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THE SWEDISH INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

75
1938 - 2013



“The Institute’s mission to inform and enrich the public debate on foreign policy is more relevant than ever in today’s globalized society” - Anna Jardfelt, Director, UI.



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One person who was particularly involved in the compilation of this publication was the UI Administrative Director Lars Åman, 1958–2013. This publication is dedicated to him.

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1930

Plans for an independent Swedish institute for information on international issues were realized through a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation.

1933

The Nazis come to power in Germany

1936

Italy annexes Ethiopia

1937

War breaks out between China and Japan

1936–1939

The Spanish Civil War

1938

Kristallnacht in Germany

1939

Germany invades Poland, World War II breaks out



1930

The times are troubled. It is called a postwar era, after the First World War; in historical hindsight, we know of it as a time between wars. The Great Depression has led to economic collapse in many parts of the world and unemployment is rampant. In Germany, the Nazis come to power in 1933, and in September 1939 the Second World War breaks out.

The idea of creating an independent institute to increase knowledge and inspire research on international politics in Sweden grew stronger throughout the 1930s. There were examples to follow, in France, Germany, the United States and, especially, in Great Britain where the world-leading independent Chatham House (the Royal Institute of International Affairs), was found.

There was also the idea of creating an organization that would give Sweden a stronger position in the international political debate. The project was discussed primarily in academic circles, but there was also some interest at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Increasingly, the contemporary political developments were stressed among the planners. The brewing troubles augmented the need to understand the current times.

In May 1937, Kommittén för utrikespolitisk upplysning (the Committee for Information on International Affairs) was created. It included a number of prominent historians, political scientists, law experts and economists. Less than a year later, the Rockefeller Foundation granted 90 0000 kronor over three years, thereby founding what was to become the UI. This occurred in March of 1938 – the same month as "Anschluss", when Nazi Germany annexed Austria. The sense of alarm grew, as did the interest among people in international issues. The new committee started out at Lilla Nygatan 4 in Gamla stan (Stockholm's Old Town). Nordiska Föreningen Mellanfolkligt Samarbeta för Fred (the Nordic Association for Cooperation Between Peoples for Peace) lent the committee a room and office resources, which was enough to fulfill a requirement of the Rockefeller Foundation that the activities of the committee be started with Swedish means.

From a 1937 press clipping, when the Committee for Information on International Affairs had been created:

"The Committee consists of the following individuals: professors Nils Ahnlund, Georg Andrén, Axel Brusewitz, Nils Herlitz, Åke Holmbäck, Erik Lindahl, Bertil Ohlin, deputy director Torsten Gihl, Ph.D. Yngve Lorents, editor Herman Stolpe, Ph. Lic. Ragnar Svanström och Ph. Lic. Ragnvald Lundström. Dr. Lorents is president and Lic. Lundström secretary....

...the Committee is a purely non-political assembly. Its operations are exclusively intended for impartial information without tendencies in any direction."



Unemployed gather at Barnhusgatan outside Folkets hus (the People's House), to go to a meeting on the global depression.

When war broke out the interest in the activities of the committee increased, and for the fiscal year 1939/1940 a first government grant was received.

From the beginning, popular education was a lodestar for the Committee. In 1938, some 20 lecturers held no less than 277 lectures, with a total of around 7,000 listeners. Academic study circles on international politics were started in Stockholm, Lund and Uppsala. The library started being built. An article service was initiated and was soon delivering articles on current foreign affairs issues to some 60 newspapers around the country.

The popular science series *Internationell politik* was launched already during the first year of activity, in collaboration with the publishing house Kooperativa förbundets bokförlag. The publications were supposed to be 96 pages long and cost 1 krona, which was considered cheap. The first publication was *Neutralitetsproblemet* (Problems of Neutrality) by Torsten Gihl. A few more were published before Germany in September, 1939 marched into Poland and the Second World War was a fact.

Six of the following 10 publications in the series dealt with the outbreak of war.

1940

The UI is built up and operations widened with increased financing, new publications and bigger premises.

1941

Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, the U.S. joins the war

1945

World War II ends

The U.N. is founded

1947

India and Pakistan gain independence

1948

The Berlin airlift

Israel is founded

1949

Mahatma Gandhi is murdered

The People's Republic of China is proclaimed

NATO is founded

1940

The Second World War rages until 1945 and involves most nations on earth. Tens of millions of people perish from fighting, genocide, starvation and hardship. After the war, the power balance in the world has changed; the new superpowers are the United States and the Soviet Union. The United Nations is created with the aim of “saving future generations from the scourge of war”.

In our immediate surroundings, Denmark and Norway are invaded by Nazi Germany on April 9, 1940. In Finland, the Winter War had ended, after a loss of land to the Soviet Union. In 1940, volume 11 of *Internationell politik* came out: *Finlands blå-vita bok*. There was considerable interest in the war-hit neighboring country; and the issue sold over 100,000 copies. The Committee changed names the same year and became the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (*Utrikespolitiska institutet*, UI). The committee members became board members and the committee secretary Ragnvald Lundström became director of the Institute.

That fall, three trial issues of *Världspolitikens Dagsfrågor* came out, a new brochure series that is published still today. The first issue was *The President of the United*

States, written by prominent publicist Herbert Tingsten. Aimed at a broad audience, the publication series continued with 10 issues a year. Study guides were developed for study circles based on *Världspolitikens Dagsfrågor*.

Starting in 1941, a category for the labor union press was added to the article service. The following year, around 100 newspapers and magazines received articles by a total of 28 writers. A recurring contributor was Willy Brandt, the future chancellor of West Germany (1969–1974), who was a political refugee in Sweden during the war. Also in 1941, the *UI Calendar* was introduced – a running compilation of events in international affairs. The Calendar was written retroactively, starting with the outbreak of war in 1939, and it was intended primarily for institutions, schools, newsrooms, etc.



The Second World War was the first war in which air forces played a decisive role. There were air battles, but also large-scale bomb raids against military as well as civilian targets.

From a 1947 appeal to seek new financing:

“During close to ten years of operations the institute has filled an important role in Swedish society, and this will not be less so from now on, when it comes to disseminating knowledge on the reconstruction of the world after the Second World War. Sweden’s entry into the United Nations further stresses the importance in ensuring that our people try to follow the international course of events and thereby increases the need for the public to receive continuous

and impartial information on foreign policy issues.”

Among the appeal signatories were found the leaders of all five parties in parliament, a couple of ministers, the commander-in-chief, the presidents of the four leading universities, and the presidents of the Swedish Employers’ Confederation, the Swedish Trade Union Confederation, the Stockholm City Council and the Publishers Club.

The UI was involved when the Foreign Affairs Club of the Riksdag was founded in 1941, and the director of the Institute was named club secretary. The UI organized the club until the 1960s, when the parliament’s Committee on Foreign Affairs took over.

The UI Library, which was to become a leading special library in the Nordic countries, was taking shape. To build up the library, much work went into bidding on interesting books at auctions, and looking for valuable books in second-hand bookstores.

The Institute moved into new premises at the rather recently constructed Forsgrénka Medborgarhuset at Medborgarplatsen in Stockholm, in 1942. Four rooms and one lecture hall were let free of charge by the City of Stockholm. *Skrifter utgivna av Utrikespolitiska institutet*, a more scientifically oriented publication series, started coming out during the decade. An issue that received particular attention was *Peace and Security after the Second World War. A Swedish Contribution to the Subject*, which was published in Swedish and English.

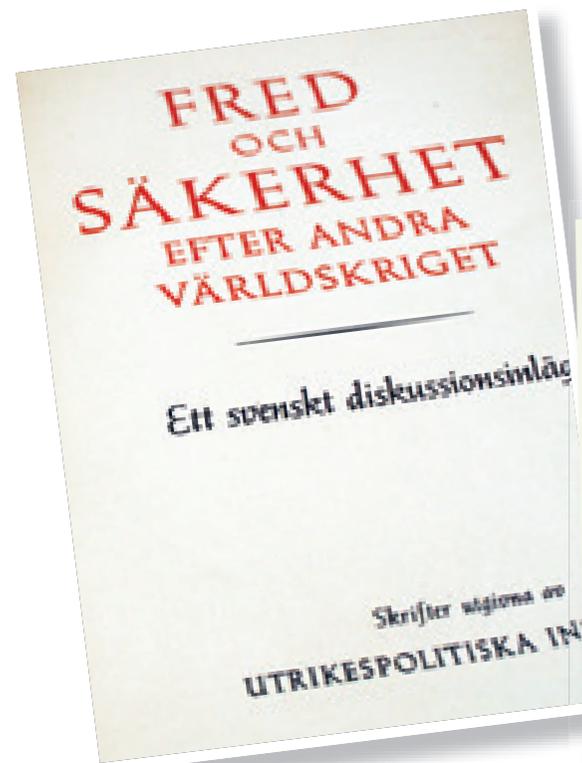
In 1944, the UI started organizing courses for history teachers and students, and later on also for journalists.

From the early 1940s, the UI received financing also from business associations, labor unions, etc. As a result, the president of LO (the Swedish Trade Union Confederation) and the chief executive officer of Svenska Arbetsgivareföreningen (the Swedish Employers' Confederation) became board members in 1942. The Rockefeller Foundation still contributed a considerable portion of the means, but in accordance with the original plans this ceased after 10 years. The discontinuation

of the monies from the U.S. – now 45 000 kronor per year – meant that UI's total grants were cut by nearly half. After a broad appeal to save operations, however, the government grants quadrupled in a couple of years, which compensated for the loss.

In 1945, UI's first director Ragnvald Lundström withdrew. Doctor of geography Sven Dahl replaced him temporarily, until political scientist Brita Skottsberg took office at year's end. She left the post to move abroad in 1948, and was in turn succeeded by historian Lennart Hirschfeldt.

Following the war, the UI took part in the Swedish contribution to the international debate on how to organize the world after the war, through the publication "Peace and Security after the Second World War – a Swedish Contribution to the Subject." It was published in both Swedish and English.



Press statement during the war:

"In a surprisingly short time, said institute has managed to make itself well-nigh indispensable as a factor in popular education and a populizer in the field of foreign policy."

Jönköpings-Posten



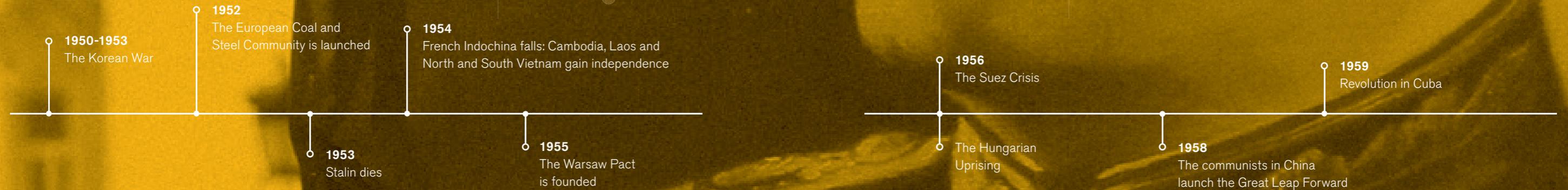
Prime Minister Winston Churchill, through many famous speeches, helped the British keep their spirits up during World War II. "Never was so much owed by so many to so few," he said when British fighter pilots had stopped a German invasion attempt.



The officer, war correspondent, author and prime minister who became one of the great victors of the war – but who soon thereafter lost an election – was the focus of issue 7 of the 1945 edition of Världspolitikens Dagsfrågor.

1950

The UI arranges an increasing number of courses and starts a collaboration with the Stockholm University College, which became the Stockholm University in 1960.



1950

Economic growth is strong and the optimism for the future is high. At the same time, there is Cold War with an ongoing arms race and balance of terror. Korea becomes the battleground in a violent trial of strength with top powers involved. The uprising in Hungary, and the Suez crisis the same year, increases interest in Sweden in the surrounding world.

Early in the decade, the UI started producing a publication series that was a basis for correspondence courses, "1950-talets världspolitik." This was done in collaboration with a number of existing correspondence course companies (Försvarets brevskola, Brevskolan, Centralkommittén Folk och Försvar, Riksförbundet för Sveriges försvar and Kooperativa förbundets bokförlag).

The popular education program was broadened in other ways as well. The UI arranged courses and conferences in collaboration with adult education, teacher and journalist organizations, and an increasing number of lecture series were held under the management of the Institute. The goal was to provide impartial information about the surrounding world and Sweden's role in international politics. In 1953, the UI moved to offices that Humanistiska biblioteket (the Humanist Library) had evacuated, in the Daneliuska Building on Birger Jarlsgatan,

by Stureplan in central Stockholm. Decades later, the place was to house famous night club Spy Bar. A formal deal to commence collaboration with the Stockholm University College was reached in 1954, and in the fall of 1956 an academic course in international politics and economy was started – the first of its kind in Sweden.

The library now had some 11,000 volumes and around 700 magazine volumes. The constantly growing press-cuttings archive was based on articles from the news agency TT, as well as Swedish and international newspapers. In the 1950s, a handbook titled *Internationella organisationer* was published in collaboration with Exportföreningen (the Export Association); it soon became a work of record.

In 1957 the last issue was published of *Internationell politik* – the first of UI's series, started back in 1938.

The fifth issue of the 1956 edition of *Världspolitikens Dagsfrågor* was entitled "The Soviet Union after Stalin" and was one of two that year that dealt with the Soviet Union.



The 1955 issues of *Världspolitikens Dagsfrågor*. Priced at 1 krona per each.

- 1-2 Lennart Hirschfeldt: Power politics 1953-1954.
- 3 Aleksander Kaelas: The new agricultural policies of the Soviet Union.
- 4 Herman Stolpe: The world's raw material supplies.
- 5 Erik Holm: Formosa – the disputed island.
- 6 The four greats ahead of the Geneva meeting.
- 7 Per Möller: India and Asian neutralism.
- 8 Bo Kärre: The Saar issue.
- 9 Arne Björnberg: Ten years of the United Nations.
- 10 Hilding Eck: The debate on the UN charter.



In 1953 the UI moved to the Daneliuska Building by Stureplan in Stockholm. As of lately, the place is known for the night club Spy Bar.



In January 1959 Fidel Castro and his entourage entered Havana after two years of guerrilla warfare, as President Fulgencio Batista fled the country.

1960

The UI gets its own research organization for the first time, and the institute produces special educational materials for schools.



1960

Belgian Congo and several other African countries gain their independence

1961

The Bay of Pigs Invasion

1961

Dag Hammarskjöld dies in a plane crash in Congo

1962

Algeria gains independence

1962

The Cuba crisis

1963

John F. Kennedy is murdered

1966

The Cultural Revolution in China is launched

1967

The Six-Day War in the Middle East

1967-1970

The Biafra War

1968

Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy are murdered

1968

The Tet Offensive

1969

The My Lai Massacre

1969

Neil Armstrong is the first man on the moon

1960

Decolonization, which had previously occurred mostly in Asia and North Africa, now also reaches sub-Saharan Africa. Youth rebellions with protests against the Vietnam War and authority shake the Western world, while in Eastern Europe there is temporary hope of increased freedom during the Prague Spring. The Soviet Union is first to put a man in space; the United States wins the race to the moon.

Here at home, the interest in international political developments is growing. With the event of television, the world moves into our living rooms and there is great focus on Sweden's participation in U.N. missions in the Middle East and in Congo. At the UI, Lennart Hirschfeldt left in 1960, after 12 years as director. His successor was Karl Birnbaum, also a historian. Stockholm University decided in 1961 to introduce a licentiate degree in international politics, and chose partner UI as the institution for the new subject. When the licentiate degree was abolished in 1969 the subject disappeared from Sweden.

A research department was created at the UI for the first time in 1963. In the beginning, the department was financed by Försvarets forskningsanstalt (FOA, the Swedish Defence Research Establishment).

The collaboration came about because Swedish defense leaders were looking for academic competence in the field of security policy; they wanted strategic issues to be studied not only by militaries and political officials. Stockholm University was approached, and in turn addressed the UI. The result was a research department of security policy studies, alongside the general department that was in charge of publications, courses, teaching, the library and the cuttings archive.

The research activities started with study groups on strategic issues. One dealt with the Soviet Union, another with Western Europe. Between 1965 and 1970, the UI and FOA together published *Strategisk Bulletin*, a periodical publication that covered strategic thinking. The first editor was political scientist Kjell Goldmann, who also played a central part in building up the research department.

For a few years, Strategisk Bulletin was published by the UI research department in collaboration with Försvarets forskningsanstalt (the Swedish Defence Research Establishment).



The staff body increased rapidly. Earlier, the institute had but a few employees besides external experts or temporary contributors who were hired for specific assignments.

The UI outgrew the crowded offices at Stureplan and in 1966 moved to relatively the newly built Wenner-Gren Center by Sveaplan. All employees now got their own rooms, and the institute got its own switch board and proper premises for the library.

That same year, *Föreningen Utrikespolitiska institutet* (the UI Association) was founded and became the



Baptist Pastor Martin Luther King played a prominent role in the American civil rights movement. He fought racial segregation through peaceful means and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

responsible authority of the institute. This meant a clarification of the legal status of the UI as an organization. The Association had 20 active members, 15 of whom were also on the board. Four older board members became honorary members.

En delad värld, a world political atlas that was first published in 1961, was successful. It was followed by study manuals for study circles, issued by Brevskolan. Textbooks and world political overviews intended for classroom use followed. From 1968, the UI had an official "school and popular education program", and the number of school subscribers grew rapidly.

1970

New publications and a relocation to magnificent new premises in Old Town (Gamla stan) make for a more active and dynamic character of the institute.



1972
Nixon visits China

Bloody Sunday in Northern Ireland

1973
Military coup in Chile

The October War in the Middle East

1974
Nixon resigns because of the Watergate scandal

Cyprus is divided

1975
The Vietnam War ends

The Khmer Rouge take power in Cambodia

1976
The Soweto uprising

Mao dies

1978
The Camp David Accords are signed

1979
The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

The Sandinista assumption of power in Nicaragua

The revolution in Iran

1970

The steady growth of the postwar years is interrupted by the oil crisis of 1973. Suddenly, previously obscure desert nations become power players. The Middle East is shaken by a new conflict, the October War, but also gets to experience a first peace treaty. In Indochina, peace is achieved in Vietnam the same year that the terror reign of the Khmer Rouge begins in Cambodia. In Latin America – long dominated by generals and military coups – several countries are hit by a growing debt crisis.

After a sharp increase over a decade, the staff numbered around 50 in the early 1970s. Among them were academics and intellectuals who had come to Sweden as refugees. In 1970, journalist Åke Sparring took over as director after Karl Birnbaum. Under his management, the institute's character and activities were to change in several ways. One new addition was *Länder in fickformat*, launched in 1972. Booklets with background facts and information on current affairs in all countries in the world, they were a commercial success and are published still today.

The following year the first issue of a new magazine on foreign policy and relations was first published, based

on international models. *Internationella Studier* – a name taken from a discontinued series – was first of its kind in Sweden, and aimed to make research more comprehensible for people outside the academic field. *Internationella Studier* is also around still. The UI now had its own editorial staff, largely thanks to Åke Sparring.

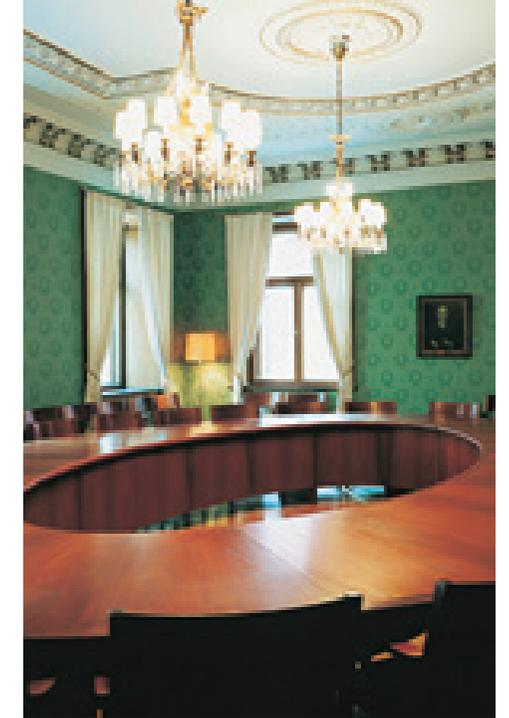
An important step for the UI was the relocation in 1975. The Wallenberg banking family let its over a hundred-year-old banking palace on Lilla Nygatan to the Institute. In the coming years, "the Marcus Wallenberg room" was to be demonstrated to many a guest. The library, a core part of the Institute, was housed in the grand hall that had been the first private bank hall of Stockholm.



In 1976 the US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger visited the UI. The entire city block was evacuated and outside the cordons, people were chanting "Death to Kissinger".

The location, smack in the middle of Gamla stan, provided new opportunities. The new offices paved the way for a considerably expanded events program, compared to the sporadic lectures and seminars that had featured in Wenner-Gren Center. Soon, the UI was organizing more than 50 seminars and lectures a year. The building was often teeming with people.

An acid test was US State Secretary Henry Kissinger's visit in the spring of 1976, when a large number of special guests were invited. The entire city block was evacuated



Many speakers, debaters, researchers and others were inspired to visit the beautiful UI premises in an old building on Lilla Nygatan in Gamla stan.

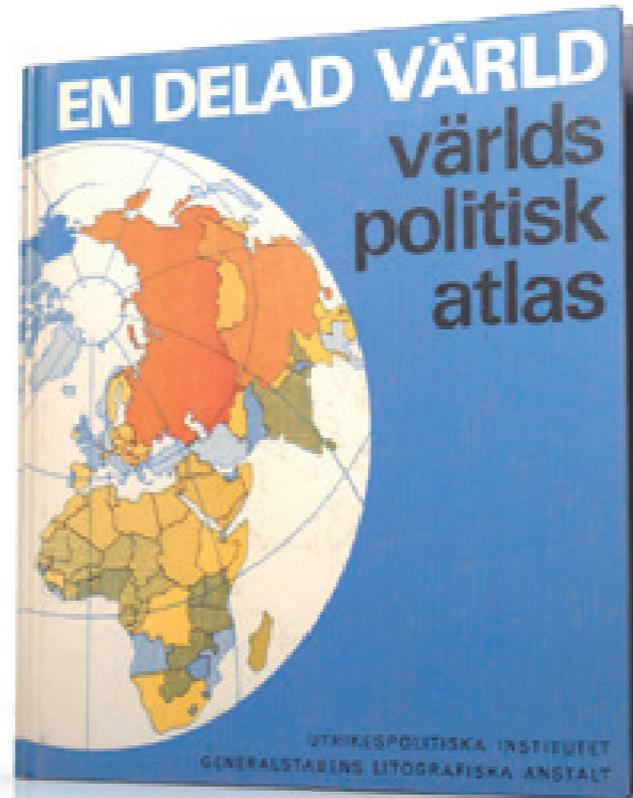
and U.S. Marines were guarding the building. Outside the cordons, people were chanting "Death to Kissinger."

The UI research department developed into a place for qualified basic research in international politics. In 1970, a research committee was added to the working committee charged with assisting the board in its task to run the Institute. Kjell Goldman was hired as research director. In 1974, permanent employment was for the first time offered to a researcher, political scientist Gunnar Sjöstedt, who remains associated to the Institute. Previ-

ously, he and all other researchers had been project-based employees. Visiting scholars were also frequent at the Institute.

In 1976 a new series started coming out: *UI Sammanfattar*, later *Utblick*, which was published for educational purposes. The Calendar, started in 1941, was discontin-

ued in 1977. The non-profit association *Utrikespolitiska samfundet* (the Swedish Society for international Affairs) was founded 1978, replacing the UI Association. The Society had its own board, with a working committee, and its members were also on the UI board. It was the Society's task to run the UI and decide on direction of its activities.



With time, the UI publications aimed at the public in general were accompanied by editions more specifically aimed for schools.

“The director at the time, Åke Sparring, gets the honor for the move to the elegant and centrally located bank building. He was a quiet, well-writing Dalecarlian who managed to establish good relations with Marcus Wallenberg, the undisputed sovereign of Swedish industry.”

Anders Hellner, UI events program director, in an article 30 years after the move.

1980

With the lively events program, with many prominent speakers, an increasing number of visitors find their way to the institute.



1980

Comprehensive reforms made for China's emergence as a major economic power, while hopes of increased political freedom were crushed in Tiananmen Square. In the Western world neoliberalism prevails, with Margaret Thatcher at the helm in Great Britain and Ronald Reagan in the United States. What the latter calls the "Evil Empire" starts breaking apart and eventually the Berlin falls.

In Sweden, Olof Palme is murdered. A couple of months before the murder he held his final big foreign policy speech – at Utrikespolitiska institutet. In the early 1980s the Institute organized trips for journalists, primarily, to Bonn, London, Madrid and Paris. A few members of the Society would also go along. The purpose was continuing education in European issues, a field that was again in focus. The Society was behind the Europe Institute, which was founded in 1980 to enhance awareness in Sweden on Europe. As the means were insufficient for an independent institute, it was merged with the UI in 1986. One could say that the Europe Institute was a predecessor of today's research program on Europe at the UI.

In 1982 the main financial responsibility for the UI research department moved from FOA to Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Åke Sparring stepped down in 1985, after 15 years as director. His successor was historian Nordal Åkerman, who in turn was succeeded in 1988 by Bo Huldt, also a historian.

A new element in the programming was stairwell meetings. In the UI stairwell – the heart of the building – short lectures or interviews were held during lunch time. Often featured were noted writers, Swedish or international, with new books out. Many prominent speakers and politicians who came to Sweden also visited the UI. The events program budget was rather



There were many events and the auditorium was often full of engaged listeners.

“One might think that the popular-education aspects of the operations would now be superfluous. Undeniably, the number of information actors in the area has increased tremendously since 1938. Still, we can clearly see the need for dispassionate but hopefully penetrating information and analyses that put intelligibility first.”

Nordal Åkerman, UI director, in connection with the 50-year anniversary.



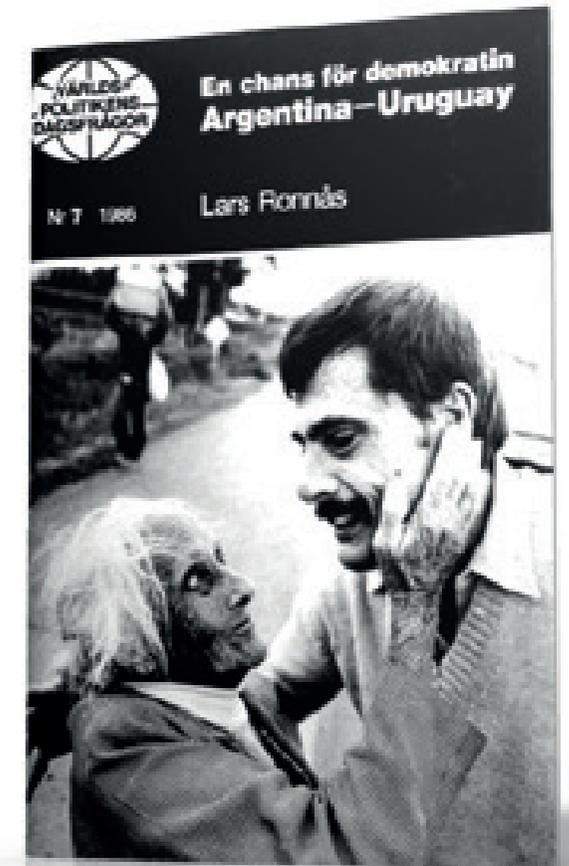
Many prominent speakers and politicians who came to Sweden visited the UI. One of them was former US President Jimmy Carter. Here seen with then Chairman of the Board Nils Andrén.

modest and no fees were paid, but now and again an international guest would be taken out to dinner in the environs of the building in Gamla stan.

Olof Palme was one of many speakers who filled the premises. As the Lejonsköldska Hall was not quite big enough, members of the audience thronged into the adjacent room when urgent subject matters were discussed or special speakers were visiting. The UI had developed into a meeting place for people with an interest in international politics. Ambassadors, politicians, students and regular people would get together after lectures at the Institute, for discussions over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine.



"A Chance for Democracy: Argentina and Uruguay"
 – reporting and commentary in Latin America was no longer focused solely on violence and military coups.



Prime Minister Olof Palme held a speech at the UI in December 1985, on Swedish security policy, peace and international law, among other things.

1990

Eastern Europe comes into focus after the fall of the wall and the UI starts new collaborations with the new nations in the Baltics, among others.



1990

A number of new nations are born following the collapse of the Soviet Union and the disintegration of Yugoslavia. Rwanda is shaken by genocide, which contributes to the beginning of a conflict that becomes known as Africa's World War. The Internet is born and soon fundamentally changes the way we communicate.

Early in the 1990s, the UI was looking east. The orientation towards the disintegrating Soviet Union resulted in a research position tied to a specific field being established for the first time, in 1992. The UI research program on Russia, thereby founded, was to be followed by other thematic programs. Following a decision by the Riksdag, a Special Research Program was established in 1993 at the UI, focusing on security policy and dealing in particular with Europe and North America. The program had its own board, appointed by the government. It was financed by an earmarked grant from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. With the young scholars who were granted money from the Special Research Program and spent time at the Institute, the staff body increased quite noticeably. The new arrivals were not only important additions to the research department, but are also said to have meant a serious boost to the social life at the Institute.

In the 1990s, the UI came to work closely with the Baltic countries that were in the process of building up democratic institutions. A sister institute was established in Riga by, among others, former UI staff member Atis Lejins. The institutes were working closely together and for several years week-long courses in foreign and security policy were arranged for young scholars, officials and journalists from the Baltic nations. The courses, financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, were held at the UI. Several of the Baltic course participants later became ministers or ambassadors, or were employed by the EU.

Nearly the entire UI staff joined the ferry journey to Riga when a study trip was undertaken to visit the sister institute. Another study trip went to Warsaw. Political scientist Rutger Lindahl took over as director in 1992, when Bo Huldts was offered a job in London.



Also in the 1990s, the UI was visited by ministers and prominent speakers. Dalai Lama, Boris Yeltsin and Nelson Mandela were among them.



UI visitors often wrote their autographs on the reception door at Lilla Nygatan.



“The distance from idea to decision was unusually short at the institute. Everybody did not always agree, but one could always reason.”

Rutger Lindahl, director 1992-1995, on his fascination with the easily navigated environment at the UI. He found it both efficient and non-bureaucratic.



New nations, old conflicts and reflections on timeless phenomena – UI publications continue to cover a wide range of topics.

Huldt came back earlier than expected and resumed the post as head of the UI in 1995. When he left in 1997, he was succeeded by Anders Mellbourn who came straight from the post as editor-in-chief of Dagens Nyheter. The EU, and Sweden's entry into the union, was another focus at the Institute. Ahead of the EU referendum in 1994, the UI played an important role as an independent and unbiased source of information. Many people were looking for an alternative to what was perceived as propaganda from proponents and opponents of EU membership, respectively.

As an EU member, Sweden was invited to become a member of TEPSA, the Trans European Policy Studies Association. This meant new knowledge, new networks and that the UI now took part in a European debate. The events program saw another boost in the 1990s. Ministers and other people from Eastern Europe were frequent guests at the UI. The events program was now

run by Anders Hellner who had previously been on the editorial staff. He successfully invited prominent speakers, from other parts as well, and they said yes more often than no. One of them was Boris Yeltsin, who was then president of the Russian Soviet Republic.

Another famous guest was Nelson Mandela. When he visited, a crowd was anticipated and the library was rearranged into an audience hall. People were standing in the wide stone stairwell outside the library. Mandela had just been released after 27 years in a prison camp, and Sweden and the UI were among the first places outside South Africa that he visited in an official capacity.

Världspolitikens Dagsfrågor celebrated its 50th anniversary early in the decade. Throughout the 1990s, social science magazine *Epok* was published for young people – providing students with guidance in international issues.

2000

By moving again, the UI restrengthens its ties to the academic world.



2000

The attacks on September 11, 2001 reminds the Western World of its vulnerability. U.S. President George W. Bush orders the invasion of Afghanistan which becomes the start of the long-drawn “war on terror”. Contrary to U.N. recommendations, the United States and a number of allies enter Iraq in 2003, and a bloody internal conflict ensues. The financial crisis that breaks out in 2008 pushes the world economy into a deep slump.

In the fall of 2000, national center Crisis Management Research and Training (CRISMART) was established at the UI. The background was a research program established a few years earlier on national crisis management in the countries surrounding the Baltic Sea. CRISMART later moved its operations to Försvarshögskolan (the Swedish National Defence College), but continued to collaborate with the UI. *Länder i fickformat* was coming out continuously, with a set covering half a continent being published every six months. The material was now also published on the Internet. The digital version was launched in 2002 as a new database, Landguiden, which was updated on a daily basis. *Landguiden* is still online, and now contains statistics and information on conflicts and organizations, as well as country information.

In 2004, the UI moved from the building in Gamla stan to a new building by the campus of KTH (the Royal Institute of Technology). Early on, it had been established that the UI would move into the same building as Försvarshögskolan, as it also needed new premises. There were plans to create a security policy center.

The move from the gold-covered walls, the glass ceilings and the stately library in Gamla stan was not entirely popular with the staff, but there was a board requirement to lower costs. Director Anders Mellbourn was a driving force behind the move and also thought it was desirable to reinforce a sense of community within the Institute, as well as reconnect to a more academic environment.



In 2009, Sweden chaired the EU. The UI organized a lecture tour on the EU around Sweden. The UI car “Spotty” came along for the tour.



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The publication series *Länder i fickformat* (Countries in your pocket) was accompanied by *Organisationer i fickformat* (Organizations in your pocket).

The new address, Drottning Kristinas väg, meant not only lower rent, but also more suitable offices. All people ended up on the same floor, linked together by corridors, and joined by a common lounge room. The UI also returned, geographically speaking, to a university and college environment. At the same time, the UI left its place as a neighbor with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Riksdag and the government offices in Rosenbad. The library was joined with that of Försvarshögskolan, and thereby became a less integrated part of the Institute and its identity. But it was Ann-Kristin Forsberg, then UI head librarian, who came up with the idea for the name – the *Anna Lindh Library*.

On January 1, 2005, political scientist Tomas Ries, succeeded Anders Mellbourn as the Institute director. Ries came from Finland and a research position at the defence college there. The events program continued in the Lejonsköldska Hall – with the same big round table as in Gamla stan – and in the Sweden Hall. Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya attracted a large audience when she spoke at the UI in 2005. Shortly before her trip to Sweden she had been poisoned, in connection with a trip to Beslan to negotiate in the hostage crisis there. Anna Politkovskaya was shot to death in Moscow in 2006.

2010

New media for new times – UI activities are now on the web and in the blog.

2010
Earthquake in Haiti

2011
Earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster in Japan

Osama bin Laden is killed

The Arab spring breaks out

The Utöya massacre

2012
Vladimir Putin again becomes president of Russia

2013
Croatia becomes the 28th EU member

2010

When the UI is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2013 the decade is still young. The 2010s started with the hope-inspiring Arab spring, but the bloody civil war in Syria puts a damper on the enthusiasm. In southern Europe there is an economic crisis with extensive unemployment. The worst pessimists draw parallels with the 1930s, when the UI was born.

At the UI, the level of activity is high. Diplomat Anna Jardfelt is director since 2010. A reorganization of the institute has been effected to meet the challenges of the new times. Research at the UI has been restructured and is now carried out both within geographic programs – Europe, North America, Russia and East Asia – and within the frame of certain themes. UI researchers publish internationally as well as in Institute publications such as *UI Papers*, *UI Occasional Papers*, *UI Briefs* and *UI Analys*.

In 2011, a scholarship program was started in collaboration with the Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation. Four scholarship holders with interests in different international issues are admitted every six months, and spend a term with one of the research programs at the UI.

Popular education remains one of two pillars of the Institute. *Länder i fickformat* and *Landguiden* are developing. The journal *Internationella Studier* has a new look and was awarded the Magazine of the Year Trade Press prize in 2011. The Institute arranges around 60 seminars, conferences and educational days every year. The UI continues to serve as a platform for research and information on international policy issues.

In order for more people to be able to take part of the many UI events, considerable effort has gone into improving the UI web page ui.se. The UI Blog has been launched to deepen and enrich the foreign policy debate. For the events program, there is UI Play. Thereby, it is now possible to follow events even from a distance. Special days for upper secondary schools are arranged and streamed live so that schools outside the Stockholm



The Nobel Peace Prize winners of 2011 visited the UI: Peace activist Tawakkul Karman of Yemen, and civil rights fighter Leymah Gbowee and President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia.



Listeners in Sverigesalen (the Sweden Hall).



area also can follow the lectures. Also, the UI is now on Facebook and Twitter. New technology means increased access to and dissemination of the work of the Institute. The Swedish Society for International Affairs, the responsible authority of the UI, now has some 300 members. The Institute has nearly 50 employees.

To observe the 75th anniversary, the UI will in August 2013 arrange an international research conference on global power shifts, and thereby look out into an unknown future.

UI DIRECTORS THROUGH THE YEARS:

Ragnvald Lundström	1938-1945
Brita Skottsberg Åman	1946-1948
Lennart Hirschfeldt	1948-1960
Karl E Birnbaum	1960-1970
Åke Sparring	1970-1985
Nordal Åkerman	1985-1988
Bo Huldt	1988-1992
Rutger Lindahl	1992-1995
Bo Huldt	1995-1997
Anders Mellbourn	1997-2004
Tomas Ries	2005-2010
Anna Jardfelt	2010-

