

"The City of Stockholm"  
City Hall  
Protocol and Event Unit  
Att. Malin Midby  
105 35 Stockholm

### Request to the City of Stockholm to host a reception at Stockholm's City Hall

Wikimania 2019 will be held in Stockholm from August 14-18. Wikimania is the official annual of the Wikimedia Foundation and of the Wikimedia communities, such as Wikipedia. The conference was first held in Frankfurt in 2005. The 2018 conference will take place in Cape Town and previous conferences have been held in Taipei, Alexandria, Buenos Aires, Washington DC, Hong Kong, London, Mexico City and Montreal, amongst other places.

Wikimania 2019 will be organised by Wikimedia Sverige under the auspices of the Wikimedia Foundation, a non-profit charitable organisation. The conference will be held at Aula Magna, Stockholm University, with the opening ceremony taking place at Aula Magna. The Wikimedia Foundation will be responsible for the funding and management of the conference. An initial list of sponsors include Google, WikiHow etc.

Approximately 1,200-1,500 official delegates from all across the globe are expected to attend, not counting staff and others, which will make Wikimania 2017 one of the biggest ever held. The conference will focus on Wikimedia projects such as Wikipedia, open-source software, free knowledge and free content, and the social and technical aspects and challenges related to these topics. A special focus will be given to Nordic cooperation and gender and diversity work in the Wikimedia movement. The conference has historically been attended by the driving spirits and Free Knowledge leaders from around the world.

The Wikimania 2019 organizing committee hereby respectfully requests the City of Stockholm to act as host at a reception to be given at Stockholm City Hall, Thursday 15 August, Friday 16 or Saturday 17 August 2019 starting at 6 PM.

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Over the last 17 years the Wikimedia movement, with Wikipedia as its flagship, has emerged as the world leading source of advertisement free, multilingual knowledge provided from a neutral point of view. The platforms continue to empower and engage people around the world to collect and develop educational content. But these volunteer driven efforts are under attack from many actors that aim to misrepresent facts and ignore research and science. We also acknowledge the gaps in the knowledge available through the projects and something demographics of the contributors. The purpose of Wikimania is to bring together this global community and together find ways to overcome these challenges ensuring Wikipedia remains a strong source of diverse knowledge freely accessible for all.

Since promotional campaigns for Wikimania 2019 have already commenced, we would greatly appreciate your considering this request and letting us know your decision before the summer.

Please address all correspondence in this matter to John Andersson, Executive Director, Wikimedia Sverige ([john.andersson@wikimedia.se](mailto:john.andersson@wikimedia.se)) and Ellie Young, Events Manager, Wikimedia Foundation ([eyoung@wikimedia.org](mailto:eyoung@wikimedia.org)).

Sincerely,

John Andersson  
Executive Director  
Wikimedia Sverige (organizational number 802437-8310)