

# HANA *forum*

## Are Nordic values at stake in the UN?

Hanasaari – the Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre, Hanasaarenranta 5, Espoo  
Friday September 13th, 13.45–16.15 pm

The United Nations General Assembly is about to begin its 68th session. One of the core issues that the General Assembly is expected to address is the post-2015 development agenda. Finland and other Nordic countries have promoted international peace and security as an essential part of the post-2015 development agenda. They all also strong supporters of Responsibility to Protect concept. Furthermore the Nordic countries are major donors to many UN agencies and play a central role in UN peacebuilding and mediation operations. However the Nordic countries have not been successful in the recent elections to different central UN bodies, which raises the need to re-evaluate the significance of Nordic co-operation in global politics.

The seminar discusses Nordic co-operation and the possibilities of conducting more coherent UN policy at the EU level. Do the values we Scandinavians promote still receive support even if it doesn't show in the elections results? Would Sweden have a better chance of being elected to the Security Council in 2016? Are there other ways to increase our influence within the UN system than running for the Security Council? Should we deepen Nordic co-operation even further or should we look for new allies elsewhere?

Moderator: Ms. **Johanna Sumuvuori**, Chair of the Civil Society Conflict Prevention Network KATU

**13.45**

### Welcoming words

Mr. **Kai Jaskari**, Programme Manager, Hanasaari Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre  
Mr. **Iikka Kantola**, Vice-chair, UN Association of Finland

**14.00**

### Strengthening partnership, increasing Nordic influence in the UN

Mr. **Erkki Tuomioja**, Minister for Foreign Affairs

**14.30**

### Is the Nordic trademark fading?

Mr. **Urban Ahlin**, Vice-Chair of the Foreign Policy Committee in the Swedish Parliament

**15.00-16.00**

### Panel discussion

His Excellency **Mohammed Ariad**, Ambassador of Morocco  
Ms. **Sirpa Pietikäinen**, Member of European Parliament (tbc)  
Mr. **Erkki Tuomioja**, Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Mr. **Urban Ahlin**, Vice-Chair of Foreign Policy Committee

**The seminar language** is English.

**Participation** is free, but **requires registration**. Registration by the 9th of September 2013 at  
[www.hanaholmen.fi](http://www.hanaholmen.fi)

**Organizers:** The UN Association of Finland and the Hanasaari – the Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre.

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