similar changes with us. We can see a small migration from Sweden, especially to Asia.

The Global Goals for 2030 were replaced with new ones, which should be met by 2070. The old goals were supplemented with goals of cohesion and meaningfulness. Self-chosen loneliness and meaninglessness should be gone by 2070.

### **Growing problems in Kalmar / Sweden**

The problem in Sweden came gradually in the 2050s. The water level in the sea rose roughly at the rate that everyone knew. We thought we could handle the changes, construction of ramparts and improved building materials for the houses. However, there is now a specific problem around areas close to the water throughout the country.

Social problems have increased in recent years. The multicultural and individual-oriented society that has worked so well for many years has started to crack. The change came slowly, creeping, with little notice. The gaps increased, as did the loneliness, but we handled it. Other countries handled their social crises in other ways, but we in Sweden were not so interested in learning from them.

Maybe the changes started with the health and medical problems a couple of decades ago. The medical successes mean that people live longer, many become 110 years or older. The problem is that fewer people contribute to society and that the last illness period is getting longer. The Swedish Parliament is just going to take a decision on active euthanasia. Disabilities are also creating problems for health care. Many actively opt out children with disabilities, already as foetuses before being born. Since too few people are born, restrictions on contraception have been talked about.

Many other parts of the globe are doing well. Sweden is seen as an extremist country, partly together with the other Nordic countries. We thought we were the ones leading the development, but suddenly we are lagging behind. Somewhere along the way we got off track, and we barely noticed it.

### **Scenario, Public meeting at Kvarnholmen, Kalmar 2069**

The activist group for Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen has called for a meeting. The problems have accumulated in the central part of Kalmar in recent years. Areas that was once good examples are about to crack. Thirty years ago, most things worked in these areas, people got along well, the schools and pre-schools had many children and at the elderly had a good time. Smaller embankments had to be built around Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen to cope with the autumn storms, which worked well. But gradually, conditions have changed and the solidarity has become less. Many apartments are now empty or inhabited by different people during the year, as those who own them, travel globally and have many "homes". Others, on the other hand, sit alone and do not experience life as meaningful anymore. The ever-decreasing birth of children has meant that some schools and preschools are about to be closed down. Several service centers for elderly have become dementia residences with elderly people living far too long in relation to what the municipal economy can take. The houses closest to the sea are cracking when the water level is rising. The destruction in Gothenburg last year when a dam broke down make these issues burning.

The urgent matter is: should we stay or move? Are there still opportunities to change the conditions at Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen? Can we create a community with better health care for all ages? Should we build a higher embankment? Many buildings have a cultural-historical value and cannot be demolished. Or do we have to move? Where? Perhaps we need to realize that more global thinking is needed.

Kalmarsund Municipality has an economy that is doing quite well. Kalmar is a hub in a larger region, with contacts all over the world. Respect for each other in the multicultural society is good. But a major problem is that society has become more and more divided into groups, cohesion and shared responsibility, outside the group, has decreased. Less homogeneous and larger gaps. Physical and mental health is also a problem, lonely people and overcrowded dementia residences. There are proposals for increased restrictiveness regarding contraceptives to increase childbirth and euthanasia for the elderly is about to become law in Sweden's parliament. There have also been major problems in many areas, close to the sea, not only Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen.

The activist group for the future of Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen has called for a public meeting. Today, a decision must be taken on the way forward. To get advice and different perspectives, even those who live only sporadically at Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen, those with a more global life, have been invited.

15 years ago, a number of residents moved from Kvarnholmen out into the countryside, to the small village of Alsjöholm. They had become tired of the stressful life in town and wanted to have more control of their lives. Now they have been invited to tell about life in Alsjöholm, where the church has been given new life, while people have all the technical advantages that exist in the town.

Of course, Kalmarsund Municipality is interested in the meeting. The decision of today will be of great importance to the entire region. It can be a domino effect, positive or negative. Staying or moving not only applies to Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen, but to all residential areas close to the water. The municipality has brought representatives for urban planning, environment, elderly care, health and education to the meeting. The municipality has also invited an expert from India, the country that is the major pioneer in terms of development, economically and socially.

Stay or move? Leave or improve? Can we create greater solidarity, better physical and mental health? Higher ramparts? If we choose to move, then where? Does anyone have a plan? Today, the future of Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen will be decided. Decisions that affect the whole of Kalmar.

### **Key questions**

- How to increase solidarity and meaningfulness for the people at Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen / in the Kalmar region? How to create better physical and mental health? For the elderly? For children? For those of working age? What ties us together and makes meaning?
- How should we solve the problems with higher water levels? Evacuate coastal areas or build higher ramparts? What do we do with people? With the historic buildings?
- Stay or move?

### **Roles**

The participants are people who have been invited to a public meeting at Kvarnholmen. The participants are divided into different groups depending on which group they belong to. Everyone keeps age and gender

- Residents at Kvarnholmen/ Varvsholmen. Have tried to combine collectivism and individualism, but it doesn't really work
- Global, mobile people who have Kalmar as one of several locations. The individual's self-realization of their own dreams and wishes. Cohesion?
- Rural people, from Alsjöholm. Emphasizes tradition and cohesion, but also has technical products.

- Kalmarsund Municipality. Officials from the municipality. Want to get the community together. Representatives from urban planning, environment, elderly care and education. Indians who present future opportunities: development, technical solutions, importance of the clan/family, spirituality/ religion.

## **Activities**

Four groups:

1. Residents at Kvarnholmen/ Varvsholmen - Make a symbol and plan of action for the future.
2. The Global people - Stories of happiness and diversity in the world. Suggestions.
3. People from Alsjöholm – advantages and challenges of Alsjöholm. Physical and mental health. Make fika
4. Representatives from Kalmarsund Municipality - Listen, ask and take decisions.

The first three groups work on proposals for solutions for Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen, social and environmental, stay or move, physical and mental health. They can create a symbol of cohesion, they can use illustrations, text, slogans, poems, songs. Each group prepares a presentation, in words and pictures, an action plan / proposal for the future, in response to the questions.

The representatives from Kalmarsund Municipality walks around and listens. At the end they take the decision and present the municipality's direction of the way forward.

A person from India is also walking around, listen and give advice.

## **Timeplan**

09.00 Preparation of the site

09.20 Background, roles, rules

09.30 Initiation.

The leader of the activist group greets us

09.45 Activities, discussions, solutions

Expert from India and municipal representatives

10.40 Common gathering, proposals, discussions

11.10 Decision, the meeting ends

The Time Travel ends

11.20 Fika, reflections

12.00 Lunch

28 November 2018/ September 2019

Kalmar county museum

## **Residents at Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen**

There is an association for residents at Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen, where you are active. Several of you have lived there for a long time and you have seen the rise and fall of the area. You know the positive dreams of cohesion and living close to the water. You were there when the ramparts were built ten years ago.

You have gradually experienced the problems:

- the global people who come and go and who do not take part in community life
- less people are born, school and preschool are closing down
- the serving centers that have become dementia residences where people live year after year
- ever higher water levels and more storms, the water flowing into the streets
- the houses that crackle and water that enters the apartments

The activist group was formed a few months ago to address the problems and make Kalmarsund Municipality take action.

You have to make a decision if you want to stay and improve or move (where?). Argue for and against, but come to a common idea after 5-10 minutes.

You draw up an action plan for Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen (which can also be a role model for other marine areas in Kalmar). It can be measures to stay or to move (what happens to the historic buildings / the area, where should you move?). Measures for improved physical and mental health, meaningfulness, and physical environment.

You will make a symbol of cohesion, which will be a new start for the area and the region.

## **Alsjöholm**

Several of you lived at Kvarnholmen/ Varvsholmen 15-20 years ago, but chose to move. You saw the tendencies for increased problems.

In a few years, the population of Alsjöholm village increased from a few single households to more than ten. The community has been renewed, the church and the countryside have been revitalized. You highlight the advantages and disadvantages of living in the countryside.

Dream of individual freedom in a collective framework. Opportunities for the same technical solutions as in the city. Physical and mental health. But at the same time social control and limited exchange of ideas.

You might make a banner / slogan for Alsjöholm. You make a concrete proposal for Kvarnholmen/ Varvsholmen and Kalmar, on increased cohesion and improved physical environment.

You bring with you fruits that you cut and share.

## **The Global people**

You are creative, educated, active people with the whole globe as your workplace. You move between different areas / continents and have many homes. You live at Kvarnholmen one month every year, otherwise the apartments are rented to other people. You still do not see these apartments as yours, they are only places where you are temporarily staying.

Relationships with other people are floating and temporary, while your lifestyle makes it easy to connect with people in a short time. You have been accustomed to a multicultural society

for decades and you move seamlessly between groups of different nationality, religion or colour of the skin. The differences increase the possibilities for creativity and meeting other people is valuable.

You have for decades realized that neither Sweden nor Europe are the models or forerunners. The creative regions are found in Asia and in some parts of Africa, where you spend a lot of time. You are a little tired of the extremist country of Sweden, who wanted to be a moral compass for the whole world.

The ownership of objects and material things is quite unusual, instead you live in a collaborative economy where access to certain networks gives you access to the resources you need to solve your task. This may include processor power, 3D printers, laboratories or industries, resources that are temporarily put together for certain tasks. Your lifestyle is mobile and global, which sometimes leads to incomprehensible or disrespect for those who are too firmly rooted. They dare not see the world as it is, nor do they do anything to solve the problems we face...

You produce stories, good examples, of how to solve social problems in other parts of the world. You may emphasize the significance of the family/ clan, that religion is a driving force, the benefits of multiculturalism, etc. You may be writing a text or poem about the importance of intellectual mobility and respect. You make proposals and directions for Kvarnholmen and the Kalmar region.

### **Kalmarsund Municipality**

There is a representative for several departments in the municipality: Urban planning, Environment, Elderly care and Education. A Chief Director keeps the group together. Everyone goes to the three groups, listen and ask questions. The purpose is to have a good basis for deciding on the future during the day.

Urban planning: questions about the physical and social environment. How do you construct buildings of good quality and at the same time people enjoy living there? How do you create a living and an environment for cohesion? You realize that Kvarnholmen and Varvsholmen have problems to an extent that you did not initially think. Listen, ask and take notes

Environment: The areas close to the water have had major problems for the past 30 years. You knew it, but did not do enough. How to solve this gigantic problem? Hundreds of buildings and large areas are affected. Should more and more areas be embanked? Should we abandon what the ocean is taking over? What should we do with the buildings, the areas and people?

Listen, ask and take notes

Elderly care: the big problem is not only that the elderly are becoming more and more, but the fourth period, when the elderly need to be taken care of 24 hours a day, becomes longer and longer. Dementia diseases affect almost everyone, and the last illness period is often long, sometimes more than a decade. Active euthanasia is moving closer.

Listen, ask and take notes

Education: After an increase in the number of children in the 30s and 40s, it has dropped significantly in the last decade. How can we stimulate childbirth?

The school has become increasingly divided. The public school in the 20th century is a nostalgic dream, but the reality disappeared during the 2000s. Listen, ask and take notes

Chief director: Describes the municipality's operations and responsibilities. Together with the other municipal representatives, makes decisions about the future.

### **Expert from India**

Acting as an expert with greater knowledge. Shows that he / she comes from a country that is leading the development in the world, both financially and socially.

Talks about how the social problems are solved in India, eg. by giving the family/ clan a greater role in development. Within the clan one helps and supports one another, no one is outside. Religion is also a cohesive bond, which provides motivation and inspiration.

At the same time as the economy was growing in the 2020s, efforts were made to phase in the environment and social conditions in the development. They created top universities and developed technical products that everyone had the opportunity to use. Genetic modification has reduced the number of diseases and the disabled, including dementia.

Willing to contribute with development funds and experts to improve the situation in the Kalmar region. Offers places at top universities in India as well as internships at companies.