



Umeå - Sweden, 26.- 27. september 2025

F
R
I
D
A
Y

09:00–09:15 | Opening Session

Welcome to Generation Barents — a gathering of young voices, visionaries, and leaders from across the Barents region. This opening session sets the stage for a day of collaboration, ideas, and inspiration, highlighting the importance of youth engagement in shaping a sustainable and united future for our region. Join us as we launch a program filled with dialogue, innovation, and cross-border cooperation.

Speakers:

- BRYC Chair, Mr. Klajdi Dedej
- Skogsungdomarna, Ms. Emma Munters
- Norwegian Barents Secretariat, Ms. Elizaveta Vassilieva

09:15–09:55 | Speaker Session: “Empowering Youth Engagement in the Barents Region”

The youth voice has never been more crucial in addressing the challenges and opportunities facing the Barents region. In this session, young leaders from Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Indigenous communities share their perspectives on how to strengthen youth participation in policy, culture, and cross-border cooperation. Their stories and ideas will demonstrate the power of youth to drive change and build resilient communities.

Lead speaker: Swedish Minister for Social Services (TBC)

Youth speakers:

- Youth representative from Norway
- Youth representative from Sweden
- Youth representative from Finland
- Indigenous youth representative

10:00–10:10 | Coffee Break

10:20–11:00 | Panel Discussion: “Civil Security and Preparedness in the Euro-Arctic Region”

In an ever-changing world, civil security and preparedness are key to ensuring the safety and resilience of communities in the north. This session brings together experts and community leaders to explore how youth can play an active role in preparedness efforts, especially in light of new geopolitical realities. We will discuss the role of NATO’s newest members, Sweden and Finland, and the importance of fostering resilience in both urban and rural areas.

Speakers:

- Emergency Response Coordinator, Finland (TBA)
- Arctic Security Expert, Norway (TBA)
- Indigenous Community Resilience Leader (TBA)



**SKOGSPROGRAM
VÄSTERBOTTEN**



Länstyrelsen
Västerbotten

**UMEÅ
KOMMUN**





Umeå - Sweden 26.- 27. september 2025

F
R
I
D
A
Y

11:00–11:15 | Nordjobb

Nordjobb deler erfaringer om hvordan de skaper arbeid, bolig og kulturaktiviteter for unge i Norden – og bidrar til mobilitet, fellesskap og nye opplevelser.

11:15–12:00 | Interactive Activity: "Barents Jeopardy"

It's time for learning, laughter, and a little friendly competition! Barents Jeopardy invites participants to test their knowledge of the region's culture, history, and current issues in a high-energy quiz format. This interactive activity will not only entertain, but also strengthen connections and spark curiosity about our shared region.

12:00–13:00 | Lunch

13:00–13:45 | Thematic Briefing: "Future Skills: Housing, Business, and Education"

What skills, resources, and opportunities will young people in the Barents region need to thrive in the future? This thematic briefing gathers voices from business, housing policy, and education to explore how we can ensure sustainable living conditions, foster entrepreneurship, and improve cross-border learning opportunities. Together, we will look at innovative solutions that can help young people build fulfilling lives in our northern communities.

Presenters:

- Entrepreneur from Northern Finland (TBA)
- Housing Policy Expert from Sweden (TBA)
- Educational Innovator from Norway (TBA)

13:45–15:00 | Workshop: "We're All in the Same Boat"

This is your chance to shape the future agenda of the Barents Regional Youth Council (BRYC). Through open discussion and collaborative group work, participants will share their priorities, ideas, and visions for the future. Topics include dialogue platforms, Indigenous youth participation, and partnerships with the EU and Arctic stakeholders. Your input will directly influence BRYC's path ahead.

Topics:

- Platform for dialogue and collaboration
- Indigenous youth participation
- Partnership with the EU and Arctic actors

15:00–15:15 | Coffee Break

15:15–16:00 | Plenum: "The Road Ahead for the Euro-Arctic Youth Council"

The day concludes with a look towards the future of youth cooperation in the Euro-Arctic region. We will hear reflections on the day's discussions, present workshop results, and gather input from official representatives. The session will culminate in the signing of the Umeå Declaration — a symbolic and practical step towards strengthening youth collaboration across borders.

Apply to attend today

Application deadline 12th September 2025

Link: tja.cool/generation-barents-2025



SKOGSPROGRAM
VÄSTERBOTTEN





Umeå - Sweden

26.- 27. september 2025

S
A
T
U
R
D
A
Y

Purpose of the day:

The purpose of Skogsungdomarna's Day is to provide young people with the opportunity to learn about and reflect on how the boreal forest is utilized and managed.

Equipped with this knowledge, they are encouraged to consider how the forest could be managed to balance the various values and

needs of future generations. This is achieved through a workshop where participants are invited to discuss and record their thoughts and suggestions on forest management.

The results are then presented to Staffan Norin, Head of the Forestry Department at the Swedish Forest Agency.

09-09.15 | Gathering on the parking lot outside Hamnmagasinet, Umeå

Short information about the excursion presented by the leader of Skogsungdomarna, Emma Munters

09.15 - 09.45 | Bus to respective place

09.45- 11.15 | Coffee and introduction to the subject, followed by a walk in the forest

SITE A:

Speakers: Svarte Swartling (private forest owner), Mikael Markström (representative Norra Skog), Majdi Eira Andersson (reindeer herder). **Theme:** Production and reindeer husbandry

Focal points:

- Basic concepts of the Swedish forestry model
- Challenges and opportunities of the Swedish forestry in the context of climate change, production needs and ecosystem services
- Basic concepts of reindeer herding
- Challenges and opportunities for the reindeer herding in the light of climate change, lichen availability and other ecosystem services

SITE B:

Speaker: Doris Grellman (Ecologist and Planning coordinator, Umeå municipality)

Theme: A conservational and recreational perspective of the forest

Focal points:

- Basic concept of nature preservation
- The challenges and opportunities of preserving biodiversity in the boreal forest - what could be done, and what is done?
- Some introduction of conservation species
- Basic concepts of recreational values in the forest
- Which forests do people enjoy? How can we create them?

11.15- 12.00 | Boarding of bus and travel to site A or B (switch)

12.00- 12.15 | Lunch hand out: sandwiches

12.15- 14.00 | Lunch and introduction to the site, followed by a walk in the forest

Stations A and B, see program above



Umeå - Sweden
26.- 27. september 2025

S
A
T
U
R
D
A
Y

14.00 - 14.15 | Short summary of the field trip

Sum up by the leader of Skogsundomarna and information about the rest of the day.

14.00 - 15.00 | Transport back to Hamnmagasinet by bus

15.00 - 15.15 | Return to Hamnmagasinet

15.15 - 15.30 | Coffee break at Hamnmagasinet

15.30-15.45 | Speech by the Head of the Forestry Department at the Swedish Forest Agency

Speaker: Staffan Norin

Topic and focal points: The purpose and work of the Swedish Forest Agency

What is done to achieve sustainable forests for future generations in Västerbotten?

15.45- 16.30 | Panel discussion "Forests for the future"

Speakers: Eira Maidi Andersson (reindeer herding perspective, youth), Svarte Swartling (private forest owner), Mikael Markström (representative Norra Skog), Doris Grellman (Ecologist and Planning coordinator, Umeå municipality), Student/youth perspective (Name TBA).

Theme: Youth and specialist perspective on forest usage

16.30- 17.15 | Workshop "Youth Voices for Tomorrow's Forest: Finding Balance in a Changing World"

Theme: Youth perspective on future forest usage

17.15 - 17.30 | Presentation of some suggestions from the workshop and summary of the day

Speakers: Leader of Skogsundomarna Emma Munters, Staffan Norin (Swedish Forest Agency)

Aim:

- Presentation of some youth perspectives and suggestions of the forest from the workshop
- Handing it over to Swedish Forest Agency in Västerbotten by Staffan Norin
- Wrap up of the day

17.30 - 19.00 | Break

19.00 | Dinner hosted by Länsstyrelsen Västerbotten

Apply to attend today

Application deadline 12th September 2025

Link: tja.cool/generation-barents-2025



SKOGSPROGRAM
VÄSTERBOTTEN



The Norwegian
Barents Secretariat



Länsstyrelsen
Västerbotten

UMEÅ
KOMMUN

