

TOGETHER WE DEVELOP

# Europe's most sustainable and efficient logistics hub

## THE HELSINGBORG DECLARATION



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Climate change is one of the greatest challenge facing humanity today. Our future well-being depends on protecting our environment, and policy makers worldwide are seeking a sustainable approach to economic growth. To avoid the catastrophic effects of climate change, we must rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

The City of Helsingborg is one of the EU's 100 climate-smart cities and has been named Sweden's most environmentally-friendly municipality five times. Due to its ideal location, the Helsingborg region is home to many logistical business providing services across Sweden.

We have adopted the ambitious goal of achieving complete climate neutrality by 2030, to mitigate our impact on the environment. But we need your help.

Together, we can lead this green transition. Our goal is to become Europe's most sustainable and efficient logistics hub, with academia, political organisations, the private sector and civil society all playing a key role in delivering this ambition.

That's why we're launching the Helsingborg Declaration. Together, we're creating a network and a platform with stakeholders from every part of the logistics chain. Everyone who joins the movement has the ambition to accelerate their transition to climate neutrality by 2030. What makes us effective is that we're all acting together - organisations both large and small at all levels and all stages of the supply chain.

Together, we're changing words into deeds, and working together towards a climate-neutral and sustainable logistics chain.

And by 2030, we'll get there.

## OUR COMMON GOAL

Our ambition is to reach net zero emissions by 2030. Restructuring the logistics chain requires a level of cooperation within industries and between companies, politicians and civil servants that's never been seen before. We must find new ways of working, and we must do it together, quickly.

## AREAS OF CHANGE

In the Helsingborg Declaration, we've highlighted five parts at different points of the logistics chain with a strong potential for green transition:

- Fossil-free energy
- Smart, seamless and efficient logistics
- Technology and infrastructure
- Packaging logistics
- Circularity, reuse and recycling

The five transitional areas in the Helsingborg Declaration have been selected as they focus on climate change impacts that are close to the business operations and can, therefore, be influenced. Although this is a targeted approach, it does not lessen the importance of wider aspects of sustainability which can permeate the whole business process.

Examples of wider aspects of sustainability are:

- Financial sustainability - business acumen
- Social sustainability
- Purchasing/customer behaviour

You can read more about each aspect of sustainability, as well as the five change areas, in Appendix 1.

# WE JOIN THE HELSINGBORG DECLARATION

We wholeheartedly support this joint effort to accelerate the logistics industry's green transition. We are, ourselves, part of the effort to deliver this transition through incremental improvements in one or more of the five strategic change areas in our own operations. As an affiliate, we report on the progress of this transition every year. The Helsingborg Declaration helps to support this process, and we recognise that we are also responsible for implementing these changes. We are committed to being open, measuring our progress, delivering change and communicating our compliance with the Declaration. The purpose of the Helsingborg Declaration is to be a platform for collaboration that leads to accelerated climate change action and provides added value to affiliated businesses, in the following forms:

- A network for accelerated climate-related change in business
- Visibility, marketing and branding opportunities
- Opportunities for cross-border collaboration
- Knowledge sharing and experience exchange
- The opportunity to inspire and be inspired
- Accessible pathways to municipal government, business, academia, research and development
- The opportunity to act together with advocacy from industry organisations and the authorities
- Positioning in Europe's fastest-moving and most sustainable logistics hub
- External monitoring and coordination

As a member of the Helsingborg Declaration, we're committed to:

- Assuming a position of climate leadership through an active and open approach to new cross-border collaborations that support work towards climate goals
- Having the presence of the CEO/strategic management team at least twice a year
- Expressing our change commitments within one or more of the Declaration's change areas - see Appendix 2
- Monitoring our progress annually, see Appendix 3

## OBJECTIVES AND PROCESS

The Helsingborg Declaration is an initiative that is facilitated and coordinated by the City of Helsingborg for a period of not less than two years. The purpose is to enable accelerated climate change work through effective collaborative projects. We all benefit through climate-sustainability and working collaboratively will create at least as much value as learning and developing one's own business.

Phase 1 Identify potential areas for collaboration. Search for project funding opportunities.

Phase 2 Bring together participating organisations and establish cooperative models.

Phase 3 Launch projects

The phases will take all take place continuously and therefore overlap over time.

### Goals for year 1

- To have launched at least one collaborative project/initiative within each change area.
- 40 participants

### Goals for year 2

- 70 participants
- At least two active projects within each change area.
- To have established processes for new projects and advocacy work.

## CONNECTING TOGETHER

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Company/Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Place and date \_\_\_\_\_

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HELSINGBORG

## OUR CHANGE AREAS

The content of the Helsingborg Declaration's five areas for change describes our desired approach for each area and provides a number of concrete examples of how we can make sustainable choices. The examples are intended to help illustrate the change areas and are not meant to be comprehensive. Naturally, there will be plenty of other specific climate-smart choices we can make.

### 1. Fossil-free energy

We actively and passionately develop and invest in our ability to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy sources. The use of fossil fuel energy for transport, cooling, heating and production accounts for the majority of Sweden's climate-impacting emissions.

Example areas:

- Transport of goods by road
- Construction transport
- Public choices around modes of transport
- Company car policies
- Heating and cooling
- Microproduction of solar power cells on roofs
- Investment in fossil-free transport
- Optimisation of energy use.

### 2. Smart, seamless and efficient logistics

We're open to new solutions and collaborative approaches with the aim of increasing transport efficiency. Future means of transport need to be designed with a climate change perspective in mind.

In many cases, this will require, openness to new ideas and ambition, as well as innovative new business models and a broader understanding of what optimised transport means at each stage of the logistics chain. New collaborative approaches and joint ventures are needed to solve the challenges, and these are likely to take place between stakeholders who are alert to and ready for the future.

Example areas:

- Transparent flows
- Climate-neutral modes of transport
- Package delivery/collection
- Smart returns management
- Urban logistics
- Smart reloading and intermodality solutions

### 3. Circularity, reuse and recycling

We are open-minded about the opportunities for collaborative approaches on circular flows and return systems and constantly working to ensure that as much waste as possible is recycled or reused.

In a perfect world, all waste can serve a purpose. What can't be used again can be recycled. Having a plan for the product's complete lifespan is a way to make better use of the Earth's resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Example areas:

- Industrial symbiosis
- Business models and financing models (e.g. rights of use vs. rights of ownership)
- Recycling - material recycling and second hand
- Deposit and return systems
- Waste planning (What happens to the product/packaging when it's no longer used?)
- Landfill use

## OUR CHANGE AREAS

### 4. Packaging logistics

We strive continuously to make packaging more climate- and environmentally-friendly during purchase, production and transport.

Packaging serves a variety of key roles for the product, user, transport and business efficiency through reuse. A product that is damaged and discarded has a much greater climate impact than the packaging itself. Improper packaging can also mean low transport efficiency, and there are types of materials that have a greater impact on the environment.

Example areas:

- Material selection
- Filling
- Volume/ quantity optimisation
- Ease of use/function (e.g. returns)
- Protective capacity
- Incoming and outgoing optimisation
- Origin and tracking
- Load bearing
- Recyclability

### 5. Technology and infrastructure

We are open to new collaborative approaches through effective investments and joint ventures between different stakeholders in business, academia and the public sector.

An important component for enabling rapid climate change work is technology, infrastructure and innovative ways of working that can be scaled up. For some industries, digitalisation has the potential to help them take quantum leaps on the road to climate neutrality in a short time.

Example areas:

- Freight and road infrastructure
- Energy storage
- Power sharing/optimisation
- Data-driven innovation.
- Standardised interfaces and ways of working
- Digitisation, software development
- Vehicle design
- Delivery infrastructure
- Transparent, integrated logistics chains
- Tracking
- Load bearing
- Recyclability

## OUR CHANGE AREAS

### **Sustainability is so much more than that..**

The 17 global sustainability goals take a broader approach to sustainability than we do in the Helsingborg Declaration. We focus on climate change in our five change areas, and especially in industries and businesses that are part of and support the logistics sector. But there are other aspects of sustainability that, on a wider level, have a direct or indirect impact on all areas of change and various stakeholder's adaptability.

Examples of such overarching areas are:

#### **Financial sustainability - business acumen**

A company must make a profit over time or it will eventually fail.

Financial sustainability is a basic principle in all climate change work. However, large investments and significant efforts will have to be made. To protect our future, we need to question our way of thinking and our way of doing things in every aspect of our work.

We have to take a longer-term perspective and embrace shared priorities and collaborative working across business, financing and other areas, in order to deliver the effective steps needed to protect our world, and these are all essential elements of the Helsingborg Declaration.

#### **Social sustainability**

Offering decent working conditions or socially accountable behaviour is not just about creating a level playing field in an industry, or being responsible. It's also about being an attractive employer operating in an increasingly competitive and informed labour market. Talented and skilled employees are increasingly prioritising socially responsible employers.

#### **Purchasing/customer behaviour**

Whether the customer is a company or individual it is possible to encourage sustainable business decisions, which will often create a positive impression and help develop goodwill.

By increasing customer awareness of which choices are better from a climate perspective, a business can initiate more climate-smart decisions from a customer, as they perceive this as added value rather than a sacrifice they are expected to make.

## OUR CHANGE COMMITMENTS

*Inlämnas senast 1/9 2022*

**Name of company/ organisation:**

**Contact person:**

**Your change commitments.**

Based on your organisation's ways of working, please describe the initiatives/measures that you consider best represent your efforts towards making a green transition. Link them to one or more of the Helsingborg Declaration's areas for change.

- Fossil-free energy
- Smart, seamless and efficient logistics
- Technology and infrastructure
- Packaging logistics
- Circularity, reuse and recycling

Change area	Partner commitment	Expected effect

**Do you include in your sustainability reports key figures related to emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>/ CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents that can easily be compared year to year?**

YES  NO

**Are those figures explained in an easy, concise way?**

YES  NO

If the answer to these questions is YES - please explain how you measure them and what figure you included in your last report.

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Figure \_\_\_\_\_ CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Scope 1 2 3 unknown

*The information in this form may be used for communication purposes within the scope of the Helsingborg Declaration.*

## CHANGE COMMITMENTS FOLLOW-UP

**Annual status report, Helsingborg Declaration. To be delivered together with an updated Appendix 2.**

**During the corresponding period of time, has your organisation fulfilled its commitments according to the signed Helsingborg Declaration?**

YES  NO

**Comment on work done during the period:**

Results during the period	A short description in your own words
What results/effects has your organisation seen from cooperation related to the Helsingborg Declaration during the period?	
Is there any particular activity you have participated in that went particularly well and you would like to highlight?	
Is there anything that did not deliver as expected and offers potential lessons for others?	
What measures has your organisation implemented or started during the period?	
Describe the effects of the actions taken. Can these effects be quantified? For example, via a reduction in the calculated amount of CO <sub>2</sub> emissions or other metrics. Also, describe how the calculation or estimate was made.	