



PRESS RELEASE

CRIME, SAFETY & SECURITY IN SCANDINAVIA

Sweden and, especially, Finland are two of the lowest crime countries in Europe; but Denmark bucks the Scandinavian trend

Significant findings

- Sweden - lowest rates of burglaries in the EU and no worries except for increasing number of sexual assaults
- Finland – is almost crime-free
- Denmark – is a high crime country (burglaries, car theft, hate crimes) but the population is not concerned

Rates of crime

- Denmark - burglaries, decreasing but second highest behind the UK
- In Denmark, “hate crimes” – second highest behind France and also in top three member state for “hate crimes” within the immigrant population
- Only Finland has fewer pickpockets than Sweden

Ethics (corruption and consumer fraud)

- Denmark has the highest rating in the EU-15 for consumer fraud except for Greece
- Few concerns here in Sweden and Finland

Concerns, precautions taken and the police (including comments on drugs)

- Danes have more confidence in their police force than any other EU member state, except for Austria
- Sweden also has confidence in its law and order situation
- In Finland, there is less concern about drug-related incidents, burglary and safety in the streets than any other member state

Solving the problems

- Denmark has a preference for community service, just above EU average, Finland is similar
- Swedes favour prison for recidivist offenders

From the report: - "The Burden of Crime in the EU, A Comparative Analysis of the European Survey of Crime and Safety (EU ICS) 2005". Robert Manchin, Gallup Europe, coordinated the Consortium and the project was co-financed by the European Commission under FP6.

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