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The New Face of Far Right in Sweden

Pictures: Aldo Soligno/Echo

The political climate in Sweden is changing, as an increasing number of people choose to put their votes on one of the nationalist or far-right political parties. This wave goes throughout all Europe, though to win over the somewhat reserved Swedish population, the well-trying violence and profanities are not going to do the trick. A more subtle approach was needed.

The anti-immigration movement in Sweden has gone through a transformation the past few years, making the ideas appeal to more voters by adding intelligible, well-dressed and well-mannered spokespersons who addresses the common man.

The political tendencies also rub off on other parts of the society, like presenting xenophobic and racist statements as art.

We have followed seven characters, seven faces that in different ways have been connected with anti-immigration, xenophobia or right-extremism. Showing the complex and versatile state of xenophobia in Sweden.

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Lars Vilks. Scania. Sweden.

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Kim Fredriksson. Landskrona. Sweden.

The past continues to haunt Kim Fredriksson, who left his extreme nationalist life behind two years ago. As a former member of neo nazi organisation Blood and Honour, his new socialist lifestyle have made him a lot of enemies. And as a father of two children, he struggles to keep walking the line, staying sober and out of trouble.



Stefan. Sjöbo. Sweden.

With a violent neo-nazi background and a criminal record, Stefan is today a white collared family father and the leader of The Party of the Swedes. In a wellpolished and polite manner he explains how the Swedish race should be kept pure by making people of foreign background leave the country.



Dan Park. Malmö. Sweden.

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Malmö. Sweden.



Henrik. Malmö. Sweden.

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Sam. Malmö. Sweden.

Sam's parents are originally from Iran, and the young man now struggles with his own identity as he is active in a right-wing party who wants to stop immigrants from coming to Sweden. As he tries to blend in with the Swedish population, he can't escape his Persian ancestry and his family constantly challenges his political involvement in the Sweden Democrats.



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