



THE OPENING OF  
THE RIKSDAG SESSION 2024

Opening of the Riksdag session 2021. The Guards Regiment on parade at Riksplån while the members of the Riksdag and guests are on their way into the Riksdag Building.

Cover photo: Melker Dahlstrand

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## **PROGRAMME**

*Opening of the Riksdag session  
Tuesday 10 September 2024*

## *Participants*

### AMANDA GINSBURG AND BAND

Jazz vocalist and songwriter Amanda Ginsburg released her first album in 2018, and her most recent album is “Lucky that I can laugh”. She is happy to follow in the footsteps of Swedish artists such as Monica Zetterlund and Beppe Wolgers. In the Chamber, she will be performing with Filip Ekestubbe on piano, Johan Bäckman on drums and Niklas Fernqvist on double bass.

### BELLEVILLE TRIO

The Belleville Trio consists of Victor Edlind and Malcolm Lindgren on guitar and Olof Danfelter on clarinet and saxophone. The Trio finds its inspiration in the music of the French jazz guitar – a special tradition with Roma roots that emerged in the Parisian district of Belleville in the 1940s. In the Grand Stairway, the Trio will be performing their own interpretations of classic pieces from this repertoire.

### THE SWEDISH ROYAL NAVY BAND

The Swedish Royal Navy Band dates back to the 1680s. Today, it consists of 30 full-time professional musicians and is stationed in the world heritage city of Karlskrona. The musicians participate in state visits, royal audiences, the changing of the guard, tattoos and concerts. Here in the Chamber, a brass sextet from the Swedish Royal Navy Band will perform.

#### SWEDISH DIABETES ASSOCIATION

The Swedish Diabetes Association, formed in 1943, is a nationwide non-profit association. The Association works to improve the lives of people with diabetes and reduce the effects of the disease. Earlier this year, the Association was awarded the Swedish flag by the Swedish National Day Foundation. Representatives of the Diabetes Association will be participating as flag-bearers during the opening of the Riksdag session.

#### THE SWEDISH ROYAL ARMY BAND

The Swedish Royal Army Band is Sweden's largest marching band and often performs on ceremonial occasions such as H.M. The King's birthday celebrations at the Royal Palace and the National Day celebrations at Skansen. In keeping with tradition, the Swedish Royal Army Band always plays at Rikspan at the opening of the Riksdag session.

#### THE GUARDS REGIMENT

The Guards Regiment is one of the largest units of the Swedish Armed Forces and can be traced back to the body guards founded in 1521. Today, the Guards Regiment is one of the oldest units in the world. At the opening of the Riksdag session, Grenadiers of the Guards Regiment are on parade in uniforms designed in the late 19th century.

# PROGRAMME IN THE CHAMBER

## Processional March by the Swedish Royal Navy Band\*

*Brass sextet from the Swedish Royal Navy Band*

Music: Andreas Hanson



## Kungssången\* (The Royal Anthem)



## Bedårande sommarvals ("Enchanting Summer Waltz")

*Amanda Ginsburg and band*

Music: Toots Thielemans

Swedish lyrics: Hans Alfredson and Tage Danielsson



## The Speaker

invites H.M. The King to open the Riksdag session



## H.M. The King


declares the 2024/25 Riksdag session open

\* Everyone rises.

## Fanfare\*

*Brass sextet from the Swedish Royal Navy Band*


Music: Andreas Hanson



## Höst (“Autumn”)


*Amanda Ginsburg and band*

Music: Amanda Ginsburg and Filip Ekestubbe. Lyrics: Stig Dagerman



## The Prime Minister

presents the Statement of Government Policy




## Havsmelodi (“Sea Melody”)

*Amanda Ginsburg and band*

Lyrics and music: Amanda Ginsburg, from Att angöra en brygga (“Docking the Boat”)  
by Lars Färnlöf, Hans Alfredson and Tage Danielsson



## Sveriges nationalsång\* (The National Anthem)



## Grande Marche\*

*Brass sextet from the Swedish Royal Navy Band*

Music: Charles Voss

## *The Instrument of Government 50 years*

This year, 50 years have passed since Sweden adopted a new fundamental law, the 1974 Instrument of Government. Sweden had an Instrument of Government previously, the 1809 Instrument of Government, but it was not considered to reflect society adequately. This period of our history is sometimes referred to as the “constitutionless half-century”.

The new amended fundamental law was the result of two long decades of hard work. And when the new parliamentary session opened in 1975, symbolically it was not at the Royal Palace as it had been before, but in the premises of the Riksdag which were provisionally located in Kulturhuset – the House of Culture – at Sergels Torg.

The 50-year-old fundamental law we are celebrating is a regulatory framework that emphasises representative democracy and free formation of opinion. One principle that is consistently in focus is the principle of popular sovereignty.

The Instrument of Government became a “constitution for our times”. Times change. Over the years, there have been a number of additions, for example articles on EU cooperation.

We are looking forward to the next 50 years – with a constitution for our times.



Photo: TT Nyhetsbyrån

The Riksdag's ceremonial opening, January 1974. H.M. The King giving his speech in the Hall of State at the Royal Palace.



Photo: Melker Dahlstrand

The Instrument of Government 1974.



Photo: Leif R. Jansson/TT

Opening of the Riksdag session, October 1975. H.M. The King delivering his speech in the Riksdag which at the time was located in the House of Culture at Sergels Torg. On the left we can see the Prime Minister Olof Palme and the Speaker Henry Allard.

## K U N G S S Å N G E N

Ur svenska hjärtans djup en gång  
en samfälld och en enkel sång,  
som går till kungen fram!  
Var honom trofast och hans ätt,  
gör kronan på hans hjässa lätt,  
och all din tro till honom sätt,  
du folk av frejdad stam!

LYRICS: *Carl Vilhelm August Strandberg*. MUSIC: *Otto Lindblad*

## S V E R I G E S N A T I O N A L S Å N G

Du gamla, Du fria, Du fjällhöga nord,  
Du tysta, Du glädjerika sköna!  
Jag hälsar Dig, vänaste land uppå jord,  
Din sol, Din himmel, Dina ängder gröna,  
Din sol, Din himmel, Dina ängder gröna.  
Du tronar på minnen från fornstora dar,  
då ärat Ditt namn flög över jorden.  
Jag vet att Du är och Du blir vad Du var.  
Ja, jag vill leva, jag vill dö i Norden,  
Ja, jag vill leva, jag vill dö i Norden.

LYRICS: *Richard Dybeck*. MUSIC: *Folk tune from Västmanland*





Photo: Melker Dahlstrand

**SVERIGES**   
**RIKSDAG** 

Axel Oxenstierna leading a meeting of the Privy Council. Frieze depicting the seven ministries on the façade between the wings of the Members' Building from 1935. The frieze was created by Stig Blomberg (1901–1970).