



Proposal to close down Orchestra Norden (ON)

To the CC meeting in NSR September 2024

Introduction

The Lions Multiple Districts of Sweden (MD 101), Norway (MD104), Denmark (MD106), Finland (MD 107) and Iceland (MD 109) defines the Lions Nordic Cooperation Council NSR, this cooperation has been ongoing since 1962. The collaboration was started because they had this idea:

"To create understanding between all people and nations by working for increased insight into international problems". It was this sentence in the Lions goal that gave the Nordic region's second ID, Herbert Hårshagen MD 101, the idea to take the initiative for a Nordic Lions cooperation, primarily at club level. This happened in 1954, and the Lions movement had then been in Sweden for 6 years, while Iceland had 3 years behind it as a member of the Lions family.

At the Convention in 1960, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Iceland joined forces to form a joint Hospitality Room. During the parade, the group Lions of Scandinavia became a reality. The "uniform" was that everyone wore a uniform shirt, this is where we see the beginning of the Nordic interaction during the Convention.

Then it has gradually become more collaboration. We have the joint IR projects and Orkester Norden. The idea behind Orkester Norden was to give young Nordic classical musicians the opportunity to gain orchestral experience at a higher level that was important for their future careers.

Orkester Norden has been a success story in many different ways, where the Lions in the Nordic countries have been one of several "owners". Without the support of the Nordic Council, Concerts Sweden and many others, this work would not have been possible. We must remember to give a tribute to those who started this work, it was important and right at the time it was started.

The current situation.

Today, ON has become very close to something that is a professional orchestra and some of the participants participate more than once, In addition, there are now so many applicants that only the best get a place, (here we reserve the right that the information we have is correct). The support from our partners around Orkester Norden will be fewer, and they also have fewer funds to contribute.



This means that the cost for Lions in the "host nation" of ON Power has gone up significantly, "hosting" a concert has also become a financial burden.

Today's operation is not paid for by Lions but by sponsors, but it is a matter of about 200,000€ per year to be raised. Lions in the last host countries have, according to reports, contributed about 25,000€ per year. In addition, concerts have been paid for by the organizer of these.

Conclusion for MD 104

Based on the material we have access to of reports and reports as well as financial "statements", Lions Norway MD 104 cannot take on the task of being the host nation for ON.

Regardless of the outcome of this case, Lions Norway MD 104 hereby declares that: Lions Norway MD 104 will no longer contribute or be part of the community around Orchestra Norden.

Proposal for a decision:

The NSR meeting on 18.01.2025 decides that Orkester Norden will be closed down as an NSR project. The termination date is set by agreement with the current host nation, but no later than 31.12.2025.

For MD 104

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CC - MD 104

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