



International Trade – Past, Present, Future?

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Swedish Trade Unions

- **More than 7 out of 10 of workers are trade union members**
- **More than 80% of the work places are covered by collective agreement**
- ✓ **Three main Trade Union Federations**
 - ✓ **LO, blue collar workers**
 - ✓ **TCO, white collar workers, (some w academic degree)**
 - ✓ **Saco, white collar workers (higher academic degrees)**
- ✓ **European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)**
- ✓ **International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)**



Trade from a Swedish Trade Union perspective (1)

- ✓ Sweden is export dependent**
- ✓ Trade unions in Sweden are in favour of free trade.**
- ✓ Trade promotes necessary structural change and creates jobs in sustainable businesses.**
- ✓ Our open economy has contributed to creating jobs and building our welfare state.**



Trade from a Swedish Trade Union perspective (2)

...however...

- ✓ Transition schemes are needed for dealing with trade and investment in general → a labour market fit for change.**
- ✓ Share the fruits of globalization; Collective risk distribution → “winners compensate losers”#**



Attitude to globalisation (trade etc)

Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth? (Eurobarometer 85, april 2015)

Total Agree/ Total Disagree/ Dont know

✓ EU28 ;	57 %	28 %	15 %
✓ Sweden,	78 %	16 %	6 %
✓ Greece,	32 %	62 %	6 %
✓ Austria;	50 %	42 %	8 %



Trade, globalisation and workers

- ✓ Trade and foreign direct investment → global value chains
- ✓ Economic crises in 2008
- ✓ Job polarisation
- ✓ Growing inequality
- ✓ Digitalisation



Trade, globalisation and workers

- ✓ Lack of trust in National/European policies?
- ✓ Multinational Enterprises verses Nation states?
- ✓ Trade and investment agreements scapegoat (TTIP, CETA)?
- ✓ Growing Xenophobia?



Thank you !

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