



Peter Weiderud

Curriculum Vitae

Professional Experience

- **General Secretary, The Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (50 per cent)**, Stockholm. International member organisation of parliamentarians working out of the particular integrity that comes with the role of parliamentarians as elected representatives to, in different ways, prevent the proliferation of small arms.
- **Consultant, President and Partner, Samhällsnytta AB, Stockholm (50 per cent)**, Offering strategic advice to top management of business, public sector and civil society on how to strengthen fulfillment of goals and long term profit through improved cooperation with other sectors of society.

Previous Positions

- **Political Advisor to the Minister**, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm, Sweden. Advisor to the Minister for Development Cooperation and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mrs Carin Jämtin, May 2006 – October 2006. Invited by the Minister to contribute to the development on the Swedish Government agenda on development cooperation and foreign affairs. Position ended as result of general election.
- **Director, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches**, (WCC) Geneva, September 2002 – July 2006. Responsibilities include:
 - Advising the general secretary and governing bodies of the WCC on international affairs policy and response to conflicts and wars,
 - Serving as spokesperson of the WCC on international political affairs,
 - Preparing analytical reports on international political trends and root causes of conflicts, violence and human rights violations for WCC member churches and partner organisations,
 - Representing the WCC to governments and intergovernmental organisations,
 - Managing and supervising the International Affairs, Peace and Human Security staff team of the WCC in Geneva, New York and field projects.

- **Director General for International Mission and Diaconia (Utrikeschef)**, Church of Sweden, 1999-2002. Responsibilities included, co-ordinating policy on international affairs of the Church of Sweden as well as managing the overall work of Church of Sweden Mission, Church of Sweden Aid and the international branch of the Swedish Evangelical Mission. (Total about 90 staff nationally and 90 abroad and a total budget turn over of about USD 30 million.) The post included facilitating the integration of the historical streams of the work with mission and international diaconia into a unified core function of the church as well as representing the Church of Sweden in European and international forums.
- **Political Advisor to the Minister**, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm, Sweden. 1994-99. Speechwriter and advisor with a particular focus on security policy to the Foreign Ministers Lena Hjelm Wallén (four years) and Anna Lindh (one year). Invited by the FM to contribute to the development of the Swedish Government agenda on disarmament (New Agenda Coalition), dialogue between cultures and civilizations (Euro-Islam project), prevention of violent conflicts, human rights and international law.
- **Director of Justice, Peace and Creation (Unit IV)**, Christian Council of Sweden, Stockholm. 1994. Responsibilities included coordinating and overseeing the implementation of an integrated ecumenical work in the field of JPIC (earlier carried out by the Development Forum of the Swedish Churches, the Peace Committee of the Swedish Ecumenical Council and the International Committee of the Swedish Ecumenical Council) by the newly established Christian Council.
- **Personal Assistant to the Bishop**, Diocese of Västerås, Church of Sweden. 1989-94. PA to Bishop Claes-Bertil Ytterberg with a key responsibility to develop and coordinate the international and ecumenical relations agenda for the diocese, including relations to local political and NGO structures. Invited by Bishop Ytterberg, in particular to assist him in analysing and addressing the role of the church in a changing society.
- **General Secretary of the Christian Peace Movement of Sweden** (Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation), Uppsala, 1983-89. Invited by the board to lead the Christian Peace Movement in a period of growth and transition, from an anti-war, conscientious objectors focus to being a catalyst in helping the Swedish churches to reflect and work more actively on an integrated agenda for justice and peace. Main tasks included representing the organization in relation to the Swedish churches, mobilizing public awareness and facilitate networking.
- **Journalist**, News Editor, International desk, National News (Aktuellt) of the Swedish Television, summer 1988.
- **Journalist**, Editor, Arbetet, daily paper in Malmö, Sweden, (three months) 1982.
- **Journalist**, TV reporter, Regional News for South Sweden, (five months) 1982.
- **Journalist**, Reporter and Editor, Bäragsbladet, local paper in Köping and Arboga, 1981-83 (during and immediately after university education).
- **Community Service** (alternative to military service for Conscientious Objection), social worker at a church related centre for homeless and drug addicts in Stockholm, 1980.

- **Teacher**, senior level in comprehensive school in Arboga (Swedish, religion, history and civics), 1979.
- **Youth Leader and Assistant in the Parish**, Parish of Arboga (Diocese of Västerås) 1977-79.
- **Youth Leader and Assistant in the Parish**, Parish of Eskilstuna Fors (Diocese of Strängnäs), 1976-77.

Elected/Appointed Representative (Commissions of trust, ongoing)

- **President** of the Christian Social Democrats in Sweden, one of four official branches of the Social Democratic Party and member of the International League of Religious Socialist. Elected by the biannual congress in July 2005. In this capacity also member of the Executive Committee and Board of the Social Democratic Party of Sweden.
- **Board member** of the Swedish Institute in Alexandria, Egypt. Appointed by the Swedish Government since the inception of the Institute in 1999. The Institute is run by the Swedish Government to promote dialogue with countries in Northern Africa and Middle East in areas of culture and religion, peace and security, environment and development.
- **Board member** of the Olof Palme International Centre, since 2006. International development agency and think-tank on foreign affairs created by the labour movement in Sweden.

Previous posts/selected delegations

- Chairperson of the Christian Peace Movement of Sweden, 1989-94.
- Board member of the Church of Sweden Mission, 1995-99.
- Chair of the Swedish Government Delegation on Indigenous People, 1995-2005. Appointed by the Minister of Agriculture. A delegation with Saami majority, set up as advisory committee to the Minister during the UN Decade on Indigenous People.
- Member of the Thematic Committee on Social Science and Humanities of the Swedish Research Council. Appointed by the Minister of Education 2001-2002.
- Member of the Council for Peace- and Security Promoting Measures at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Dialogue forum on current foreign affairs between the Ministry, academics and NGO representatives, lead by the State Secretary. 1999-2002.
- Member of the Advisory Group to the Government on funding Swedish NGO's work on peace and security. Appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, 1997-2002.
- Board member of the Arena group. An independent Swedish political/cultural magazine and think tank. Since its foundation in 1993-2003.
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Aprovev - Association of European development agencies related to the World Council of Churches for advocacy to the European Union, Brussels, 2000-2002.
- Moderator, Working Group for Peace Building and Security to the Commission for Church in Society, Conference of European Churches, Brussels. 1999-2003.
- Chairperson of the local group in Västerås of the Swedish UN Association, 1991-98.
- Delegate of the Church of Sweden to the Second European Ecumenical Assembly and the General Assembly of the Conference of European Churches, Graz 1997.

- Member of the World Council of Churches delegation to Jerusalem in June 2001, sent on behalf of the WCC General Secretary, Rev Dr Konrad Raiser, to advise on the Ecumenical Response to the Palestinian- Israeli Conflict.
- Board member and treasurer of the Magazine En Värld (One world – Swedish ecumenical magazine to cover issues on justice, peace and environment, 1992-94.
- Co-ordinator for Sweden in the Kairos Europe process, 1991-94.
- Participant for the Conference of European Churches in the Churches Human Rights Programme to the CSCE (today OSCE) Meetings in Moscow, September 1991, Helsinki, April/May 1992, Stockholm, December 1992 and Budapest, October 1994.
- Board member, the Swedish Peoples Parliament for Disarmament, 1986-91.
- Member of the study group within the Swedish Ecumenical Council that made an alternative study on security policy for Sweden; “Peace Policy for the 90’s”, 1988-89. Chairperson of the Planning Committee for the Ecumenical Peace Conference for Swedish NGO’s which followed up the study in 1990.
- President of the Swedish Peace Council, umbrella for the Swedish peace organizations, 1987-88.
- Advisor to the Swedish Delegation to the UN General Assembly 1987 (First Committee) Nominated by the Swedish peace organizations and appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- Member of the NGO Group of Reference to the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the UN Special Session on Disarmament III in 1988.
- Member of the Working Committee of the Development Forum of the Swedish Churches, 1984-89.
- Member of the Working Committee for Peace, Church of Sweden, 1987-90.
- Member of the Peace Committee of the Swedish Ecumenical Council 1985-93.
- Chairperson of the Planning Committee for the Uppsala Ecumenical Gathering for Peace in 1986.
- Member of the International Committee of the Church of Sweden Youth, 1981-88.
- Member of the Diocesan Board of the Church of Sweden Youth, Diocese of Västerås, 1977-83.
- Parish Synod member, Parish of Arboga 1979-83.
- Chair of the local group of Church of Sweden Youth, Parish of Arboga, 1973-76.

Publications and Public Speeches

- Extensive publications of articles and essays as well as public speeches to stimulate the Swedish and international public debate on topics related to the following: peace, security and disarmament, justice, trade and development, international law, human rights and global governance, dialogue between cultures and civilizations, and the role of religion and culture in politics in a changing society.
- Since 1999, invited speaker at the Swedish National Radio, offering periods of weekly morning reflections on international current affairs.

Higher Education

- Certificate in Management and Leadership, a joint programme between the IPF Management Training Institute at the University of Uppsala and the School of Management of Cranfield University, UK, 2000-2001.
- Intensive training in English writing, The London School of English, 1993.

- Certificate in Peace and Conflict Studies, Department for Peace and Conflict-Research at the University of Uppsala, 1987.
- First Certificate in English, University of Cambridge, 1985.
- B.A. in Journalism, University of Stockholm, 1982.

Personal

- Born: October 16, 1957 in Karlstad, Sweden.
- Married to Salpy Eskidjian Weiderud. Four children
- Languages: Swedish mother tongue; fluent in English; working knowledge of German; basic knowledge in French
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