**Input from the Swedish Women’s Lobby to the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material**

The Swedish Women’s Lobby has the position that surrogacy is a trade with women’s bodies and children, as well as a threat to women’s and basic human rights and bodily integrity. We work for a ban on all forms of surrogacy motherhood arrangements on a national, European and international level.

Due to the lack of statistics and the fact that there’s no expressed law that either prohibits nor permits surrogacy in Sweden, following input will be very brief.

**Sweden and surrogacy**

According to the Nordic surrogacy company Tammuz Nordic, almost 200 Swedish children were born through surrogacy arrangements abroad in 2018. That exceeds the number of adoptions that year, and the number is expected to increase.

I June 2018 the Swedish parliament adopted a bill on making the UN Convetion on the Rights of the Child Swedish Law.

The new act clarifies that courts and legal practitioners must consider the rights contained in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The rights of the child must be considered in deliberations and assessments made in decision-making processes in cases and matters that concern children. [[1]](#footnote-1)

It’s expected to enter into force in 2020.

There’s currently no expressed prohibition on surrogacy in Sweden, nor an expressed legislation allowing surrogacy arrangements. According to the investigation issued by the Swedish government from 2016 – all forms of surrogacy should be illegal.[[2]](#footnote-2) In 2018 the Swedish government decided that surrogacy should not be allowed in the health care system. Otherwise than that, there’s currently no laws or controlling mechanisms for Swedish citizens using surrogacy mothers abroad.

1. Government.se; New legislative proposal on the convention on the rights of the child; 2018; <https://www.government.se/articles/2018/03/new-legislative-proposal-on-the-convention-on-the-rights-of-the-child/> (30/05/19) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Regeringen.se; Statens offentliga utredningar; 2016 <https://www.regeringen.se/rattsliga-dokument/statens-offentliga-utredningar/2016/02/sou-201611/> (30/05/19) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)