COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

LANZAROTE COMMITTEE

Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse

Replies to the thematic questionnaire

"Screening of professionals, volunteers and other persons in contact with children"

SWEDEN

Replies received by the Secretariat on 26 June 2026

Main relevant provisions of the Lanzarote Convention and previous recommendations

Article 5 paragraph 3 of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures, in conformity with their internal law, to ensure that the conditions to accede to those professions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children ensure that the candidates to these professions have not been convicted of acts of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children. The Explanatory Report to the Lanzarote Convention indicates that this obligation can be also applied to voluntary activities (see paragraph 57).

In the 2nd implementation report of the 1st monitoring round (2018), the Lanzarote Committee urged those Parties that limited mandatory screening to certain professionals to extend it to the recruitment of all professionals (public or private) in regular contact with children (R19) and invited Parties to encourage continuous screening of all professionals (R20) and volunteers (R21) in regular contact with children.

Article 27 paragraph 3.b of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to deny the perpetrator, temporarily or permanently, the exercise of professional or voluntary activity involving contact with children in the course of which the offence was committed.

Article 37 paragraph 3 of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the information referred to in paragraph 1 (i.e. data related to the identity and to the genetic profile (DNA) of persons convicted of the offences established in accordance with the Convention) can be transmitted to the competent authority of another Party, in conformity with the conditions established in its internal law and the relevant international instruments.

Whenever the term "screening" is used in this questionnaire, this should be understood as "verification of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children".
In all your answers, please provide details to the extent possible and refer to specific laws, policies, programmes, measures, etc.
Please describe the legislation, policy and practice which are in force on 27 March 2026 or are in the process of adoption (in this case, please specify the planned date of entry into force).

Please indicate:

a. State Party in respect of which the questionnaire is submitted:
Sweden

b. Entities and bodies which have been involved in responding to this questionnaire:
The Office of the Ombudsman for Children in Sweden, The Ministry of Social affairs, the Ministry of Justice, The Sweden Gender Equality Agency, The Swedish Police Authority, The Swedish Schools Inspectorate, The Swedish Prison and Probation Service, The Swedish Migration Agency, The Swedish Sports Federation (RF), The Royal Opera, Royal Dramatic Theatre (Dramaten).

Persons concerned by screening requirements

1. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required as a pre-condition in order to accede to professions, employment or volunteer positions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children? Please specify whether such restrictions apply to professions, employment or volunteer positions in the following sectors or areas of activities (additional details to be inserted below the table):

Additional information, clarification: According to the law, it is not in itself an obstacle to employ someone who presents a record extract containing criminal offences. However, in the cases outlined below, one may not employ someone who has not provided a record extract.

	Criminal conviction check for employment in public sector?	Criminal conviction check for voluntary activity?	Criminal conviction check for employment in private sector?	Criminal conviction check for self-employed professionals?	Please specify the professionals to whom this requirement applies
Education – Pre-school	X	X	X	X	Required: Any person offered employment*
Education – Primary	X	X	X	X	Required: Any person offered employment*
Education – Secondary	X	X	X	X	Required: Any person offered employment*
Education – Tertiary	X	X	X	X	Required: Any person offered employment*
Education – Extracurricular (e.g. language schools)	x	x	x	x	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has

					entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship. ******
Childcare (e.g. kindergartens, crèches, childminders	X	x	X	X	Required: Any person offered employment/assignment*
Institutional or residential care (e.g. foster homes, orphanages, closed residential facilities)	X	X	X	X	Institutional care: Required: Any person offered employment. The same shall apply to anyone who is offered an assignment, internship, volunteer work** Foster homes: Required before placing a child in a foster home.
Detention	X	X	N/A	N/A	Required: Any person, through employment or in any other manner.***
Migration facilities (e.g. reception centres)	X	-	N/A	N/A	Any person offered employment in the Swedish Migration Agency's detention centres.**** For others optional: Any one offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******

Sport	X	X	X	X	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******
Culture and leisure activities	X	X	X	X	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******
Entertainment sector	X	X	X	X	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******
Faith and religion	X	X	X	X	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an

					internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******
Healthcare (including psychological and psychiatric services)	x	x	x	x	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******
Social protection services	x	x	x	x	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******
Law enforcement	X	-	(N/A)	(N/A)	Required: Any person, through employment or in any other manner. *** For The Swedish Prosecution Authority: Optional******
Judicial	X (Courts) and x (Others)	x	x	x	For The Courts (The Judiciary): Required***** For others working in the judicial sector: Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment,

					employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******
Civil society organisations	x	x	x	x	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******
Victim services (including Barnahus, domestic violence services)	x	x	x	x	In Barnahus, the sector specific rules applies, for example the ones for law enforcement. For others in Barnahus or other victim services: Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children. ******
Any other sectors	x	x	x	x	Optional: Anyone offered employment, an assignment,

(please specify)					employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or an internship - if the work involves direct and regular contact with children ******

Here you can insert additional details or specify any exceptions.

Required
It is mandatory for the employer to ask for an extract from the criminal when offering employment (or other).

* Education Act (2010:800)
New section that enters into force July 15 2026.

Chapter 2 section 31
Any person offered employment in pre-school, after-school care, elementary school, adapted elementary school, special education school, Sami school, high school, adapted high school, or educational activities referred to in Chapter 25 must present an extract from the criminal records register and the criminal suspects register maintained under the Criminal Records Act (1998:620) and the Suspect Register Act (1998:621) to the employer. The extract must be no more than six months old. A person who has not presented such a register extract may not be employed.

The criminal record extract referred to in the first paragraph must also be presented by a person who

1. is offered or assigned work within the activities referred to in the first paragraph under circumstances similar to those that occur in an employment relationship within the activity, whether through a contract, employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or employment within another municipal activity,
2. while undergoing training for a teaching or preschool teaching degree under the Higher Education Act (1992:1434) or vocational training within municipal adult education, is assigned a placement for the practical component of the training within the activities referred to in the first paragraph, or
3. through participation in a labour market policy program, is assigned a placement for work experience or another program activity within the operations referred to in the first paragraph.

In the cases referred to in the second paragraph, the registry extract must be presented to the person within the operations who decides to hire or accept someone in the manner referred to therein. Any person who has not presented such a criminal record check may not be hired or admitted to the business.

(Current Chapter 2 section 31 §
Any person offered employment in preschool, after-school care, elementary school, adapted elementary school, special education school, Sami school, high school, adapted high school, or educational activities referred to in Chapter 25 must present an extract from the criminal records register maintained under the Criminal Records Act (1998:620) to the employer. The extract must be

no more than one year old. A person who has not presented such a criminal record extract may not be hired.)

In addition, there is a provision regarding criminal record extracts in Chapter 25, Section 2 a of the Education Act, concerning pedagogical care. This provision has also been amended, and the changes will enter into force on 15 July 2026.

While there are obstacles to hiring a person who has not provided a criminal record check, the law does not prohibit the hiring of employees who appear in the criminal record database.

** Act (2007:171) on Background Checks for Staff at Certain Facilities That Care for Children
Section 1 Care or residential facilities, supported housing, or sheltered housing under Chapter 9 of the Social Services Act (2025:400) that admit children may not employ anyone unless a check has been conducted of the criminal records maintained under the Criminal Records Act (1998:620) and the Suspicion Records Act (1998:621) regarding that person. The same shall apply to anyone who, without it constituting employment, is offered an assignment, internship, volunteer work, or similar at such a home under circumstances similar to those that occur in the context of employment within the operation. A person who is offered employment, an assignment, an internship, volunteer work, or similar at a care or residential facility, a supported living facility, or a shelter as referred to in the first paragraph shall provide the person offering the employment with an extract from the criminal record and the suspicion register. However, the obligation to provide extracts from the registers does not apply if the person offering the employment, assignment, internship, volunteer work, or similar obtains the extract themselves. The extract must be no more than six months old. The Criminal Records Act and the Suspicion Records Act contain provisions allowing the government to issue regulations regarding the content of such extracts. Last change through Act (2025:433)

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Employees within law enforcement and the judicial who participate in security-sensitive activities will undergo security vetting according to the Protective Security Act (2018:585). A record check is undertaken for some of these employees and any information that emerges in the record check may be disclosed if the information can be assumed to be of significance to establish whether a person can be assumed to be loyal to the interests protected in the Protective Security Act (that is, Sweden's security) and to be otherwise reliable from a security standpoint (Chapter 3 Section 2 and 19 of the Protective Security Act).

Employees and others working in detention facilities who participate in security-sensitive activities will undergo security vetting according to the Protective Security Act (2018:585).

**** Migration facilities
When recruiting for the Swedish Migration Agency's detention operations, the agency's security department conducts its own checks of the criminal records and the register of suspected offences. The legal basis for this is Regulation (1999:1135) on the Register of Suspected Offences and Regulation (1999:1134) on Criminal Records. Information from the criminal record must be disclosed if requested by the Swedish Migration Agency with respect to persons the agency intends to hire or engage in detention operations.

For others within the Migration Agency, see ******

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For Courts

Various regulations stipulate that extracts from the criminal records register are required for various employments within the judiciary, e.g.:

Section 4 of the Regulation (2010:1793) containing instructions for the Judges Proposals Board
Section 44 a of the Regulation (1996:379) containing instructions for the Courts of Appeal
Section 44 a of the Regulation (1996:380) containing instructions for the Administrative Courts of Appeal
Section 7 a of the Notaries Regulation (1990:469)

Optional The employer may ask for an extract from the criminal register and the suspicion register.

****** Act (2013:852) on Background Checks for Persons Who Will Work with Children

Section 1 Any person offered employment by the state, a municipality, a region, a company, or an organization shall, if the work involves direct and regular contact with children, upon request by the employer, present an extract from the registers maintained under the Criminal Records Act (1998:620) and the Suspicion Register Act (1998:621). Last change through Act (2026:49).

Section 2 In this Act, the following terms have the following meanings:

- "business": a natural or legal person engaged in commercial activities, and
- "organization": a legal person that is not a business.

Section 3 An extract from the criminal record and the register of suspected offences shall, upon request, also be presented by any person who is offered or assigned duties involving direct and regular contact with children in the activities referred to in Section 1, if such contact occurs through

1. an assignment,
2. employment with a party that has entered into an agreement with the entity conducting the activity, or
3. an internship.

The Regulation (1999:1134) on Criminal Records

Section 10 Information from the criminal records register shall be disclosed upon request by

[...]

28. a prosecuting authority, in respect of a person whom that authority intends to employ,

[...]

2. In requiring the verification of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children in order to accede to the positions listed in question 1, does your State:

   a. define the level or threshold of contact with children (one-off, regular, etc.) which necessitates such a verification

In the special legislations (described in question 1) there is no defined level or threshold, it applies to any person seeking employment or other position within that sector (for example schools).

In the Act (2013:852) on Background Checks for Persons Who Will Work with Children, which allows employers in any sector to ask for an extract from the criminal register and the suspicion register, the definition of the level of contact with children is "regular and direct". In the preparatory work for the new legislation (Act (2013:852) on Background Checks for

Persons Who Will Work with Children), last change 2026) it is stated that "The ability to access registry data should apply when hiring for jobs that involve regular and close contact with children. This should refer to jobs where the duties consist primarily of, mainly without the presence of a guardian or another adult, educating, teaching, caring for, or otherwise looking after children, or otherwise working in direct contact with them. The requirement for regularity should entail some recurring direct contact with children. In the statutory text, this should be expressed in such a way that the work must involve direct and regular contact with children."[1] It is up to each individual employer to determine whether a person's job duties can be considered to involve direct and regular contact with children."[2]

b. distinguish between direct, indirect or online contact with children?

There is no distinction between physical or online/digital contact with children in the legislations.

If yes, please provide details.

3. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required to become:

a. an adoptive parent

The court may grant an adoption order only if, having regard to all the circumstances, it is appropriate to do so. Particular consideration must be given to the child's need for adoption and the applicant's suitability to adopt. Neither Chapter 4 of the Family Code (1949:381) nor Chapter 24 of the Social Services Act (2025:400) contains any explicit provision regarding mandatory checks against the register. However, pursuant to Section 11 of the Regulation (1999:1134) on Criminal Records, the social welfare board has an explicit right to obtain information from the criminal records in adoption cases under Chapter 24 of the Social Services Act. The consent review and the adoption investigation are designed as very comprehensive suitability assessments, in which the applicant's personal characteristics, social network, age, health, and stability are evaluated, and in which the best interests of the child are paramount. This means that checking for any criminal history via the criminal records registry is a natural and strongly justified component of consent and adoption investigations, but it is not regulated as a formal, mandatory registry check with specific procedural rules.

b. a foster parent

Before the Social Services Committee decides to place a child in a foster home or emergency foster home, information must be obtained from the criminal records register maintained pursuant to Regulation (1999:1134) on Criminal Records and from the register of suspected offenders maintained pursuant to Regulation (1999:1135) on the Register of Suspected Offenders. The information shall pertain to the person or persons whom the Board intends to engage for such care. (Chapter 3, Section 3 of the Social Services Ordinance (2025:468))

This is a mandatory background check:

- it must be conducted before a decision on placement is made,
- it must pertain to the person or persons who are to serve as foster parents ("the person or persons the board intends to engage").

The provision is not formulated as a "may" rule but as a "shall" rule—the social services board is therefore obligated to obtain the information.

[1] Prop. 2025/26:61 and Prop 2012/13 :194 page. 27

[2] Ibid. Page 45

c. a child’s legal guardian (including for unaccompanied children)?

Chapter 11, Section 12 of the Children and Parents Code (1949:381) applies to guardians and trustees (God man och förvaltare):

- A guardian or trustee must be a person of good character, experienced, and otherwise suitable.
- Before anyone is appointed, his or her suitability must be verified to the extent necessary.
- The provision thus contains no explicit reference to “criminal record checks,” but imposes a qualified suitability requirement and an obligation to actually verify suitability.
- Legal doctrine and commentaries on Chapter 11, Section 12 state that:
- The check must be adapted to the nature of the assignment, but normally a check must be made against both the criminal record and the Enforcement Authority’s register, even when the intended representative is a relative. There is how ever no explicit legal provision stating that a person must present a criminal record check.

Chapter 6 of the Children and Parents Code (1949:381) applies to specially appointed guardian and temporary guardian. (Särskilt förordnad vårdnadshavare och tillfälligt förordnad vårdnadshavare)
Temporary guardianship is governed by Chapter 6, Sections 10d–10g of the Family Code; the commentary emphasizes that a temporary guardian is appointed when there is no suitable person to appoint as a specially appointed guardian, and that the social welfare board must work toward a permanent solution and a subsequent transfer to a specially appointed guardian.

There is no explicit legal requirement that a person to be appointed as a specially appointed guardian must provide an extract from the criminal record or the register of suspected offences. The suitability assessment is conducted within the framework of the court’s and the social welfare board’s duty to investigate, whereby the social welfare board may—and in practice often should—obtain relevant registry information; however, this is not formulated as an obligation for the prospective guardian to personally present an extract. Nor is there any legal requirement for prospective temporary guardians to provide an extract from the criminal record or the register of suspected offences. Here, too, the process involves a suitability assessment in which the social services committee and the court may use information from these registers as one of several factors, but without a formal legal requirement to provide an extract.

Chapter 10 of the Children and Parents Code (1949:381) applies to guardians/custodians (förmyndare)
The person or persons appointed as specially appointed guardian is also the minor’s legal guardians. The same applies to a person appointed as a temporary guardian. For guardians—including those who become guardians by virtue of being specially appointed or temporary custodians—there is also no explicit legal requirement to present an extract from the criminal record or the register of suspected offences at the time of appointment. The suitability assessment is conducted in accordance with Chapter 10 of the Children and Parents Code, and the Chief Guardian exercises oversight, with the ability to obtain information from other authorities, but without a statutory requirement for the prospective guardian to provide a criminal record or suspicion register extract.

4. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required for the household members of:

   a. persons carrying out professional activity in their home who are in contact with children

      There is sector-specific legislation regarding educational care under Chapter 25 of the Education Act (e.g., family daycare), a special provision in Chapter 25, Section 2a applies: Persons who are 15 years of age or older and registered in the population register where the activity is conducted must, upon request, present an extract from the criminal record (and—according to an upcoming amendment—also from the register of suspected offences).

      For other sectors, no information regarding this question.

   b. persons carrying out volunteering activity in their home who are in contact with children
      No information regarding this question.

   c. persons wishing to become an adoptive parent, a foster parent, or a child's legal guardian?

      If a person applies to be foster home, and two people are living together, both of them will be included in the foster care assessment in accordance with Chapter 4, Section 4, second paragraph, of the National Board of Health and Welfare's regulations (SOSFS 2012:11). See information under question 3 b.

   Please provide details.

5. Does the requirement to verify the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children also apply to:

   a. children applying for professional or volunteer positions

   b. adults in respect of criminal convictions received before the age of 18?

   Please provide details.
   a+b. Yes.

6. If a person legally changes their name, how does your State ensure that their criminal record remains linked to their new name?

   Please provide details.

The criminal record is tied to the Swedish personal number. If a citizen changes their name, the criminal record will still be there. Even if the person changes their legal sex, and thereby their personal number, the information in the Swedish criminal record does not disappear. The police in Sweden automatically makes updates including the criminal record.

7. Is access to public funds for projects implying contact with children conditional on the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children for persons employed in or volunteering for such projects?

   Please provide details.
   No

Information included in screening

8. Does the criminal record check include criminal convictions for:
   a. sexual abuse of a child (Article 18 of the Lanzarote Convention)
   b. sexual exploitation of a child ("child prostitution" Article 19 of the Lanzarote Convention)
   c. acts involving child sexual abuse material ("child pornography" Article 20 of the Lanzarote Convention)
   d. offences related to the participation of children in pornographic performances (Article 21 of the Lanzarote Convention)
   e. corruption of a child (causing a child to witness sexual activities) (Article 22 of the Lanzarote Convention)
   f. solicitation of a child for sexual purposes ("grooming"), including online (Article 23 of the Lanzarote Convention)
   g. aiding and abetting or attempting the above offences (Article 24 of the Lanzarote Convention)
   h. any other convictions (please specify)?

   Please provide details.

For work with children, there are four different types of criminal record extracts that an individual can apply for and present prior to employment or assignment. This is regulated by Section 9 of the Criminal Records Act (1998:620) and Section 8a of the Suspicion Register Act (1998:621). The information contained in the extracts is regulated by Section 22 of the Regulation (1999:1134) on Criminal Records and Sections 8a–c of the Regulation (1999:1135) on Suspicion Registers.
- Working with children in the school system
- Working with children with disabilities (LSS)
- Contact with children in other activities, such as sports clubs or civil society organisations
- Working at residential care homes

Aiding and abetting or attempting the above offences will be included in the criminal records if convicted. The extract from the register of suspected offences shows offences for which charges have been filed as listed above. The extract also indicates whether charges have been filed for complicity in or attempts to commit the aforementioned offences. Regarding sexual offences (Swedish Criminal Code Chapter 6) and certain other crimes, the extract must also include information on preparation, conspiracy, and failure to report a crime.

Working with children in the school system
- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Gross assault
- Kidnapping
- All sexual offences
- Child pornography offence
- Gross robbery
- Violations of the Terrorism Act or equivalent older legislation
- Involvement of a minor in criminal activity.

This legislation has recently been amended with the result that this extract is expanded to include additional crimes and to display information from the register of suspected offences for the same list of crimes where charges have been filed in the case. These changes will enter into force on July 15th, 2026.

The new list of crimes will be as above plus:

- Assault (not minor assault)
- Destruction causing public endangerment and gross destruction causing public endangerment
- Arson and gross arson
- Violation of a child's integrity, gross violation of a child's integrity, gross violation of integrity, gross violation of a woman's integrity
- Honour-based oppression
- Coercion to marry offence and child marriage offence
- Deception for the purpose of marriage abroad, child marriage abroad offence
- Virginity testing
- Virginity certification
- Female genital mutilation
- Photographic activity constituting invasion of privacy
- Incitement against an ethnic group and gross incitement against an ethnic group
- Human exploitation and gross human exploitation, human trafficking
- Unlawful discrimination
- Unlawful deprivation of liberty, unlawful persecution, unlawful threats and gross unlawful threats, unlawful invasion of privacy, unlawful coercion and gross unlawful coercion
- Robbery
- Sabotage of emergency service activities, gross sabotage of emergency service activities
- Extortion, gross extortion
- An offence according to the Act (2014:307) on Penalties for Money Laundering Offences
- Drug offences (including preparation, and conspiracy) according to Narcotic Drugs Penal Law (not minor offence)
- Doping offences (including preparation and conspiracy) according to Act (1991:1969) Prohibiting Certain Doping Substances (not minor offences)
- Violations of the Act (1999:42) on the Prohibition of Certain Goods Hazardous to Health (section 4)
- Smuggling of Narcotics, weapons and explosives according to Penalties for Smuggling Act (2000:1225) (not minor narcotic smuggling)
- Gross unlawful handling of alcohol, gross unlawful sale of alcohol according to Alcohol Act (2010:1622)
- Weapon offence and gross weapon offence according to Offensive Weapons Act
- Some gross violations of the Act (2010:1011) on Flammable and Explosive Goods
- Some gross violations of the Alcohol Act (2010:1622)
- Terrorist offences
- Offences according to Act (2014:406) on Penalties for Certain International Crimes

Work with children with disabilities (LSS) + Contact with children in, for example, organizations

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Assault, gross assault
- Kidnapping, trafficking in human beings, human exploitation, gross human exploitation, unlawful deprivation of liberty
- Unlawful coercion, gross unlawful coercion, unlawful harassment, making an unlawful threat, making a gross unlawful threat

- Violation of a child's integrity, gross violation of a child's integrity, gross violation of integrity, gross violation of a woman's integrity
- Coercion to marry offence, child marriage offence
- Deception for the purpose of marriage abroad offence and child marriage abroad offence
- Honour-based oppression offence
- Virginity testing
- Virginity certification
- Photographic activity constituting invasion of privacy
- All sexual offences
- Robbery, gross robbery
- Extortion, minor extortion, gross extortion
- Arson, gross arson
- Devastation causing public danger
- Sabotage of emergency service activities, gross sabotage of emergency service activities,
- Involving a minor in criminal activities
- Incitement against a population group, minor incitement against a population group, gross incitement against a population group
- Child pornography offence, gross child pornography offence
- Drug offences (including preparation, and conspiracy) according to Narcotic Drugs Penal Law
- Doping offences (including preparation and conspiracy) according to Act (1991:1969) Prohibiting Certain Doping Substances
- Violations of the Act (1999:42) on the Prohibition of Certain Goods Hazardous to Health
- Smuggling offences according to Penalties for Smuggling Act (2000:1225)
- Gross unlawful handling of alcohol, gross unlawful sale of alcohol according to Alcohol Act (2010:1622)
- Weapons offences according to Offensive Weapons Act
- Violations of the Act (2010:1011) on Flammable and Explosive Goods
- Terrorist offence

The extract from the register of suspected offences shows crimes for which charges have been filed as described above. The extract also indicates whether charges have been filed for complicity in or attempted commission of the aforementioned crimes.

Work at residential care homes

- Murder, manslaughter
- Assault, gross assault
- Kidnapping, unlawful deprivation of liberty, trafficking in human beings
- Unlawful coercion, gross unlawful coercion, making an unlawful threat, making a gross unlawful threat
- All sexual offences
- Child pornography offence, gross child pornography offence
- Robbery, gross robbery
- Incitement against a population group, minor incitement against a population group, gross incitement against a population group,
- Unlawful discrimination (after July 15 2026)
- Drug offences (including preparation, and conspiracy)
- Gross unlawful handling of alcohol, gross unlawful sale of alcohol according to The Alcohol Act (2010:1622)
- Doping offences (including preparation and conspiracy) according to Act (1991:1969) Prohibiting Certain Doping Substances

- Smuggling offences
- Gross violation of integrity, gross violation of a woman's integrity
- Unlawful persecution
- Coercion to marry offence and child marriage offence
- Deception for the purpose of marriage abroad, child marriage abroad offence
- Virginity testing
- Virginity certification
- Honour-based oppression offence

9. Does the screening of persons applying for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3 above extend beyond criminal convictions for sexual offences against children to:

   a. relevant administrative or disciplinary sanctions

   b. other information available to the authorities (e.g. judicial decisions in civil proceedings)?

   Please provide details.
   No

10. If restrictions on the exercise of the relevant activities apply as a result of a criminal conviction for sexual offences against children, in line with Article 27 paragraph 3.b:

    a. are they life-long?

    b. if they are not life-long, please specify the time-limits applicable

    c. are they applied only to activities in the public sector?

    Please provide details.
    a) They are not life-long

    b) For some professions the legitimation can be withdrawn due to a conviction, for example teachers or physicians.

    Teachers:
    The Teachers' Disciplinary Board (LAN) determines whether teachers or preschool teachers who have committed misconduct should receive a warning or have their teaching licenses revoked. This determination is made after the Swedish Schools Inspectorate has filed a report.

    A certified teacher or preschool teacher may have their certification revoked if they have shown gross negligence in the performance of their professional duties (Section 2:23, paragraph 2, subparagraph 1 of the Education Act) or, in the course of or outside the course of their professional duties has committed a serious crime that calls into question his or her suitability to work as a teacher or preschool teacher (2:23 2, subparagraph 2, of the Education Act).

    If a person wants a new licence they have to apply again. If the license was revoked due to a serious crime, a certain amount of time may need to have passed or your criminal record may need to have been updated before your eligibility can be reapproved.

    Physicians:
    A physician may be barred from practicing medicine following a court ruling if the Health and Medical Care Disciplinary Board (HSAN) or an administrative court decides to revoke or restrict

their medical license. This occurs primarily if the physician has been found guilty of a serious crime, gross professional negligence, or substance abuse.

If a person wants a new licence they have to apply again. If the revocation was due to criminal activity, you must have served your sentence and demonstrated good behaviour.

c) No, it is applied to all sectors

11. Does the criminal record check verify the existence of an expunged or spent criminal conviction for sexual offences against children for persons applying for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3?

    Please provide details.

    No, the extract shows only criminal records that have not been expunged from the criminal records database. The penalty determines how long a criminal record remains in the database before it is removed. If a criminal record has been expunged, it will not appear in the extract.

    Screening procedure

12. How is the screening procedure set out in your legal framework (in a single piece of legislation, sector-specific legislation, or other)?

    Please provide details.
    It is set out in different legal frameworks, some sector-specific legislation, for example teachers, or for people working in out of house care facilities. Sweden also has a general provision for people who have regular contact with children in their work.

13. If screening is required, who is required to act?

    a. the employer, volunteer recruiter or child protection authority is expected to obtain the necessary information directly from the authorities

    b. the candidate must provide proof of absence of convictions

    c. another scenario. Please specify

    Please provide details.
    In most cases the answer is b) The candidate must present an extract from the criminal records register (and the criminal suspects register).

    However, Authorities such as social services and certain healthcare agencies may request information from the criminal records database without the individual's consent. In such cases, all criminal convictions where a penalty other than a fine has been imposed, as well as all suspicions that have led to prosecution, are disclosed. This is regulated by the Regulation (1999:1134) on Criminal Records and the Regulation (1999:1135) on the Suspect Registry. For example, the social services can request information from the criminal records database without the individual consent in when assessing a foster family or conducting an investigation prior to an adoption.

14. If screening is required, who bears the costs of screening procedures?

    Please provide details.
    In most cases there is no cost for the screening procedure. It is a state function run by the Swedish Police. There may be a fee charged if the individual needs a statement for use abroad or if an individual request statements for personal use multiple times during a calendar year.

15. How does your State monitor that employers, volunteer recruiters or child protection authorities comply with the relevant regulations on screening?

    Please provide details.
    There is no structured monitoring for the whole society.

16. If screening is required, are there sanctions foreseen for failure to comply with it? If yes, what type of sanctions?

    Please provide details.

    In the Social service act (2025:400) there are several sanctions.

> Sanction fees
> Chapter 28, section 16
> Any entity conducting activities subject to supervision under the Social Services Act must pay a penalty fee if staff have been hired or individuals have been offered assignments, internships, volunteer work, or similar opportunities without the background check required by law (2007:171) having been conducted.
>
> The Health and Social Care Inspectorate (IVO) shall determine the amount of the penalty fee.
>
> The penalty fee shall be paid to the Health and Social Care Inspectorate and shall accrue to the state. Act (2025:1299).
>
> Information about the penalty fee:
> SEK 100,000 per violation, i.e., per person hired/offered an assignment, etc., without a prior background check. The preparatory works clarify that five employments without a background check result in 5 × SEK 100,000 = SEK 500,000 in penalty fees.
>
> The penalty may be reduced in whole or in part only if there are exceptional circumstances, which, according to the preparatory work, should be applied restrictively and refer to circumstances beyond the control of the business (e.g., serious illness, natural disaster, other unforeseen events).
>
> Revocation and Prohibition in Case of Inadequate Register Control
> Section 13 The Health and Social Care Inspectorate may revoke the license of an entity that fails to fulfil its obligations under the Act (2007:171) on background checks of staff at certain residential facilities that care for children, if the failure is of a serious nature. If the entity is not subject to licensing, the authority may decide to prohibit continued operations.

In the Education Act (2010:800) there are several sanctions.

The Swedish Schools Inspectorate's supervision covers provisions regarding screening of professionals in for example schools, pre-schools (see a full answer in question 1). For certain types of activities run by private providers, however, the municipality that approved the private provider as the operator is responsible for oversight.

Sanction fee/penalty fee, Chapter 26, section 10 and section 27
The Swedish Schools Inspectorate may issue an order to a provider under its supervision to fulfil its obligations if the activity does not meet the requirements set forth in the regulations applicable to the activity. Such an order may be accompanied by a penalty fee according to section 27.

Revoke an approval
The Swedish Schools Inspectorate may also, under certain conditions, revoke an individual provider's approval as a provider. Such a revocation may occur, for example, if an order has not been complied with and the violation is serious.
As described in more detail below, the Swedish Schools Inspectorate has, in a relatively large number of decisions, ordered school operators to fulfil their obligation to verify registry extracts.

The Swedish Schools Inspectorate has not issued any decision to revoke approval on this basis.

During 2024–2025, the Swedish Schools Inspectorate conducted three thematic inspections of background checks within the school system and other educational activities.

One example from another sector, sports: The Swedish Sports Confederation's Bylaws
Pursuant to Chapter 8, Section 5a of the Swedish Sports Confederation's bylaws, all clubs affiliated with the Confederation in accordance with the Act (2013:852) on background checks for persons working with children must require that any person hired or assigned duties within the club present an extract pursuant to the Act (1998:620) on Criminal Records, if the work or duties involve direct and regular contact with children.

Sanctions:
An association may be subject to disciplinary measures under Chapter 14 of the bylaws (the Sports Disciplinary Regulations) in events of non-compliance with Chapter 8, section 5 a. Penalties for violations under chapter 14 include reprimands, fines, and suspension. This could also mean that financial support may be affected in the event of non-compliance.

17. Is regular screening, beyond the initial recruitment process, required, for:

a. professionals in contact with children
No (except for the employees in sectors regulated by the Security Protection Act (2018:585) where it is stated that the security clearance shall be monitored for the duration of participation in the security-sensitive activity).

b. volunteers in contact with children

No

c. foster parents and legal guardians?

No

If regular screening is required, please specify its frequency and provide other details.

18. Where a person working or volunteering in contact with children is under investigation for a sexual offence against a child, are law enforcement or other authorities allowed to inform the employer or volunteer organisation about the ongoing investigation? If yes, what is the consequence?

Please provide details.

Confidentiality does not prevent information from being disclosed to an individual or to another authority, if it is necessary for the disclosing authority to be able to carry out its activities, see Chapter 10, section 2 in the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (2009:400).

According to chapter 10 section 15 a the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act information in a preliminary investigation may, despite being subject to confidentiality, be disclosed to another authority (including, for example, municipal schools) if necessary to prevent or stop criminal activity, provided that there are no compelling reasons to believe that the interest protected by confidentiality takes precedence over the interest in disclosing the information. The ability to disclose information does not apply in relation to private entities, which means that information cannot be disclosed.

However, the Swedish Parliament has decided that the principle of public access to information shall apply to independent providers within the school system from 1 January 2027. From that date, independent schools will, like public schools, be regarded as equivalent to public authorities for the purposes of applying the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (2025/26:19).

Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (2009:400) Chapter 10, Section 15a:
The confidentiality provisions of Chapters 21–40 do not preclude the disclosure of information to another government agency if such disclosure is necessary to

1. prevent, stop, or detect criminal activity,
2. investigate crimes,
3. prevent or stop a financial benefit, financial assistance, tax, or fee from being decided upon, paid out, or credited incorrectly or in an amount that is too high or too low,
4. detect or investigate matters referred to in 3, or
5. prevent, stop, detect, or investigate fraud and violations of rules, conditions in decisions, or agreements.

Information may not be disclosed if there are compelling reasons to believe that the interest protected by confidentiality takes precedence over the interest in disclosing the information.

Cross-border screening

19. If the candidate for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3 has previously resided or worked in different countries, is it required to verify the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children in each of those countries in respect of:

    a. professionals

    b. volunteers

    c. persons wishing to become an adoptive parent, a foster parent or a child's legal guardian?

    Please provide details.
    Answer below nr 21.

20. Is there a mechanism to:

    a. request data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children from the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings[3] (please specify)

    b. provide data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children to the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings (please specify)?

    Please provide details.
    Answer below nr 21.

21. Is there an obligation to provide data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children at the request of the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings?

    Please provide details.

    19/20/21. If a Swedish citizen is convicted of a crime in another EU country, Sweden is notified and the conviction is recorded in the Swedish criminal record. If a person who is a citizen of another EU country requests an extract from the criminal record, information is also requested from the person's country of citizenship pursuant to Section 22C of the Regulation (1999:1134) on Criminal Records. The relevant EU country discloses information from its criminal record in accordance with the national legislation applicable to the specified purpose. This will also apply to third-country nationals when the use of ECRIS-TCN is implemented pursuant to Section 1 C of the Act (1998:620) on Criminal Records.

Additional details and reflections

22. Please add any further details regarding the modalities of the screening procedures applicable in your State, if relevant.

    Please provide details.

[3] For purposes of recruitment, volunteering, adoption, foster care or guardianship.

23. What challenges related to the screening for criminal convictions for sexual offences against children of professionals, volunteers and persons wishing to become adoptive parents, foster parents or a child's legal guardian exist in your State in practice (e.g. administrative costs, delays, cross-border co-operation)?

    Please provide details.

24. What promising practices, if any, would your State like to highlight in the screening of professionals, volunteers and other persons in contact with children?

    Please provide details.