

Freedom of expression and the role of the Police



Every person in Sweden has the right to express their opinions, the right to assemble and the right to demonstrate without being limited or punished. This is called freedom of expression which is a fundamental law decreed by the parliament.

The opinions expressed cannot violate current legislation, for example expressions of agitation against a population group or unlawful threats.

The role of the Police is to make sure that

- everyone gets to express their opinions in accordance with the existing laws,
- public order and safety are maintained,
- crimes are not committed.

Gathering people for a demonstration, manifestation or a meeting in a public place requires a permit from the Police.

The Police can cancel or terminate a demonstration that did not receive a permit but is still carried out. The Police can also cancel or terminate a demonstration that generates a riot or entails too much danger for the participants or if it causes major disturbances to the traffic.

Anyone who disturbs a demonstration or a meeting, for example by using violence or making noise, can be found guilty of a crime. Obstructing the work of the Police is also an offence.

Do you have any questions? Consult a police officer on site.

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