

Good morning and a warm welcome to all of you students and teachers from Krakow and my fellow citizens from Rönninge! I'm glad and honoured to be here.

My name is Lennart Kalderén and I'm the mayor of Salem municipality. I'm a politician, but I've worked as a science-teacher for a couple of years in schools like this. Besides science and politics, I have a huge interest in history. Accordingly, we should mention that Poland and Sweden has several "hot spots" in the timeline of history, both good and not so good.

I've read about Krakows patron saint and king of Poland/Lithuania, Stefan Batory, and found out that we were allied around 1570. About that time our king John married the polish princess Katerina Jagellonica and their son Zygmunt were king of both Sweden and Poland in the beginning of the 17th century. Then came many years of trouble and war between us. But finally, in

the 1980's, many swedes followed and supported Lech Walesa and Solidarnosc' struggle for freedom.

Nowadays, we are fellow citizens in the biggest peace-organization on our planet, the European Union.

Europe is something unique, I think best symbolized in your visit here and the students from Nytorpsskolan visiting Krakow. Your time together creates ties of friendship across borders, in doing so, producing new knowledge and positive energy. These things will remain in your memory in the years to come.

Salems history goes back to our church from the year 1129. We are all glad to show you our town with pleasant living areas, a lot of kids and young people, and beautiful green areas and lakes. Salem is a small and close community and a suburb to our beautiful capitol Stockholm.

For me, it's especially nice to welcome you to Nytorpsskolan. Immediately after I became mayor, we started planning and building this small school, and we were very pleased with the result. The Swedish king and queen visited this school in 2009 and just this year we've created a classroom for science studies in here.

I am convinced that together with your hosts, you will make the most of your time here and your sightseeing in Stockholm. I wish you students and teachers from Krakow and your hosts from Rönninge all the best during your visit here. Thank You for coming and have a really good time!