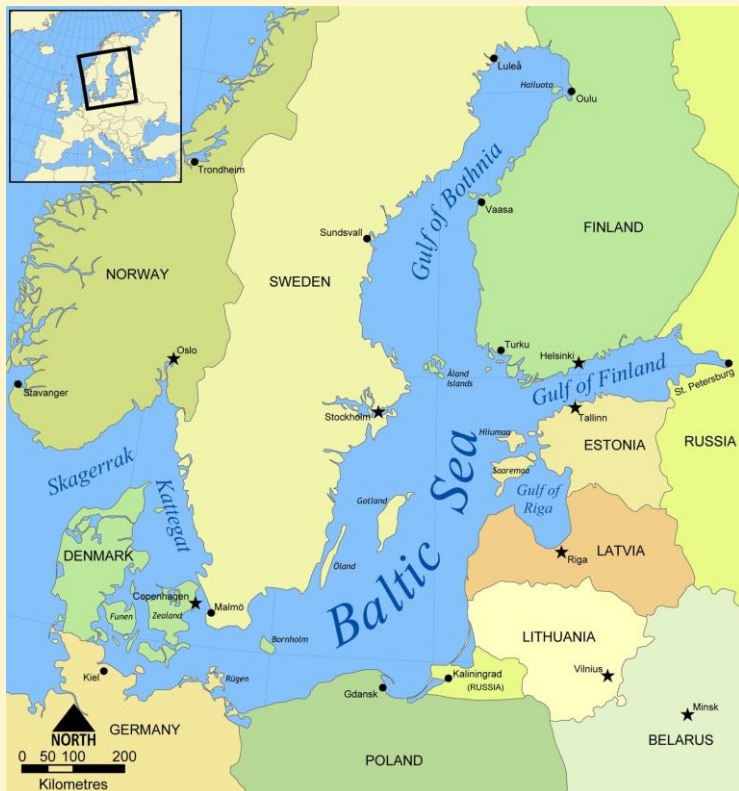


OPEN SKÅNE

OUR STORY



When it comes to education, research and innovation, Skåne is among the foremost regions of the world.

Unfortunately, however, "low rates of employment, problems with integration, and weak entrepreneurship" prevent Skåne from reaching its potential and becoming a competitive region in the global arena.

OECD, 2012

OUR STORY

The challenges faced by local and regional society are complex, requiring new ways of thinking and cross-border cooperation.

The Initiative for Social Cohesion in Skåne Foundation is an attempt to address these challenges, which are crucial for all of Skåne's inhabitants.

The Initiative for Social Cohesion in Skåne Foundation comprises the following organisations;

- The Diocese of Lund (co-founder),
- Malmö Muslim Network (co-founder),
- Network of Jewish Communities in Skåne (co-founder),
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry in South Sweden (co-founder),
- Lund University (academic guarantor with place on the Board),
- Malmö University (academic guarantor with place on the Board),
- City of Malmö (place on the Board)
- Region Skåne (place on the Board).
- The County Administrative Board of Skåne (place on the Board).



OUR STORY



We stand together

Open Skåne is based on the premise that diversity is a resource that can best be captured through knowledge, education, conversation and collaboration.

This results in stronger social cohesion through respect for the multiplicity of human experience.

OUR STORY

2009

An inter-religious delegation from Skåne, under the leadership of Antje Jackelén, then the Bishop in Lund Diocese, participated in the Parliament of the World's Religions conference in Melbourne, Australia.

2010

The Bishop was contacted by the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions about an initiative called Social Cohesion in Malmö/Skåne. A reference group was set up.

2011

Region Skåne, Malmö City and Lund Missionary Society allocated funds for a feasibility study for Social Cohesion in Malmö/Skåne.

2012

The feasibility study was presented in the report Social Cohesion in Malmö/Skåne.

2013

Talks were held between representatives for universities, the business world and political and religious communities about creating a structure to enable work to continue after the feasibility study.

2014

The Initiative for Social Cohesion in Skåne Foundation was established on 24 February. During the autumn, the Board of Directors adopted the name Open Skåne for the Foundation's outgoing activities.



OUR STORY

“A society that succeeds at sustaining its diversity is a more creative society than one that does not do so.

Religious and cultural diversity are social resources that must be cultivated.

This is the point of departure for the Church of Sweden’s involvement in Open Skåne.”



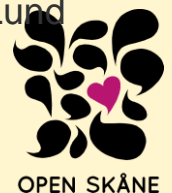
Archbishop Antje Jackelén, Church of Sweden and a Founder, Initiative for Social Cohesion in Skåne Foundation

WORKING METHOD



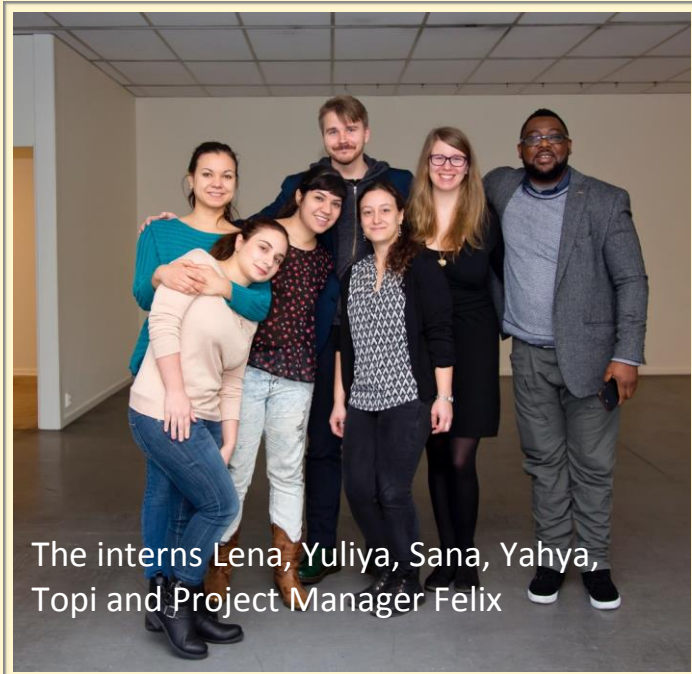
OPEN SKÅNE

- During 2014-2018 Open Skåne is enabling a process which is open and which can be manifested in various ways. Diverse voices can come to the fore through personal meetings, conversation and dialogues, think tanks and conferences, cultural and religious festivals, artistic expressions and debates.
- Alongside the programme activities such as talks and meetings, social media will also be important forums for Open Skåne's open method of working. www.openskane.se is translated in English and Arabic.
- The entire programme phase with regard to planning, implementation, evaluation and documentation has been compiled together with researchers and other individuals linked to Lund University and Malmö University.



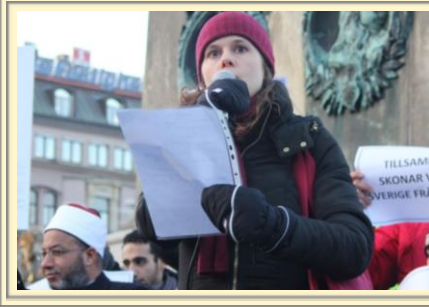
OPEN SKÅNE

WORKING METHOD



- Interviews with key people, informell and formell leaders, who work within the labor market, civil society, health care, culture, media, government, industry, politics, religion, education and science.
- “Think tanks” with participants who hold various positions and play diverse roles in the community. This allows us to obtain a rich array of perspectives, and affords many opportunities to develop new networks to strengthen existing ones.
- Training in leadership methods for facilitating discussions and arranging dialogue groups that take make the most of a diversity of experience and perspectives.
- Public meetings, conferences and festivals highlighting our cutting-edge collaborations and innovative projects.

ACTIVITIES 2015



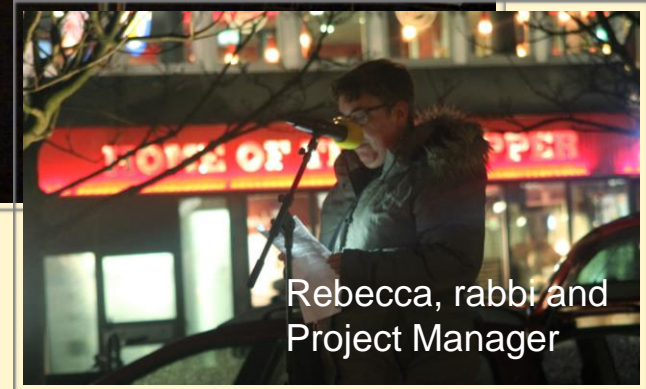
Manifestation against islamophobia and in solidarity with attacked muslims in Sweden, January 2

ACTIVITIES 2015



Gustav Adolfs torg, Malmö

Manifestation against antisemitism and
in solidarity with attacked Jews in
Sweden, February 18



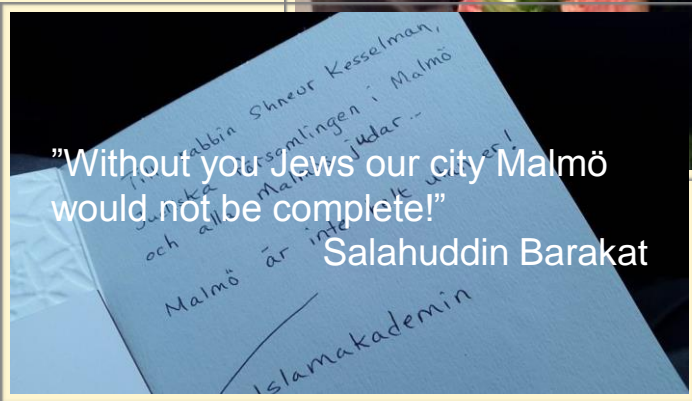
Rebecca, rabbi and
Project Manager

ACTIVITIES 2015



Imam Salahuddin Barakat

Rabbi Shneur Kesselman



"Without you Jews our city Malmö
would not be complete!"

Salahuddin Barakat

Muslims and Jews in
partnership, August 23

ACTIVITIES 2015



Delegation from Open Skåne meets Ira Forman, U.S. Special Envoy of the [Office to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism](#), March 16, Malmö.

ACTIVITIES 2015



Kristianstad, June 1

1



Tomelilla, August 24



Eslöv, February 16

Open Skåne Think Tank - three municipalities trying to involve religious communities and strengthen the social cohesion in their municipality.

ACTIVITIES 2015



Open Skåne Event - Lunch with Jewish and Muslim Networks. Hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of South Sweden, March 2

ACTIVITIES 2015



At the County Governor's
palace, Malmö



Margareta Pålsson,
the County Governor

Open Skåne Event -
Dinner with Muslim
leaders in Skåne.
Hosted by the The
County Administrative
Board of Skåne, June 2



ACTIVITIES 2015



Muslims leaders in Skåne and Police Authority Region South in partnership, May 4

ACTIVITIES 2015

The film Brackish water is about living together as a loving couple with diverse backgrounds, coming from different social, ethnic, religious and cultural affiliations. (<http://www.openskane.se/en/inspiration>)



The starting point is the story of 85-year old Asta and 87-year old Midhat Ibrahimbegovic.

Together with his wife Asta, who is Christian, the Muslim Midhat demonstrates the value of openness and curiosity.

Midhat was co-founder of one of the Nordic region's largest mosques.



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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University

Chair Andreas Konstantinides, Urban District
Committee East, City of Malmö

Birgitta Södertun, Region Skåne

Peter Cavala, The County Administrative
Board of Skåne



PARTNERS



Open Skåne is financed via the Initiative for social cohesion in Skåne. Funding bodies and collaborative partners up to March 2016 are as follows;

- Lund Missionary Society
- Lund University
- Malmö University
- Malmö Muslim Network
- Malmö City Council
- Network of Jewish Communities in Skåne
- Region Skåne
- Sodalitium Majus Lundense
- The County Administrative Board of Skåne
- The Church of Sweden (nationally)
- The Church of Sweden in Lund Diocese
- The Church of Sweden in Malmö
- The Chamber of Commerce and Industry in South Sweden
- The Thora Ohlsson Foundation

THE STAFF



- Rebecca Lillian, Project Manager (Jewish communities, Lund and Malmö universities, Jewish-Muslim partnership, gender issues)
- Andreas Hassler, Project Manager (Muslim communities, collaboration with municipalities, Muslim-Police authorities partnership,)
- Sofia Rydberg, Project Manager (conducts the language café Open Skåne Café)
- Sofia Hallbäck, Project coordinator
- Aldo Iskra, Secretary General



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OPEN SKÅNE

OUR WEB

www.openskane.se

(in English and Arabic)





OPEN SKÅNE