

Student Union Malmö's operational report 25/26

§1. Introduction

Constructive, intense, and productive talks have been prevalent within the organisation during the operational year 2025/2026. Long-term, this gave Student Union Malmö (the Union) a solid foundation on which to work throughout the year to examine the roles and responsibilities within the board to improve the Union's operations and raise significant problems for the students.

Members autumn semester 2025: 2435 and members spring semester 2026: 2095

This report on operations will outline the year's progress, the Student Union Malmö's implementation of the 25/26 operating plan.

§2. Areas connected to the operational plan

While the operational plan had no focus questions, the Union had particular attention for the following topics during the operational year:

- Union house, see section 4.3 Union house

§3. Monitoring of courses and programs and student influence

Ensuring student influence and actively supervising courses and programs are two of the Union's primary duties.

3.1 Student influence Forum

At the beginning of the operational year, FORUM was held at all faculties as well as the central level.

Three students participated in the HS FORUM, all of whom were elected to serve as formal student representatives. All three students remain in their respective positions.

Ten students attended the KS FORUM, and the majority were elected in positions as formal student representatives. Almost all ordinary spots were covered during FORUM, except for K3 Education/program council, but it was later filled during student local council.

Twelve students participated in LS FORUM, all of whom were elected to serve as formal student representatives. All 12 students remain in their respective positions, and an additional 10 formal student representatives have been appointed for the period following FORUM through March 2026.

There were three students attending the TS FORUM, one of whom was eligible for election. The student was elected to the KPN and International council but stepped down a few days later. Moreover, we had 6 distant nominations for FUM, and they were all elected.

The Central Forum was held on the 26th of September, with 13 students in attendance. It was a hybrid meeting. Various positions were filled, while some remained vacant. The remaining spots were filled as the operational year went on, through local student council and presidium decision.

One of the candidates made a complaint about the process not being fair due to their digital attendance. The issue was resolved with the presidium by demonstrating that all due processes were followed.

3.2 Quality of education

During the 2025/2026 operational year, the Union continuously monitored students' educational quality and work environment.

During spring 2026, the Advisory board for education continued revising its university-wide examination guidelines ("Riktlinje för examinationer"). The project aims to modernise and unify examination regulations across the university while strengthening legal certainty, transparency, and consistency for students and staff.

The revision focuses on key areas affecting educational quality, including re-examinations, digital and anonymous examinations, AI in assessment, continuous assessment, examination language, grading procedures, and students' rights in special examination situations. The project also seeks to consolidate several existing governing documents into a clearer, more comprehensive framework. The ongoing work is intended to improve both the quality assurance and long-term sustainability of examination practices at Malmö University.

Furthermore, during spring 2026, the Advisory Board for Education developed a university-wide guideline and implementation plan for the use of artificial intelligence in education at the first- and second-cycle levels. The initiative aims to create a structured, legally secure, and sustainable approach to AI within teaching, learning, and examination.

The work focuses on integrating AI into education while maintaining academic quality, transparency, equal conditions, and legal certainty for students and staff. The implementation plan includes work on AI literacy, curriculum development, teacher support, AI-integrated examinations, AI tool infrastructure, student support, and university-wide coordination.

A central objective is to ensure that both staff and students develop relevant AI competencies in line with the EU AI Act and the university's Strategy 2030. The initiative also seeks to establish common practices across faculties to reduce inconsistencies in how AI is used and regulated in education.

The Union has been present in the discussions connected to the development of the guideline and implementation plan, contributing student perspectives regarding educational quality, transparency, fairness, and the responsible use of AI in higher education.

The number of teacher-led class hours has declined due to the university's financial situation. Less time with teachers and your fellow students risks leading to a decrease in the quality of education for the students. To raise awareness of this issue, the Union participated in a nationwide campaign referred to as "Raise your hand for more teacher-led class hours", initiated by Sveriges förenade studentkårer.

Improving the student experience remains a top priority for both the Union and Malmö University. As part of the "Coffee with the Union (KmK)", various themes have been explored from the students' point of view.

Student influence has also been a core topic in the preparation and development of education at Malmö University this year. Increasing physical presence on campus and in lectures has been highlighted as a shared objective. Several strategies are being discussed at all levels within the university, with the Union providing input from the student perspective. The term Academic Citizenship is a shared objective that refers to building a culture among students and staff that fosters a sense of responsibility to participate and a feeling of belonging. Together, we continue to stress the importance of students actively exercising their influence.

Throughout the year, the Union has continued to serve as a key consultative body on a wide range of matters, including new procedures, governing documents, and broader university decisions, ensuring student perspectives remain central in shaping university policies and practices.

3.3 Student errand management

The Union has continued to work with student errands in faculties and will publish an annual report on student errands at the end of the semester. The report contains faculty-based statistics, comparisons, trend analysis, and the Union's recommendations for what the university can weave into its own work, linked to student cases.

Student ombuds are responsible for ensuring that all student errands they receive are entered into the Union's system and categorised, without any private information that might link to any party.

Furthermore, the ombuds will write the report at the end of the academic year and has decided to first write it with individual reports for each faculty, as they are often requested by the vice deans, before combining them for the central level

§4 The Student Union's operations

4.1 The structure of the Union and working environment

The Malmö Student Union is an organisation that represents students at four of the five faculties at Malmö University.

Since the reorganisation that took place during the year 24/25, the work has gone quite smoothly and the areas of responsibility were redistributed between the office, the presidium and members in a good way. During the year, the workload has been quite evenly distributed among team members. At the beginning of the spring semester 26, the member with faculty responsibility for KS resigned for personal reasons, and we therefore had to distribute the responsibility among the representatives and other student representatives to cover some of the meetings. At the same time, one of our non-profit members has left the country for exchange studies at the beginning of the spring semester 26.

Even though it has not always been easy and we lacked a member with responsibility for the KS faculty, we tried to support each other, and we also received support from the other board members. They tried to support us in different areas when they could. The support from the team members who stepped in when needed has been a great help in coping with the workload that arose during certain periods of the year.

Given all the changes and adjustments that took place on the Union board, both of our kick-offs focused primarily on the work environment, the importance of clear communication, and collegiality and mindfulness. This was greatly appreciated by the entire working group and showed the need to systematically integrate these aspects into future handovers and kick-offs

During the year, the chairman has had development discussions with each employee, which has contributed to everyone understanding their roles better and performing more satisfactorily. Overall, the work environment has had its ups and downs, but it can still be seen as very successful, as the team has achieved a lot together despite the challenges that arose during the year.

The operational auditors have checked that the statutes have been used correctly, that the board has followed the general council's decisions, and that they have acted correctly.

4.2 Meet your ombud

“Meet your ombud” is when the Student Ombudsmen spend time out in the faculties in their respective offices. Being in our faculty offices as much as possible is important for maintaining close contact with the students. Ombud KS and TS have offices at Niagara. Ombud LS and HS have offices in the Orkanen building and The General Hospital area. The number of students who visit the Ombuds during these designated times varies, but most of the time there are few. This may be because students do not know what the Union does and, more specifically, what the student ombudsmen do and can help with.

4.3 Union house

The question of a new Student Union has remained a topical and pressing issue even during the 2025/26 financial year. Finding a permanent location was high on the chairman's agenda.

The president has been involved in the Steering Group Meeting for Amphitrite and has had ongoing discussions with the University Director, Head of Building, and other interested parties at the university regarding the Student Union's need for space in the new building and/or other locations. Due to the high future costs of the Amphitrite building and the lack of space within it, other locations were also considered as part of the solution. At the beginning of the year, the university decided that we should not be in the new Amphitrite building. The Union accepted this because we could not cover all the activities in Amphitrite and the rent there is too high to just have office space.

After many meetings and discussions with various representatives from Malmö University, the city of Malmö, and internally, we have decided to focus on the building near the campus called Sjöormen. At the end of 2025, the chairman received a positive message from FKG about the possibility of renting the entire building, which would allow us to have all our operations in one place. The president has continued to dialogue with both the city of Malmö and Malmö University. Throughout the process, we have received support from MAU, where the building manager and an architect assigned by the building department helped us plan the building's layout. They have also promised us, together with the university director, that they can support us and help with the interior design of the pub section and other parts of the building where needed.

Dialogue with FKG and negotiation of the rent, as well as planning of Sjöormen, are still ongoing, and the renovation is currently planned to be finished for us to move in in June 2027.

Finally, discussions about the future financing of the temporary premises must continue with the city of Malmö and to secure a new revised agreement/contract that benefits both parties.

The discussion must remain open with both the university and the city of Malmö, and the financing of the future space in Sjöormen must be kept in mind, as costs will be high. At the same time, there is a great need to have the union's activities in one place to offer students a real student experience and the best conditions for the study social, as well as for study political events.

4.4 Sustainable student engagement

The Student Union relies on volunteers to sustain and expand student engagement through social activities and groups that address issues of interest to students. Although significant resources have been allocated to recruitment and outreach regarding the Student Union's activities and the opportunities for personal and professional development available to those who get involved, it remains difficult to attract new and additional volunteers from all the faculties.

In conversations with students and surveys of reasons why they do not get involved, lack of time is a crucial factor. Thus, it is not sustainable in the current situation to study full-time while volunteering.

During the operational year, the board and the ombuds have launched various initiatives to drive sustainable student engagement, but the KS/TS ombud has noticed that most of the time, students prefer to volunteer when personally asked. This, of course, varies between faculties, and we notice that LS and HS students are less inclined to volunteer even if asked personally.

4.5 Committees and working groups

Reports on the work of the Union's committees and working groups.

4.5.1 Event Committee

The event committee recruited new members this year, but aside from assisting with GearUp, they haven't held any events.

But after discussions within the council and committee, they wish to continue operating in the next year and have plans in place.

4.5.2 Committee for Student Engagement

The committee had a harder time recruiting members, but, like the event committee, they wish to continue operating in the next academic year and have plans.

4.5.3 Committee for Students' Health and Well-being

The committee has been quite active since its creation, and it was quite active this year as well.

They met with the student health service at Malmö University and distributed flyers to raise awareness among students.

They didn't have a specific event this year, but their members have been working to ensure a shared drive and documentation of their work.

4.5.4 Committee for Education Monitoring

The Committee for Education Monitoring wasn't as active this year as it was previously, but it still wishes to continue in the next academic year.

4.5.5 Career and Business Transition Committee

The Business and Career Transition Committee (BCTC) had more members this year than before, and it held a few meetings.

4.5.5. Working group for the Union Award

This academic year, the working group received seven (7) nominations, which was a slight decrease. However, we received two (2) group nominations this year, which is an increase. The working group determined that two applicants met the criteria for the individual scholarship of 2,500 SEK and one applicant met the criteria for the group scholarship of 5,000 SEK.

4.6 Council (FUM)

The council (FUM) had two constituent meetings on the 7th of May and the 25th of May 2025, where an 8 member board was elected to carry out the Union's activities during the operational year 25/26; one position was left vacant. FUM met three times during the autumn semester and five times during the spring semester.

The FUM Kick-off was held on the 3rd of October. The day was devoted to teaching the Union's internal documents, meeting techniques, and team building. Moreover, the discussion on committees and their work for the operational year was crucial, as were the new guidelines mandating that each council member serve on one committee. Lastly, we ended the day with a dinner where we built internal bonds that were crucial to the continuity of many of the council members.

There has been a relatively high fluctuation of the members of the Council. Some chose to drop out due to difficulties balancing their studies, their privacy, and their commitment; some who were voted in by by-election did not appear again at meetings.

During the first ordinary meeting, the student council elected the remaining empty board positions, as we missed the board member with faculty responsibility for HS, the position was successfully filled.

The 5 FUM Committees (Committee for Student Engagement, Committee for Health and Well-being, Committee for Business Sector Connection and Career Transition, Event Committee, and Committee for Educational Monitoring) were more or less active during this operational year. A new committee was created regarding housing. The committees report on their work in their respective sections.

Discussions during the year have focused on marketing the Council's work and successes to increase awareness among the student population; Union house questions; the students' work environment; students' engagement; and conditions for more proactive involvement of the Council members in the committees and otherwise. We had motions regarding budget questions, better inclusion of all dietary preferences at the university restaurants, motions regarding two conflicts and a statement about international conflicts.

In spring 2026, the Union Council conducted a major update of its steering documents and guidelines. This revision was overdue, as the previous updates were from 2020 and 2021. Key sections of the guidelines and steering document, which had not been updated in some time, were revised. For example, we updated the steering document for student groups, which serves as a comprehensive handbook guiding students who want to start a student group, and clarified how these groups can perform their responsibilities in education monitoring

We also discussed new membership possibilities, such as support membership and alumni membership etc, to boost inclusion and ensure a sustainable revenue model. We updated the Insparken steering document to ensure fair representation of different parties and revised the clause related to Union groupings involving Insparken.

The FUM Committee guideline was not left unaddressed; there has been considerable uncertainty about how to join a committee and what a committee member's responsibilities entail. This document was simplified to foster clear understanding and growth of the FUM committee.

Lastly, we addressed sustainability by discussing motions on how to organise union operations in alignment with environmental policies, ensuring that our practices remain relevant and responsible in the long term.

4.7 Visibility and communication

The aim of the Union's communication is to make the Union's work visible to students and other stakeholders, to have an important dialogue with our members where we can capture students' opinions and reach out to and engage more students in the Union's activities and work. It is important that the Union's communication work is highly prioritized, as it is our chance to reach out with our work and our main messages. To be able to conduct a well-established student representation, we need to succeed in our goal of capturing students' opinions. From a membership recruitment perspective, it is essential that both potential and existing members have full insight into the Union's activities and also can influence them.

The primary focus of our communication over the past year has been to promote FUM's committees and the Union's events and invite to facilitate discussion on our various channels. At the same time, we have continued to use more film in our existing communication channels for visibility for better engagement, especially on Instagram. During the operational year 2025/2026, the Union has focused on the following communication channels:

4.7.1 Digital channels

Facebook

The Student Union's Facebook page is undergoing a generational shift, which means that it is no longer our primary channel for distributing information. This is clearly reflected in the level of engagement on the platform. Today, Facebook is primarily used to promote events, but also to share certain key updates and announcements.

Facebook is still not the most important channel as our target group (women and men aged 25-35) for Facebook does not fully match the target group for our activities. Younger people (18-24) do not use Facebook to the same extent and therefore we prioritize other platforms.

However, Facebook's chat function Messenger is an important interface with students, where they can ask questions and get quick answers via the chat. Today, Facebook has removed likes, which means that this is no longer relevant information. Today the Union has 6057 (6047 last year) followers instead. Facebook is an important tool for conveying the Union's message in everyday life and we can gain a lot by taking advantage of the transparency Facebook offers our brand. The Union does not share external companies' information, instead they can share their own posts on the Union's Facebook page as visitors or publish in our four student groups for the different faculties. This is partly because the Union has enough to share from us, our associations or sometimes departments from Malmö University, and partly because we want to be more consistent. However, it is possible for the Union to share posts against payment according to our document "Marketing through the Union".

Paid contributions have not been widely used this year either.

The Union can add all associations' events under its page on Facebook to increase visibility if desired. This is a good way to increase the visibility of our associations and is appreciated by them and has been done continuously during the year.

On average, unpaid everyday posts on the Union's Facebook page, such as the week's events, divisions from various institutions on Mau or our competitions, reach up to 200-300 people.

Film

We have continued to invest in moving images as they attract the most attention. During the 2025/2026 operational year, films in the form of reels have continued to be made and worked well. Films for the Union elections have also been made.

Moving format is often more time consuming to create but worth the work as it reaches more people and spreads information better than via images.

Instagram

The Union's Instagram account serves as the main platform for the Union's social channels and is based on spontaneous and direct communication where we share snapshots. This makes planning more difficult and requires everyone in the working group to contribute pictures from current events so that they can be quickly posted on Instagram before they lose their timeliness. On the other hand, there are a lot of regular posts made each year as our events recur. Instagram has been prioritized as the main channel during the operational year and at the time of writing in May 2026: 3245 (3018) followers.

Over the past year, the channel has grown naturally and gained an increased following. The stories/events function is used extensively, with the possibility of posting direct posts for 24 hours, and one goal has been to always have a story up on our account during working days, which has gone well. Our associations' events are also shared on events. Reels continue to be a format that should be used to an even greater extent, where the most attractive formula is short and quick clips, preferably in the form of a music montage. Carousels with information also attract a lot of attention.

Instagram is the channel we will invest most in and want to become even more transparent and personalized to the students. And make more content that students expect to see.

LinkedIn

Here we share things that relate to our activities more outwardly towards the business community. Such as major workshops, meetings, etc. However, not the same content as on Instagram and Facebook. Updates on LinkedIn have suffered, but the number of followers has increased from 86 followers in 2025 to 140 in spring 2026.

Orbi

Orbi is a new communication tool that the Student Union began using in the fall of 2025. This tool helps us reach students in ways that other channels cannot. Using push notifications for posts, we can quickly get information out. Through Orbi, we also publish all our events and sell tickets for events that require them.

Today, we have 2,511 followers (May 2026), of whom 628 are active members who have either applied for membership or received an invitation.

The Union's website - malmostudenter.se

The Union's website contains a lot of information that is not available anywhere else and is therefore an important information base and channel for us. The focus has been on structuring and making the website more user-friendly during the year and it has received a small makeover. Work on the web has been a focus this year, with pages getting a run-through with updated texts and images. However, it is still a work in progress.

Canvas - The Union's course area

Here students can join and get direct information from us about what is happening at the Union. Canvas is a concoction of our website, you could say, with brief information on how to contact us, what we do and what is current. At the time of writing, our Canvas has 1266 students who have chosen to subscribe to our page. Through a new routine from the university, we have the opportunity to mail information about us to all students every week, which is an invaluable feature.

The development potential for Canvas is great and there are many interactive modules that we do not currently use. We mainly use Canvas for weekly posts every Monday on our course area that informs about the coming week. We have also focused on sharing other information through Canvas, which has worked well. Canvas is a channel we will invest more in the coming operational year.

Other

Screens

Three digital screens are available, one in Lilla Kølsvinet, one in the Office Building and one at Kranen, installed by Universitetsmedia (also owner of Studieblocket). All screens have worked well and have given us at the Union an increased visibility among our members. The screens are continuously updated in connection with new events and events at the Union. Associations and sections also have the opportunity to be on the screens.

The digital screen at the Niagara office is currently used extensively. This is a screen that we have developed ourselves and the Union's own events and information will be visible. Even larger things can be seen here, but not as much as on the other screens, when it is managed manually.

University Team Channel

Here we can still post weekly announcements that are visible on Canvas. Here you can ask questions and easily communicate with the staff at Malmö University at, for example, joint events. This is also where information is added for the common weekly post on Canvas that goes out to all students.

4.7.2 Prints

Posters and flyers

Printed matter in the form of posters and flyers is used to promote the Union's activities for the major events such as the Union Election and the Union Award. The Toilet Paper, our physical newsletter, is printed every month of the financial year and is available in the various toilets and poster sites on campus. Posters and flyers are a difficult channel to reach out through as the competition for space is great on campus, but they still fulfil an important function by strengthening the Union's profile and highlighting our messages. It is often difficult to be seen with the smaller A4/A3 sizes that our printers print.

Survival guide

The survival guide contains useful information and tips for the first time as a student in Malmö. The guide is proving very popular, especially in English. After the initial distribution of the guides at the start of the semester, the representatives have distributed the survival guides to students at the different faculties. You can also pick up a copy in Lilla Kølsvinet. As there are quite a large number of copies left, fewer guides will be printed as well by fall 2026.

Term appendix

Along with the membership bulletin, which is sent out at the beginning of each semester. Membit gets the bulk of these to send out to students to give them all the info they need before they become members. The semester supplement is a condensed version of the Survival Guide and useful info such as contact and our activities and is meant to be timeless during the school year. At the time of writing, we have quite a few appendices left over. Has the same information in both Swedish and English. Printed in a total of 7500 copies in May 2024. Before the school year, a smaller number will be ordered (6000).

Profile products

Most of the promotional items are currently out of stock. However, we will be reordering them in the fall. No new promotional items have been developed; we'll continue with the usual items, plus bookmarks and stickers. We're also restocking pens and bottle openers. We've restocked saddle covers, as the cloth bags weren't as popular as we'd hoped.

Mailing

The Union sends out a welcome email in connection with the start of the fall and spring semesters to all new students at Malmö University. The email contains information links to, among other things, the Survival Guide, the Union's website and Insparken. Statistics from the mailing show a high opening rate and many link clicks, which means that this is an important and effective communication channel. For every Toilet Paper, emails have been sent out every month where the opening rate is above 50 percent, which is considered positive. This is something we will continue to do next year as well

In addition, newsletters have been sent out to our members about candidacy, about voting in the Union elections. Since we use Orbi, Apsis can eventually be replaced.

§ 5. The Student Union operations: areas of responsibility

5.1 Housing

At the beginning of the 2025/26 financial year, Malmö was again listed in red, for the third year in a row, in the annual SFS housing report. This classification is based on a telephone interview with the chairman of the Student Union and the MKB that investigated the issue. The red listing meant that the city began to take it seriously and within the framework of the Student City Malmö project, various workshops and SPAs with the theme of student housing are organized.

At the beginning of the 2025/26 financial year, 68 students have applied for temporary housing through the Soffprojektet and there have been 10 hosts available. The project manager has developed the marketing plan together with the communicator to increase the visibility of the Soffprojektet. We expect a greater search pressure for the 2026 autumn semester, and we already have 8 students who have applied for a sofa as a temporary solution. This shows that although the city is aware of and working on the issue, it will take time before we see real results, as there is still a significant shortage of student apartments. Throughout the year, the Union has run the Sofa Project to help students who have difficulty finding accommodation. This year, the project was more successful than the previous year, but we still lack more hosts for students seeking sofa projects as a temporary solution to the housing shortage.

The Union supports all actors, public or private, who want to be part of the solution. Anyone who wants to build and provide more student housing should be encouraged to do so.

In addition, the Union maintains its position on creating a housing foundation, so that it can be found in other traditional student cities in Sweden. As a non-profit organisation, a housing foundation would secure student influence, guarantee fair and reasonable rents and reinvest any surplus in building more student housing. The Union sees a combination of public, private and non-profit actors as the best way to solve the student housing crisis. While private actors and the city can offer faster solutions, the housing foundation would be the fairest and most sustainable long-term option.

The Union has also continued its responsibility for the second-hand portal Hemma, which is managed by the organisation administrator. Hemma has functioned very well during the year, and both students and landlords have been satisfied with the service.

Throughout the financial year, the Union has also run the Sofa Project to help students who have difficulty finding accommodation. This year, the project was more successful than the previous year, but we still lack more hosts for students seeking sofa projects as a temporary solution to the housing shortage.

During the financial year 2024/25, the Union, in collaboration with Jag vill ha bostad, developed a housing guide entitled "Safe Housing Practice in Malmö". This initiative aligns with the Union's action plan to address housing issues. The guide contains all the relevant information that new

students need to navigate Malmö's housing market correctly and we must ensure that it is shared with the newly arrived international students.

This guide is particularly important given that approximately 40 apartments in Malmö University's student housing were removed for cost reasons, reducing housing availability and limiting guarantees for newly admitted students. Therefore, it is important to provide clear, accessible and fair information and this guide serves precisely that purpose.

5.2 Union election

This year's council elections saw 25 candidates for 19 seats, a number like last year, and a decrease from 23/24 year when we had 29 candidates. This year's voting turnout was slightly lower. This year's total was 404 votes compared to last year which was 484.

In order to reach out to students both before and during the candidacy period and the voting period, the Union was partly out at the various faculties to talk about this directly with students, partly we used digital channels to spread information and partly we got help from teachers to spread an information film about the Union election that we had recorded during the fall semester.

It is still difficult to recruit candidates and reach out to students. For the coming year, a strategy needs to be developed to increase students' knowledge of the Union election and their interest in joining the council.

The election committee consists of three people. Unfortunately, the third person had to step down because they wished to nominate themselves as a candidate, but the committee was able to work well together.

5.3 Events

5.3.1 Music pub

During this operational year, due to the lack of premises the Union was unable to hold any Music Pubs.

5.3.2 The Faculty Cup

This year, with the loss of the student pub, most associations haven't been able to host events for the faculty cup, though Festmesteriet continued to have quizzes that worked towards the Faculty Cup along with our own competitions.

The faculty cup winner this year was TS

5.3.3 Utsparken

Utsparken is a social event designed to conclude the academic year, serving as a contrast to Insparken. This year it was included with the Thank you event and Union awards.

Due to uncertainty about locations and the joint association week being so close, we have decided to host mini games and activities during the big Thank you event on the 22nd of May. Along with a big party after the dinner.

5.3.4 Thank you event

During the operational year, three thank-you events were organised. The first one was a Thank-you event for the Insparken in charge, held in November at Orkanen restaurant. The second one was a small thank you event for our engaged students - student reps and council members and was held in December at Lilla Kölsvinet. The third one was a big thank-you event held in May.

The big thank-you event, which was named "Big Summer Sitting and afterparty" and was open to all students, was held on 22 May 2026 with more than 100 participants. The event faced several major challenges during the planning phase, including competition from large external events such as the Lund Carnival, free activities in Folkets Park, and ongoing examination hand-ins for students. These factors negatively affected ticket sales and created uncertainty around participation levels.

Despite these challenges, the event was ultimately successful due to intensive promotion efforts, strong teamwork, and continued engagement throughout the planning process. One of the special guests at the event was the Vice Chancellor of Malmö University, who delivered an appreciated speech highlighting the importance of student engagement and student life at the university.

The event also served as an opportunity to recognise and appreciate student representatives who contribute to various committees and meetings across the university, as well as the resigning presidency.

5.3.5 Soup lunch and student breakfast

During this operational year, due to the lack of premises, the Union was unable to hold any soup lunches or student breakfasts.

5.4 Cultural cooperation

There haven't been many cultural collaborations this year. Some organisations have offered us press accreditation for events, and Malmö Opera offered us tickets to the rehearsal.

5.5 Sofa project

During the 2025–2026 academic year, 68 students applied for temporary housing through the Soffprojektet, and 10 hosts were available. The project manager, together with the communications officer, developed a marketing plan to increase the visibility of the Soffprojektet. We expect a high volume of applications for the fall semester of 2026. Application forms for students in need of temporary housing and for those wishing to become sofa hosts are accepted year-round.

5.6 Internationalisation

During this year, Malmö University continued to strengthen its commitment to internationalisation. From the *Advisory Board of Education*, we've focused on expanding the university's international portfolio. A key strategy is integrating English-language electives across most programs. This not only builds students' bilingual competence but also makes it easier for international students to spend an elective semester at Malmö University.

Another major initiative was the development of the CIM Certificate 2.0. Its goal is to encourage student participation in globally oriented activities, such as attending international workshops, writing theses abroad, and engaging in “internationalisation at home” through student-led events hosted by the Union.

The Union has also been active, taking part in workshops focused on internationalisation and student mobility. This came in response to national media reports highlighting the lack of interest among Swedish students in studying abroad. The Union has worked closely with Malmö University to develop strategic responses to this issue.

The University Strategy 2025- 2030 has now been finalised and formally adopted. One of its key strategic priorities is internationalisation, a goal that the Student Union consistently emphasised throughout the workshop sessions and strategy development process. This further reinforces the need for Malmö University to actively promote bilingualism and expand opportunities for student and staff mobility and international exchange across the university.

The Council for Global Engagement (RAGE) was restructured this year, with its cancellation due to the belief that internationalisation should be part of all council meetings. As a result, KS and LS do not have an internationalisation council, while TS and HS have decided to keep theirs.

One of the year's highlights was a series of presentations by faculty representatives. These shared insights into internationalisation efforts within each faculty were examined to assess how these efforts support the university's overall strategic goals.

Finally, student involvement in international alliances grew stronger. Malmö University students took on leadership roles within both the UNIC and SASUF student boards. Our representative to UNIC also contributed actively to the alliance's external coordinating group.

Turning to the UNIC Alliance, Malmö University has continued to play an active role in the UNIC Student Board. Malmö University's representative currently serves as the Vice President of the UNIC Student Board, reflecting the university's strong commitment to student representation and collaboration within the alliance.

In addition, Malmö University has successfully launched the UNIC Ambassadorship Programme, providing students with the opportunity to promote the values of the UNIC Alliance, engage their peers in international initiatives, and strengthen the university's international community.

On the SASUF front, the initiative is now operational again following a new round of funding from the Swedish and South African governments. SASUF2.0 follows a series of activities that demonstrate the importance of internationalisation and collaboration between the two countries. As part of these efforts, the Student Board has organised a series of coffee break sessions to engage students in discussions on research, sustainability, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition, SASUF launched the Student Leadership Programme, a fully funded leadership development programme that provides participants with a certificate upon completion. The programme is designed to equip students with valuable leadership skills and global perspectives that will benefit them throughout their academic, professional, and personal lives. The first training session will take place in October 2026 in Linköping, followed

by a second session in February 2027. Through this initiative, six Malmö University students have been selected to participate in this valuable opportunity.

In conclusion, this year marked significant strides towards a more globalized and interconnected learning environment at Malmö University.

5.7 Coffee with the Union (KmK)

During the operational year, the “Coffee with the Student Union” initiative was held at Niagara, Orkanen, HS, and Kranen, creating an environment where students actively shared their views on topics such as their education, work environment, study conditions, and student life.

Recurring themes and trends included the challenge of finding affordable housing near campus and the difficulty of making ends meet without working while studying. Similarly, students mentioned that it is difficult to find part-time jobs that can be balanced with their studies. Some programs stand out for their workload, while others feel they have far too little on their schedules.

Students are asking for more teacher-led time to have the opportunity to ask questions and further deepen their knowledge. Furthermore, students expressed a desire for a student pub to serve as their own meeting place.

This event is open to both internal and external guests, and during the fiscal year we have welcomed visitors from faculty staff, the student union's own groups, and external organisations such as labour unions and entities in both the public and private sectors.

All student groupings were invited to attend KmK, though the majority of them decided to attend during the spring semester.

We had a lot of external companies and labour unions attending our event this year, though the majority attended during the spring semester.

5.8 Introductions

5.8.1 Orientation Week

The Union, in conjunction with the university, organised the orientation week. The Union contributed volunteers, gave speeches and organised an association fair for the students.

The Union presented itself and engaged students with different possibilities for getting involved. Similarly, we continued the work for Spring Semester, even though the Orientation Week was on a smaller scale due to fewer international students joining for VT26

Lastly, the Union has been in regular contact with the International Office regarding the orientation week for HT26, which will be quite different due to Housing's inability to host many events.

The Union will also host an additional event in autumn, in collaboration with our association ESN, which will allow more international students to meet us.

5.8.2 Tjuvkik

Tjuvkik was organised as usual by the Student Centre at the start of both the autumn and spring semesters. The Union contributed by giving a speech at the fair, by being at the fair itself, and by hosting an event for the students, "fika with the Union," at Lilla Kölsvinet.

5.8.3 Insparken

Insparken 2026/2027 is already in planning; however, it began with challenges in the recruitment process, as only two Generals could initially be recruited despite the steering documents requiring at least three. This was mainly due to a limited number of qualified candidates who met the set requirements. As a result, the organisation proceeded with only two Generals.

In contrast, the recruitment process for captains and fadders received a very high number of applications, demonstrating strong student interest and engagement.

Circling back to the Insparken 2025/2026 edition, it achieved strong participation throughout the entire two-week event. Inspark responsible from several faculties contributed significantly to the success of the social activities. Together with the Generals, the team collaborated closely to ensure smooth coordination and a successful implementation of the event.

5.9 Collaboration

During both autumn and spring semesters, the Union organised the Union Days. It lasted three days, and both the University and the associations, sections, and several organisations and companies participated; it was very successful.

In September, the Mecenat tour also visited, which was very much appreciated by the students. Both companies and organisations have contacted us to visit the university, and we have had several visits during the year. The organisational administrator has worked further on strategies for increased cooperation.

During the year, we have had various collaborations. We entered a partnership with Adlibris Campus, but when they announced that they were closing their physical stores, the partnership ended almost immediately. At the beginning of the semester, we launched a brief partnership with the Granit store, during which we handed out pens and informational materials at Student Union Days.

5.10 Associations and Student Groups

During the 2025/26 Operational year, the Union managed to revive the Malmö Debate Society. Furthermore, we established one student group this year, named: FLA Malmö.

The associations have been holding at least biweekly events and recruiting new members throughout the operational year. On the other hand, some of the associations remained dormant, such as the Choir, FAMUS, and Triple-S.

At the same time, the Union held two joint meetings in the autumn semester and six in the spring, with multiple associations and sections joining each time.

We also held a joint association week, with the theme “Community and Belonging” with many associations hosting events. It was quite successful, and we have already gathered feedback from associations on how to improve for next year.

5.11 Sections

During the 2025–2026 academic year, there were three active sections: the Global Political Students Section (GPS Section), the Technology and Society Section (TSS Section), and, more recently, the Police Students Section (PSS Section). A common challenge for the sections is recruiting members and volunteers, as well as ensuring continuity when members graduate or there are vacancies on the section board. This often means a few people end up doing more work, which is unsustainable.

The Section responsible has developed a handbook for sections, intended to serve as a guiding resource for the onboarding of new board members and for use during the handover. The handbook contains general information about sections and describes each section's purpose, mission, and responsibilities regarding students and the Malmö Student Union. Following these sections, the section has the option to add specific information relevant to that particular section, such as checklists, division of responsibilities, important dates to remember, internal procedures, and more.

The role of “education monitor” is still under review, and we can expect a decision on whether the role will be retained in 2026.

Due to temporary facilities, we are unable to offer the activities we previously provided. The lack of suitable facilities is a setback for the sections and places higher demands on creativity and effort to offer their members the desired activities.

5.12 Digitalisation

During the year (starting in the fall), the Student Union has been using the Orbi platform, a centralised system for membership, communication, ticket sales, and increased visibility for student union groups within the organisation. This year has served as a trial period to determine the best way to work with the platform. We continue to work with it and see that it will be a powerful tool for our future communication with students. During the year, meetings were held with Orbi to introduce new features that will improve our website and communication. Today, it is used as a complement to the existing membership system, Membedit.

At the university level, the Union has remained an active voice in digital development, including the Council for Digitalisation, ensuring that student interests are well represented in digital initiatives and advancements. The Union also meets with the IT department on various issues affecting students, such as the Canvas attack, Multifactor implementation, and the visibility of the student web on the main website.

Union, being diligent in its representation duties, delegated student representatives to contribute to multiple digital working groups.

This year, the Union played a central role in creating guidelines on the responsible use of AI. It also participated in major efforts to deploy multi-factor authentication for Malmö University students and helped develop a Canvas course on AI usage, which will be available to all students as a reference resource.

5.13 Practicum program, VFU

During the year, the Ombudsman for HS and LS has been responsible for issues and development related to the university's practicum program (VFU). The Ombudsman is part of the KVAL-VFU (Quality in Practicum Education), which was formed at LS. The group consists of a small number of faculty members who collectively have expertise and experience in the work-based education component of the preschool teacher and teacher education programs, along with the education director, the academic director for VFU, the associate dean, and the LS student ombudsman. The group specifically examines issues related to VFU in teacher education programs and serves in an advisory capacity to decision-making bodies at Malmö University.

VFU-rådet has had one regular student representative and one alternate representative during the fiscal year.

One particular issue highlighted is that the university is unable to secure VFU placements for students eligible for transitional student aid. Since this aid is time-limited, postponing VFU has serious financial consequences for these students.

The Ombudsman is involved in the work on the reformed teacher education programs at LS.

5.14 Labour market connections and Career Transitioning

This topic remains a vital part of our operational plan, following discussions within the Union Council where students called for increased efforts to support career development. It was initially identified that students in general degree programs faced significant challenges in establishing themselves in the labour market. As a result, the Union decided to involve key stakeholders in organising targeted career fairs.

In February 2026, the university organised Meet Your Future, a specialised career fair for GPS students. This was the third time the event was held, following the 2024 pilot. The fair offered students the opportunity to engage with industry professionals, alumni, and potential employers through both formal presentations and informal networking. It was a collaborative effort between the GPS department, the GPS section, and the Student Centre (including Careers, GPS study counsellors, and Alumni Relations).

The TS section also organised a Career Day for TS students, GearUp, with two project leaders responsible for planning and executing the event and the after-work event. Moreover, a platform was created for GearUp to assist students with matching with companies related to their studies.

During the day, more than 20 faculty volunteers helped with the event, and it was quite successful.

Now in VT26, the TS section, along with the Union, held interviews for the new project leaders, with 4 new leaders being selected, 3 from the DVMT and 1 from the MTM department.

The 4 new project leaders have already begun preparing for GearUp in HT26, and the event is scheduled for the 25th of November 2026.

The Union also continues to have a representative on the board of Drivhuset. However, cooperation has been limited, as several board meetings were held at times that conflicted with the Union representative's schedule. Despite this, the relationship between the Union and Drivhuset remains positive.

§ 6. The Student Union's operations in the faculties

6.1 Health and Society (HS)

Student engagement at the Faculty of Health and Society continues to yield mixed results. Of the committees and councils at the faculty that have formal student representatives, all have at least one position filled. There is good communication between the faculty and the Malmö Student Union regarding both formal and semi-formal student influence. Semi-formal student influence takes place through course evaluations, program councils, and course forums. The program councils often have appointed student representatives, while course forums tend to be well attended only when a major problem has arisen. The response rate for course evaluations tends to decline as the program progresses.

Student council meetings at HS have had few or no attendees. Similarly, there have been few or no participants during the "meet your representative" sessions. A positive outcome of having a full-time student representative is that the relationship with the Malmö Student Union is strengthened for both students and staff at the university through personal, ongoing contact with the student representative. This continuity also enables increased collaboration in both the short and long term.

A lack of student engagement in social activities organised by the Union persists. Although many students express a desire for a stronger sense of community and opportunities to meet other students outside the classroom, there is no evidence of any effort or motivation on the part of students to take the initiative themselves to start their own clubs or sections through the Student Union Malmö. Many students describe how high academic demands and a lack of time due to commitments outside their studies hinder their ability to get involved.

The HS Ombudsman, together with the Vice Dean and the Equal Opportunity Coordinator, has organised a professional development session for the semi-formal student representatives to help them feel confident in their roles and responsibilities regarding both content and execution. This session was well-received and will be held regularly, 1–2 times per semester.

The HS Ombudsman holds regular meetings with the Vice Dean to discuss the number and type of student cases received through the Malmö Student Union. These meetings also serve as a forum for information exchange, allowing the Union and the faculty to update each other on current issues in their respective and joint activities.

6.2 Education and Society (LS)

The faculty has a total of 31 positions for formal student representatives. 23 of these positions are distributed across 11 program committees, and the remaining positions are held on the Faculty Board, the Curriculum Committee, the Management Council, the Clinical Training Council, and as alternates on the LFN. By the end of the spring semester of 2026, 22 of these positions had been filled.

Over the past academic year, LS's ombudsman has worked diligently to build strong relationships with faculty staff in order to understand the unit's structure, gain insight into who is responsible

for what, and establish contact with key individuals to develop a systematic approach to recruitment and the renewal of mandates for formal student representatives.

Opportunities for student influence are primarily provided through program committees, course evaluations, and a semi-formal structure within the elementary teacher education program called the "Student Assembly/Student Forum."

As with other faculties, it remains difficult to recruit student representatives, and student engagement is low. Students at LS also express that other commitments in life, combined with the high pressure to succeed in their studies, constitute barriers to getting involved.

The LS Student Council has primarily been used to elect formal student representatives, as its decision-making authority is proportional to the number of students participating. There is a need to systematise communication between the Student Union and the councils and committees that have formal student representatives. This is because student representatives may choose to step down from their positions or graduate. The chair or secretary needs to maintain good communication with the LS Student Ombudsman regarding this, especially now that the Student Union no longer has access to the Staff Portal, which contains information about who serves on the various councils and committees with formal student representation. The LS Student Ombudsman and the Vice Dean plan to hold an LS-specific training session for incoming formal student representatives to help them better understand how the faculty is organised and what types of issues are discussed in the various councils and committees. This training will be offered in conjunction with the Student Union's election of formal student representatives in September/October of the 2026 fall semester.

6.3 Culture and Society (KS)

The Faculty of Culture and Society at Malmö University is one of the largest faculties, housing three departments: the Department of Global Political Studies, the Department of Urban Studies, and the School of Art and Communication. These departments offer a wide range of programs.

For the operational year 25/26, KS has been the most successful faculty when it comes to student influence. They have worked on training with the semi-formal representatives, and all departments have had meetings with the ombud to discuss current errands and how to improve them.

Each month, the vice dean of education and the quality coordinator have met with the ombud to discuss current issues at the faculty and updates from the KS leadership meeting.

Moreover, the majority of student errands that came to the Union have been handled mostly between the ombud and the teacher, with only a few landing with the head of the department and two with the dean.

Specifically for each department:

Global Political Studies:

The department has seen a significant decrease in student errands this academic year, with the largest being the graduation mingle, which was handled by the mingle coordinator.

Culture, Arts and Communication (K3):

The department has had an increase of student errands this academic year, but majority of the errands had to grades and they ended on the teacher's level.

Urban Studies:

The Urban studies department had three student errands this academic year, all of which were solved at the teacher level.

We have also been working to highlight student engagement in the department by meeting with the head of the department, which seems to be working well, with more students from the department approaching the union.

In conclusion, the faculty has worked hard with student influence and on student errands, with both the faculty and the Union enjoying strong and pleasant cooperation.

Student Influence

At the beginning of the semester, we conducted mandatory visits to all classes in KS, so-called "Roll-in". These visits aimed to inform new students about how to participate in Insparken, opportunities for student involvement and membership duties.

During the academic year, student involvement and participation in KS faculty meetings have improved significantly. All positions were elected in forums, and students were happy to participate in these meetings. The elected representatives did an excellent job of presenting the student perspective, and the representative kept in touch with the formal representatives by creating a Slack channel and through email conversations.

6.4 Technology and Society (TS)

At the start of the 2025/26 academic year, the Ombud conducted introductory visits to all first-year courses across the various programs, with assistance from the board member with faculty responsibility for TS, to familiarise incoming students with the Union.

All the program visitations were done physically, the ombud had 10 mins in all of the first introductory classes in TS.

The ombud also ensured a PowerPoint presentation was available on the program's Canvas page after each of her introductory visits.

During the forum, some positions were able to be filled, with three more student representatives being elected during local student council, which left only two ordinary positions in TS: the extra board member of the Education Board of TS and the TS Internationalisation council.

The ombud has also had monthly meetings with the vice dean of TS, alongside the member with faculty responsibility for TS and has started planning bimonthly meetings with the heads of departments.

The faculty also remains one that has the least student errands among the four faculties the Union represents and is constantly working on improving the engagement and efficiency of their programmes.

§ 7. External collaboration

7.1 Collaboration groups at the University and Student City Malmö

The Student Union has been an active part of the steering group for "Student City Malmö", the group consists of student representatives from the Student Union, the Dental Student Union and representatives from the university and the city of Malmö, the student city coordinator is the convener. The chairmanship of the group rotates between the city of Malmö and MAU. At the beginning of spring 2026, the city of Malmö decided to involve Lund and Lund University in this project.

During the year, the collaboration has focused primarily on issues of student transitions and student life in the city according to the action plan. Regarding the housing issue, a survey is distributed among students at Malmö University, and the results are presented at the follow-up meeting in spring 2025. Several workshops regarding student housing are also being arranged in 2025.

At the beginning of the 2025/26 academic year, a physical SPA (Student Politician Evening) was held at City Hall, focusing on student housing and how to improve the situation.

During the spring semester, SPA was held in Kalendergatan with the theme "A sustainable student life". The discussions focused on what a student needs to complete their studies and what the city and the university can do to make student life easier and more sustainable. Among other things, we talked about economic and psychosocial conditions and needs.

The president has been part of the reference group for collaboration between Malmö University and the City of Malmö. The main task of this group is to plan and coordinate meetings for the collaboration group.

The vice president for education monitoring sits on the advisory board for Collaboration at Malmö University. There, student attendance, course reports, AI, students, work environment, related collaboration with other universities and exchange of best practices between faculties were discussed - especially regarding student engagement.

7.2 SFS and SFSFUM2025

During the financial year, the Union has participated in a physical member meeting. The autumn semester's physical member meeting was held in Gothenburg in November and LS members attended the meeting. The issues surrounding the three-year organisational focus question were discussed, as well as political issues within the school sector and the budget. There was also an opportunity to discuss organisational challenges with the other unions in Sweden.

The second member meeting was held in February, which we were unable to attend.

In addition, a couple of digital member meetings have been held, and the president and ombudsman participated in a few due to a tight schedule.

The union's delegation to SFSFUM in Skövde consisted of 8 delegates, with the organisational administrator as delegation leader.

The union continued to be represented in the SFS network for education monitoring and the network for student work environment representatives.

7.3 Other Student Unions

The Union, the Odontological Student Union Malmö and Doctoral Student Union Malmö have had a collaboration agreement since 2019. The Union and the Odontological Student Union intensified their cooperation through joint work on the Student City Malmö project.

In addition, the president has organised numerous meetings during the year, at which all three Unions have updated each other on developments at the University and discussed various issues and areas of cooperation.

The Unions plan to continue collaborating in the coming year and are considering scheduling regular monthly meetings among the three Unions.

The three student Unions will continue to collaborate closely around the European University of Post-Industrial Cities (UNIC) in the future, and will most likely rotate in serving on the Student UNIC Board.