

National Report Sweden

A major success for our work where addressed in 2018 when the state increased the budget for visual arts with 75 million skr (7,5 million euro) and delivered a survey concerning the artists from all field (music, theatre etc).

The Swedish Artists Association, (Konstnärernas Riksorganisation, KRO) has 3300 members. Our goal is to improve their economic and social conditions and thus make it possible for Visual Artists to be professionals.

KRO has four target areas:

1. Reasonable contractual and working conditions for Visual Artists
2. Develop and strengthen the plastic and visual artists on their labor
3. Bring plastic and visual artists' action in the public debate
4. Support members through membership counseling & education

KRO is a strong driving force for the arts, artists and the Swedish cultural life and over the years has driven a number of proposals that have influenced cultural policy design and Swedish art scene.

We are in the board of Image Copyright in Sweden, Bildupphovsrätt – a link between image makers and image users. Bildupphovsrätt was started by artists and its aim is to promote members' and visual artists' financial and copyright interests. We are in the board of KLYS, the Swedish Joint Committee for Artistic and Literary Professionals, an umbrella organization for collaboration between artists in all art disciplines in matters of common interest such as copyright, labor market, freedom of expression, cultural diversity, social security and tax schemes. KLYS main objective is to protect the interests of the individual members in terms of cultural politics and union concerns and to improve the social and economic situation for artistic professionals. We are a member of Culture action Europe.

In 2018 we focused at issues regarding the MUagreement for paying artists at exhibitions and issues regarding public art. We are in the process of new recommendation for public art, We put a lot of effort in political lobbying, publishing articles in newspapers, swedish national radio and national television. Arranging debates and meeting with politicians in the government. We show statistics from the visual arts field concerning the artists and suggests solution for improvement.

For WorldArt Day we arranged a public talk with politicians to talk about the situation for professional visual artists and what the politicians can do to improve the conditions. We celebrated with birthdaycakes designed by artists.

On the website kro.se you will find a lot of information. (there is a translationtool in the left lower corner) We are updating on facebook and twitter daily.

Katarina Jönsson Norling

President of the Swedish Artists Association, the Swedish committé IAA, member of IAA world executive committé

2018 11 21 – for the Swedish National Committe of IAA