



A one-day symposium arranged by

Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences and Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences

Stockholm, Monday the 6th of May 2002 at the conference centre of the Royal Academy of Engineering Sciences.

Our challenges of today are not the risks of great land-, air- or sea battles as in the past. Instead we have to face smaller trouble spots with or without elements of hot fighting. These demands of crises management can appear everywhere round the globe. We have to adapt to the new situation and in co-operation with other countries build our military capabilities to fit into the new regional and global security order.

The Swedish geographical situation close to the Baltic Sea has made it natural for us during long time to concentrate on the demands in that type of surroundings. Continuous presence and flexible action capability above, on, under and from the sea constitute the prerequisites for preventing international crises in our vicinity.

The symposium will therefore focus on the needs and means for Maritime Security capability in littoral and extreme littoral areas and how the Swedish Armed Forces are preparing to meet the new challenges.

The symposium is arranged as a part of the celebrations according to the centurial of the Coastal Artillery.

Program

The 6th of May 2002

Time	Subject	Speakers
08.30	Register, coffee	Symposium secretariat
09.00	Opening of the symposium	The Presidents of the Academies: Jörn Beckman and Göran Larsbrink,
09.10	Opening remarks	LtGen Lars G. Persson RSwN (ret)
	Chair of the symposium	Mr. Anders Hellner, UI
09.30	International operations	BrigGen. Michael Ennis, USMC
10.10	Dynamics of European security	Dr. Hans-Christian Hagman, MoD
10.30	New threats against maritime security.	Cdre Emil Svensson RSwN (ret)
10.50	Specific military needs in the extreme littorals.	VAdm Frank Rosenius RSwN (ret)
11.10	Panel debate – Changes in the strategic situation and maritime needs.	Dr. Hans-Christian Hagman, MoD Cdre Emil Svensson RSwN (ret) VAdm Frank Rosenius RSwN (ret) Radm Claes Tornberg RSwN(ret) Mr. Hans Zettermark, SwNDC LtCol Bo Fallander,
		Moderator: Mr. Anders Hellner UI
12.15	Lunch	Symposium secretariat
13.30	Swedish defence planning – how to meet the new world order.	LtGen Johan Kihl, RswA
14.10	Technological possibilities in network centric warfare.	Mr. Svante Bergh, vice chairman Ericsson Microwave System AB
14.40	Challenges and possibilities	LtGen B – A Johansson, RSwN
15.10	Coffee	Symposium secretariat
15.30	The Swedish Navy - A concept for Extreme Littoral Operations today and in the Future.	Radm Jörgen Ericsson, RSwN Col Bengt Andersson RSwN
16.00	Panel debate	RAdm Jörgen Ericsson Col Bengt Andersson Col. Stefan Gustafsson Capt (N) Odd Werin, RSwN Cdr Lennart Bengtsson
		Moderator: Anders Hellner UI
16.50	Closing the symposium	LtGen Lars G. Persson RSwN (ret)
18.00	Symposium dinner at the Swedish Naval Club	Host: Cdre Emil Svensson RSwN (ret)

PROGRAM

Monday the 6th of May 2002

0900 - 0910 Opening

The president of the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences Jörn Beckman The president of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences Göran Larsbrink

0910 - 0930 **Opening remarks**

Speaker: Lieutenant General (ret) Lars G. Persson.

The importance of the Royal Academies for the development of the Swedish Armed Forces.

Swedish capability for warfare in extreme littoral areas from an historical point of view.

The influence on Swedish strategy of earlier sudden changes in the overall strategic situation.

0930 – 1010 International operations

Speaker: Brigadier general Michael Ennis, USMC.

1010 – 1030 Dynamics of European security

Speaker: Dr. Hans Christian Hagman

The security setting in Northern Europe, and above all in the Baltic Sea region has been and continues to be in a state of dynamic transformation. Seven developments that affect the region are seen as particularly important.

- 1. Changed US geo-strategic priorities, as presented in the QDR, will most likely affect US engagement and basing in Europe. Europe is regarded as largely at peace, while today and tomorrow's threats are to be found in "a broad arc of instability" stretching from the Middle East to Northeast Asia.
- 2. NATO's enlargement and the probable membership of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania will have an impact on Baltic Sea stability and security.
- 3. More developed NATO-Russian relations may, in time, has a profound effect on NATO as an institution. In the near term, however, there is hardly reason to predict any revolutionary change.
- 4. A further transformation of NATO, with some two dozen member states plus special relations with both the EU and Russia, will affect Western security projection, decision-making and crisis-management/war fighting capabilities.

- 5. A more developed EU-US relation in the sphere of international security is on the horizon. Will the EU, in time, become a more important partner for the US in conflict prevention and multi-facetted crisis management than the European pillar of NATO?
- 6. EU enlargement will make the Baltic Sea in effect a EU lake. The dividing lines between EU members' security may become less clear and some of today's national security missions may be seen in a more regional context.
- 7. The EU's evolution towards common security and defense may have farreaching consequences for the way we perceive and promote national security.

In all probability Northern European strategic dynamism will call for increased flexibility and adaptability with regard to homeland defense, and increased regional and European cooperation and coordination in all other security fields.

1030 – 1050 New threats against Maritime Security

Speaker: Commodore Emil Svensson RSwN (ret)

Today we have to take into consideration the threat from different types of terrorist organisations. Can these groups make use of the extreme littorals in order to reach their goals? The speaker will comment on the possibilities and necessary means for a terrorist organisation to succeed in such environments. He will leave to the audience to make their own considerations on the probability of such an attack and the possibilities to counteract the terrorist activities.

1050 – 1110 Specific military needs in the extreme littorals

Speaker: Vice Admiral Frank Rosenius RSwN (ret)

With the background of the previous speakers this intervention will focus on what specific military capabilities are needed when operating in the extreme littorals.

Surveillance is one of the key areas where we have to deal with short reaction times and the ability to discriminate military and non-military targets in an area with great numbers of objects moving around close to shore.

Underwater surveillance is a very special challenge. Mines and submarines give a formidable capability for those defending a coastline or used in an aggression. Mine hunters and capability for antisubmarine warfare in shallow waters is therefore a key component for any operation conducted in the extreme littorals

Military systems designed with stealth will benefit both friend and foe and will give a specific advantage in the littorals.

Controlling the coastline give some special requirements especially when operating in the archipelago.

Interoperability will be another challenge since you operate in and are where command, control and communication must work flawlessly on a very tight time schedule. Here it would be appropriate to discuss if not Sweden should take the lead in formulating the requirements for interoperability in the littorals.

Last but not least, a nation like Sweden living in the littorals must also focus on its own capability for deterrence if the security situation in our part of the

world would so require. But this is also, of course, a prerequisite to continue to be in the forefront of having an advanced military capability in the littorals.

1110 – 1215 Panel debate — Changes in the strategic situation and maritime needs.

Dr. Hans-Christian Hagman, Commodore Emil Svensson (ret), Vice admiral Fran Rosenius (ret), Rear Admiral Claes Tornberg (ret), Mr. Hans Zettermark, and Lieutenant colonel Bo Fallander.

Moderator: Mr. Anders Hellner UI

1215 - 1330 Lunch

1330 – 1410 Swedish defence planning — How to meet the new world order.

Speaker: Lieutenant General Johan Kihl, Head of Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate, Armed Forces Headquarters.

1410 – 1440 Technological possibilities in Network Centric Warfare

Speaker: Mr. Svante Bergh, Marketing Director and Vice President Ericsson Microwave Systems AB

During the period 2001–2010, substantial expansion of the civilian infrastructure for information transfer will occur. Networks for 3G mobile telephony will be constructed and commissioned, and coverage of fiber-optic networks will increase. Network traffic will make use of Internet technology and will travel via an IP layer that utilizes the common basic network.

The armed forces will probably use an Intranet, which partially leases capacity on civilian networks, but also reinforces it with military resources. In urban areas, both coverage and capacity will often be sufficient on the civilian networks, while in rural areas, in which military forces will even operate in the future, coverage and capacity must be reinforced. The same applies when Swedish units take part in international missions, where the national infrastructure is generally insufficient and the security low.

1440 – 1510 Challenges and possibilities

Speaker: Lieutenant general Bengt Arne Johansson, Director Training and Management Directorate, Swedish Armed Forces Headquarters.

Which are the restrictions for the SwAF due to the economic situation?

What needs and possibilities exist for making better use of our officers, reserve officers and conscripts in the future international environment.

How can we organize a higher readiness within the SwAF for tasks abroad?

1510 - 1530 Coffee break

1530 – 1600 The Swedish Navy - A concept for Extreme Littoral Operations today and in the Future

Speakers: Rear Admiral Jörgen Ericsson, Inspector General of the Navy and Commander Navy Command and Colonel Bengt Andersson, commandant of Regiment 1 of Royal Swedish Marines.

Our surrounding seas are of great importance to all nations around them. They provide unique opportunities for creating a sustainable stability, which is the foundation for a continuously positive development in our part of the world. In all realistic security solutions regarding our vicinity Sweden, and the Swedish navy, has a specific responsibility for such stability. If we do not fulfil the requirements set by this responsibility, we invite others to fill the gap, creating a move of power with instability and a wide range of risks as a consequence.

The Swedish navy has since decades developed a specific and outstanding capability for missions and tasks in shallow and congested areas. Our units are, compared to most naval forces in the world, of outstanding quality.

It is clear that international military efforts, which not only mean peacekeeping operations but also the whole spectrum from defence against international terrorism to military diplomacy and the armed handling of crises has now taken over the collective self-defence previous central role in Swedish security equations. The change of our armed forces towards capability to participate in international operations is now the most prioritised aim regarding force planning and training. The Navy of today is underway developing a concept of operation that fit into this new focus. Such a concept includes all four cornerstones of our Naval Forces: Surface, Mine Counter, Submarine and Marine units, as well as close cooperation's with helicopter units, air assets and land forces.

Creating a multinational capability within the futuristic but for the Navy already currently possible ideas of Networking are an effective and flexible way of using meagre resources for peace-promoting activities. The ability to achieve a limitless transfers both military and on the civilian side is a prerequisite for being able to deal with a broader maritime threat and risk scenario. Clearly, quality precedes quantity. Therefore, the long term aims and goals of the transformation of the Swedish armed forces are most important to fulfil.

But, the Navy cannot, and will not, wait for this long term developing process. We need the capability today, in our readiness for peacetime operations, for developing skills for future operations in our exercises and — not less important, in our daily work of guarding our national maritime interests and surreal our surrounding seas.

Already today we have the ability to use tailor-made taskforces with a profile that best suits the mission and the area of operation. Such concepts that focus how players are to perform and operate international and national both in open and concealed fashion, in taskforces together with air as well as army units and civilian resources will be among the characteristics developed today and needed now and in the future. Our concept is burned out of our capability of Extreme Littoral Operations. By develop in this direction, we will be able to

cover the whole range of Missions within the needs set by our interests to protect and defend our Maritime Security today and in the future.

With this development towards a navy that can show a sustainable presence with an adapted signal effect, both in the near vicinity and internationally, a key card will have been placed in the future armed force's ability to contribute to stability. The naval forces will be on site when needed, in the near vicinity or around the coast of Europe or in Extreme Littoral areas wherever this best suits our security policy. A lot can be achieved, but the path is not an easy one.

1600 - 1650 Panel debate

Rear Admiral Jörgen Ericsson, Colonel Bengt Andersson, Colonel Stefan Gustafsson, Captain (N) Odd Werin and Commander Lennart Bengtsson.

Moderator: Mr. Anders Hellner UI

1650 Closing the symposium

Speaker: LtGen Lars G. Persson RSwN (ret)

Biographical notes

Andersson, Bengt

Colonel Bengt Andersson was born 1955. After graduation from the Royal Naval Academy 1978 he spent his first years as an officer in Karlskrona in different positions within the heavy mobile artillery units. He has been assigned to different positions in the Swedish Armed Forces Headquarters and in the Naval Staff. He has been heavily involved in the building of the Modern Swedish Amphibious Corps. He is a Graduate of the US Marine Corps Command and Staff College. He is a fellow and vice president of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences and a fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of war sciences.

Bengtsson, Lennart

Commander Lennart Bengtsson, RSwN, deputy chief of staff at Military District South. He graduated from the Royal Naval Academy 1979. He graduated from SwNDC in 1996. He has been commanding officer for a mine hunting diving squadron, chief of intelligence at Naval Command West, teacher in political science and strategy at the Defence Academy in Copenhagen and commanding officer for a mine hunting flotilla. He is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences.

Bergh, Svante

Mr. Svante Bergh is since 1996 Vice President Strategic Marketing, Sensors and Information Network Ericsson Microwave Systems AB. After his graduation from the Royal Swedish Army Academy 1965 he served as an antiaircraft officer in different positions and has been chief of plans and policy in the army staff. He has graduated from the Swedish National Defence College, the US Staff College and Danish War College. He has been commander of the anti aircraft regiment in Gothenburg and of the infantry brigade in Borås. Before leaving his military career he was promoted to major general and served as chief of staff at the central military district, military adviser at the MoD and chief of international operations at the Swedish Armed Forces Headquarter. He is a fellow of the Royal Academy of War Sciences.

Ennis, Michael

Brigadier general Michael Ennis, USMC, currently serves as the Commandant's Director of Marine Corps Intelligence. He is native of Minnesota, BGen Ennis graduated from Concordia College (Moorhead, MN) with BA degrees in French and International Relations, and from Georgetown University with an MA degree in National Security Studies. He spent eight years as an infantry officer before becoming a Russian Foreign Area Officer, which led to a career in intelligence. His Russian language assignments include tours as a Presidential translator on the Washington-Moscow Hotline in the early Reagan years, as a liaison to the Soviet Forces in occupied East Germany, as an Intermediate Nuclear Force Treaty inspector for the On-Sight Inspection Agency, and as the assistant Naval Attaché in Moscow. Prior to his selection to Brigadier General in March 2000, he served as the G-2 of III Marine Expeditionary Force in Okinawa, and as the Commanding Officer of the Joint Intelligence Centre in Hawaii.

Ericsson, Jörgen

Rear Admiral Jörgen Ericsson graduated from The Royal Naval Academy 1975, National War College (staff course) 1988-90, US Naval Command College (NCC 1994-95), Swedish National Defence College (the Senior Management) 1998, Swedish National Defence College (the Senior Executive Course) 2000. He has served on destroyers, torpedo boats, missile crafts 1975-88, commander 31.corvette squadron 1996, head of Planning's & budget department HQ 1997-99, commander 3.Surface Warfare Flotilla 1999-2001. He has been aide-de champ to His Majesty the King 1993-2001. He is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences and of the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.

Fallander, Bo

Lieutenant Colonel Bo Falander, RSwN, head of analyse section at the Intelligence Directorate Swedish Armed Forces Head Quarter. He graduated from the Royal Naval Academy 1974. He spent his first years as an officer in different positions at the mine warfare units in the Coastal Artillery. He graduated from the Swedish NDC 1986. He has been teacher in tactics, operations and strategy at the Swedish NDC.

Gustafsson, Stefan

Colonel Stefan Gustafsson is currently head of operations in the Naval Command. He started his military career as a Coast Artilery officer in 1980 (the Swedish Marines). After ten years of different positions in ASW operations in coast artillery mine barrage units, minelayers and patrol boats as well as mobile artillery units. He joined the Armed forces Staff college in 1990. After graduating in 1992, he held positions in plans and policy department at the Armed Forces Headquarter (as well as an assignment as a research fellow of the Swedish Institute of Foreign Affairs in 1993) until 1997, when he was assigned as amphibious battalion-commander and deputy brigade commander at 1st Amphibious Regiment (amf1). In

1999 he was deputy head of the strategy and force planning department at the Armed Forces Headquarter, a position he left for joining the US naval Command College, Newport, RI. He is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Science and The Royal Swedish Academy of War Science. He is also deputy chairman of the Naval warfare department in the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.

Hagman, Hans - Christian

Dr. Hans-Christian Hagman (Ph.D) is a Senior Adviser at the Swedish MoD's Secretariat of Strategic Planning (SALP). Previously he has worked for the IISS, the Swedish Armed Forces HQ, UNPROFOR, the Swedish Institute of International Affairs and FOA. He is a reserve officer (Major), has academic degrees in history, national security studies and has a Ph.D. in war studies, and has had some thirty articles published - mostly on European security policy. He is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences.

Hellner, Anders

Mr Anders Hellner is the Programme Director of the Swedish Institute of International Affairs in Stockholm. He frequently comments on foreign Affairs in radio, television and in the press. He is also presently anchoring Global Axess, a cultural and political program in TV 8. Mr Hellner's areas of speciality are the US, The Mediterranean , The Middle East and the Arab world. After studies in the US and Uppsala he was a foreign correspondent in Rome, Italy for Swedish and Finnish newspapers. He has been the Director of the European Institute of International Affairs, the head of Foreign News and Foreign Affairs at the Swedish Television where he also anchored the long running program "Document from abroad". Anders Hellner was also the Chief Editor and News-anchor of TV 3 in London. He has published many articles and essays especially about Italian, Middle Eastern and US affairs.

Johansson, Bengt - Arne

Lieutenant general Bengt Arne Johansson graduated from the Naval Academy 1969, Swedish War College Staff Course 1978-1980, US Marine Corps Command and Staff College 1981-82, Swedish Defence Course 1992 and 1995, NATO Defence College Senior Course 1997. He was promoted to second lieutenant 1969, lieutenant colonel 1983, colonel 1991, brigadier 1994 major general 1997 and lieutenant general 2000. He has been instructor and company commander KA 3 69-78, staff officer Eastern Military District 80-81, teacher in strategy Swedish Defence College 82-84, teacher in tactics Coast Artillery Combat School 84-86, staff officer Naval Staff 86-87, chief of staff to the Coast Artillery Inspector 87-89, head operational section 1 (G 3) Defence Staff 89-91, commander of 4th Coast Artillery Brigade 91-94, deputy chief of Naval Staff 94-97, deputy chief of Joint Operations Staff 1997-2000 and since 1st July 2000 Director General Training and Management Directorate. He is member of Royal Academy of General Training and Management Directorate. He is also a fellow of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences and of the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.

Kihl, Johan

Lieutenant General Johan Kihl graduated from Army academy 1969, War College 78-80, Harvard University, USA 87-88. Second Lieutenant 1969, Lieutenant 1971, Captain 1972, Major 1980, Lieutenant Colonel 1985, Colonel 1990, Brigadier 1996, Major General 1998, Lieutenant General 2000. He has been company commander K 4 73-78, served in the British Army on the Rhine 1974, served in the Swedish UN battalion in Cyprus 1984, staff officer 80-87, battalion commander/brigade commander I 3 Örebro, 88-90, staff officer 90-92, commander of the Norrland Dragoon Regiment Arvidsjaur 92.96, head of long-term planning department, Swedish Armed Forces HQ 96-98, in 1998 deputy director general of Joint Forces Directorate at SwNAF Head Quarters and since July 2000 Head of Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate, Armed Forces Headquarters. He is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.

Persson, Lars G.

Lieutenant General (ret) Lars G. Persson, SwCA. Officer 1960, Brigadier 1983, Major General 1987, Lieutenant General 1996. He has been COBrig 1980-82, CO Naval Command 1982-1983, Chief Operations Swedish NAF HQ 1983-87, Deputy Chief of Naval Staff 1987-94, Chief International Operations 1994-96, Commanding General Northern Joint Command 1996-98. Retired 1998. Since then at Swedish MoD as adviser to the Commander of Latvian NAF. He is a fellow of Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences and the Royal Swedish Academy of war Sciences.

Rosenius, Frank

Vice Admiral Frank Rosenius (ret) was Deputy Supreme Commander at the Swedish Armed Forces Head Quarter 1998 – 2000. He graduated from the Royal Naval Academy 1962 and spent his first years in submarines and was the captain of RSwN Submarine Sea Serpent 1969-70. He graduated from the Swedish NDC 1974 and US Naval War College 1981. He has been Commanding Officer, 4th surface flotilla 85-88, Chief of Fleet Staff 88-89, Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Operations) 89-92, Deputy

Head of Department of International and Security Affairs in Ministry of Defence 93-94, C in C Swedish Fleet 94-98. He is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences and the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.

Svensson, Emil

Commodore (ret) Emil Svensson was born 1940. He joined the Navy 1959 and was trained to become an Anti Submarine officer. During the 80-s he was deeply involved in the Swedish attempts to counteract the under water intrusions in Swedish territorial waters, both in the frontline as squadron commander and as an analyst in the staff organisation. During 1992-95 he became security policy advisor to the Swedish Prime Minister and was head of the Swedish delegation in the "submarine talks" with Russia. From 1995 to retirement he worked in FMV as head of Underwater Weapons Directorate and finally as Chief of Navy Material Command. He is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences and the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences. He is also president of the Naval warfare department in the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.

Tornberg, Claes

Rear Admiral Claes Tornberg was Commandant of the Swedish Defence College from 1990 to 1998. During his presidency he developed and managed the changes from a military college to an academic institute, a university for military affairs. Before being appointed President and Commandant he was Commander in Chief of the Swedish Fleet. During this period he transformed the fleet from a peacetime unit into a deployed fleet. Claes Tornberg has also been head of plans and policy department in the Naval Staff. He graduated from the Royal Swedish Naval Academy in 1958. He sailed in torpedoboats and destroyers for 11 years. After graduating from the Swedish Armed Forces Staff and War College and from the Naval War College in US he held staff appointments in regional and joint staffs and as commander of torpedoboat squadron. After his retirement he is working as a consultant for senior management programs. He is vice chairman for Kockums AB and the HDW group representative in Sweden. He is also president of the Swedish Maritime League and chairman of the board for Kristineberg Marine Research Station. He is a member of the "group of experts" at the Institute for International Humanitarian Law in San Remo. Claes Tornberg is an honorary member of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences, member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Military Sciences and member of the council at the Swedish Institute for Foreign Affairs..

Werin, Odd

Caiptain (N) Odd Werin, RSwN, is commanding officer of a surface flotilla. He graduated from the Royal Naval Academy 1981.He graduated from the SwNDC 1994 with speciality in communications warfare. He has served in surface flotillas and been commanding officer for a corvette squadron. He has been assign to different positions such as plans och policy at the Swedish Naval Staff and at NATO staff (POC Mons) in Belgium. He is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences.

Zettermark, Hans

Hans Zettermark is a senior analyst and teacher with the Department of Security and Strategy at the Swedish National Defence College. He has also analysed European and National Security Policy at the Swedish National Defence Research Establishment. Zettermark holds an M.A. in military history from Stockholm University and a B.B.A. from Uppsala University. He is a major in the reserves and honour graduate of the US Army Psychological Operations Officers Course. His military positions include battery commander in the Coast Artillery and press information officer at the Armed Forces HQ.



The Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences

The Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences is a royal academy, which means that His Majesty the King is its protector. The academy, a non-state organisation, was established in 1771 and has as its aim to follow and proactively work for the development of naval science and seafaring in general.

As one of the world's oldest naval science academies, the Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences is active through the follow up of development within its five areas of activity, the area being:

- Strategy and the use of fighting forces
- Personnel, training and organisation
- Arms technology
- Construction of arms carriers
- Human technology and maintenance service.

The Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences has over 400 honorary members, ordinary members and corresponding members. Business is carried out in seven ordinary meetings every business year, the year being finished off with a more formal meeting.

The Royal Swedish Society of Naval Sciences publishes a journal, "Tidskrift i Sjöväsendet" (Naval Affairs), in which the members' introductory addresses and other essays in the area are published. The Society has a comprehensive library in Karlskrona. The Society encourages initiatives in its field e.g., through writing competitions, with different forms of reward.



The Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences

The Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences is a royal academy, which means that His Majesty the King is its protector. The academy, a non-state organisation, was established 1796 and are promoting sciences of importance to Sweden's defence and security.

The Academy is divided into six departments, each one representing different discipline of the total defence. Every department has its own board and is responsible for its own meetings, symposia, excursions etc. The departments and their areas of competence are the following:

- Land warfare
- Naval warfare
- Air warfare
- Military technology
- Other sciences of importance to total national defence
- National security

Each year the departments conduct an annual study within a subject or current interest. These studies give on or more fellows chance to take a closer look at the subject and the studies are a good source for those who want to follow the development of the Swedish total defence.

A few times a year the Academy arranges seminars, sometimes even in cooperation with other academies, authorities or organizations. In October each year the Academy arranges a full-day symposium, commonly called "autumn symposium".

Six times a year The Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences Proceedings and Journal is published. The publication is the Academy's "face to the world" and its instrument in the military debate. These annual studies, lectures and seminars are published in the Proceedings.