



Erasmus+

Project No. 2019-1-PL01-KA201-065421

"Effective strategies in student reading education".

Training in Giżycko: November 2020

How is it done in Sweden ?

- a few comments on reading in Sweden



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Pixabay resources were used to add variety to the presentation.



In 2015, the book "Sweden reads. Poland reads" written by Katarzyna Tubylewicz and Agata Didusz- Zyglewska, which was one of the sources of inspiration for this project.

In the book the authors try to answer the questions:

- 1) Why does the majority of the population in Sweden read ?**
- 2) Why an average Swede spends 20 minutes a day reading?**
- 3) Why Swedish literature is also conquering the world, although it is written in a language spoken by only nine million people?**
- 4) How is it possible that in this country, not so far from us, reading is so common and literature is the apple of the eye of the rulers?**
- 5) Why is it profitable to create libraries for children aged 10-13 and to involve sports coaches in the promotion of reading?**



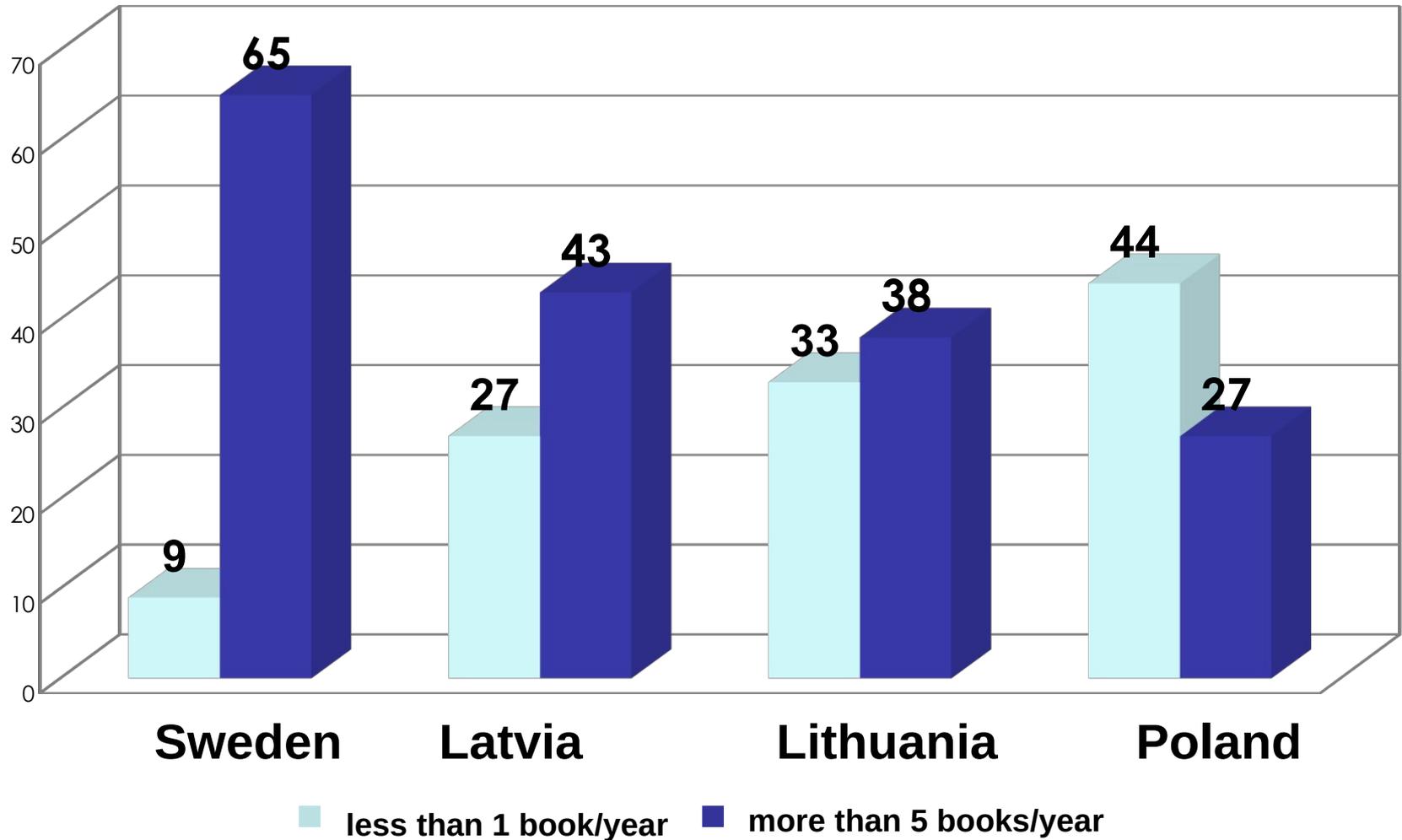


Why do Swedes read a lot and what do they get out of it?



Attempting to answer this question

% of the country's population reading and not reading



Source: Own work based on *Cultural access and participation – Report*, Special Eurobarometer 399, Survey coordinated by the European Commission, http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/eb_special_399_380_en.htm#399

The influence of reading (investing in intellectual development)

Reading	Innovation	Increase in wealth in the years 2000-2018
Sweden	Sweden	Ireland
Netherlands	Finland	Luxemburg
Denmark	Denmark	Malta
Germany	Netherlands	Lithuania
Estonia	Luxemburg	Sweden
Ireland	Belgium	Slovakia
France	Germany	Netherlands
Finland	Austria	Germany
Latvia	Ireland	Estonia
Czechia	France	Austria

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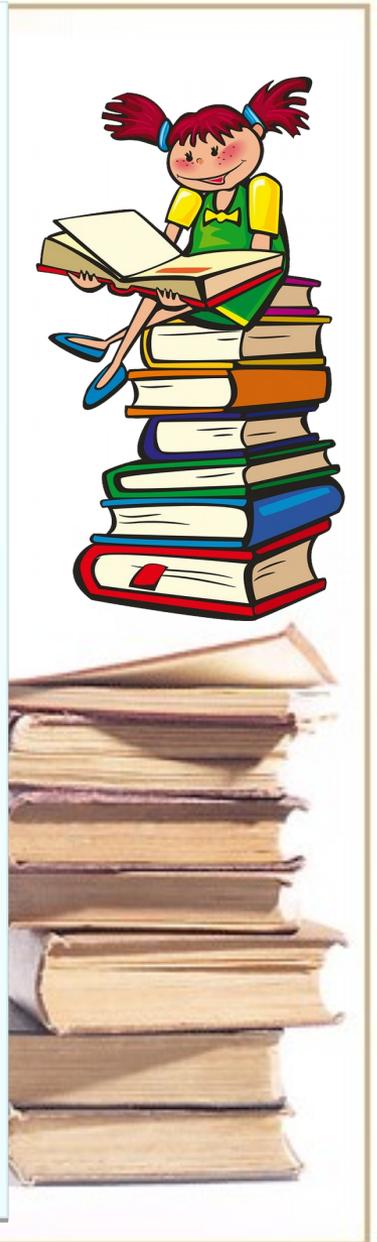
2) European Innovation Scoreboard 2020 https://interactivetool.eu/EIS/EIS_2.html

3) Wikipedia [https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lista_pa%C5%84stw_%C5%9Bwiata_wed%C5%82ug_PKB_\(parytet_si%C5%82y_nabywczej\)_per_capita](https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lista_pa%C5%84stw_%C5%9Bwiata_wed%C5%82ug_PKB_(parytet_si%C5%82y_nabywczej)_per_capita)

One source of the high level of reading is found in the attitude of the Swedish Church after the Reformation. The principle was upheld that every faithful Protestant should know and read the Bible and the catechism. For this reason, as early as 1686, a provision was included in church law to strive for universal literacy, and those who failed to pass the annual literacy exam could not receive communion or marry. In 1850, in the Nordic countries over 80% of the population could read and write, whereas in France it was 50%, in what is now Poland (former partitions) about 20-30%, and in Portugal only 10-20%.

Today, every young person in Sweden has a reading grandmother or reading grandfather (and mom and dad?). So there is a cultural pattern all the time. Children from birth have people reading around them.

Swedish holidays look like this, that first everyone sits together at the table, and then everyone reads his book !!!



Libraries in Sweden are very interesting



Image by Andrew Tan from Pixabay

According to the Swedish Library Act of 2013, the main purpose of libraries is to work for the development of a democratic society by contributing to the exchange of knowledge and free opinion (not just collecting and making available books).

There is a separate paragraph in it about public libraries, which should "promote reading and access to literature" and work with children in language and reading development.

Swedish libraries are doing everything they can to make the library a pleasure for children (starting with infrastructure, equipment, and activities seemingly unrelated to reading).



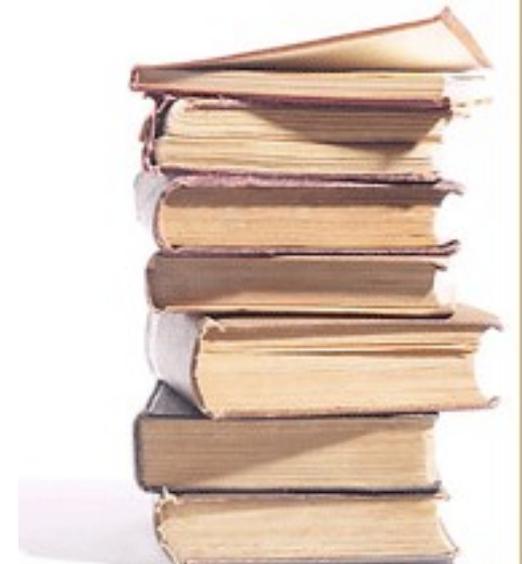
**Reading corner
at the Swedish
Library in
Malmö**



Author [kanini matabiblan](https://matabiblan.com/). Source. <https://mataja.pl/2017/03/o-tym-jak-w-szwecji-budzi-sie-w-dzieciach-milosc-do-ksiazek/>



A kitchen corner where children can play cooking games at the Malmo Library



Author [kanini malmobibblan](https://mataja.pl/2017/03/o-tym-jak-w-szwecji-budzi-sie-w-dzieciach-milosc-do-ksiazek/). Source. <https://mataja.pl/2017/03/o-tym-jak-w-szwecji-budzi-sie-w-dzieciach-milosc-do-ksiazek/>



**A room where
children can make a
movie by
rearranging the
figures**

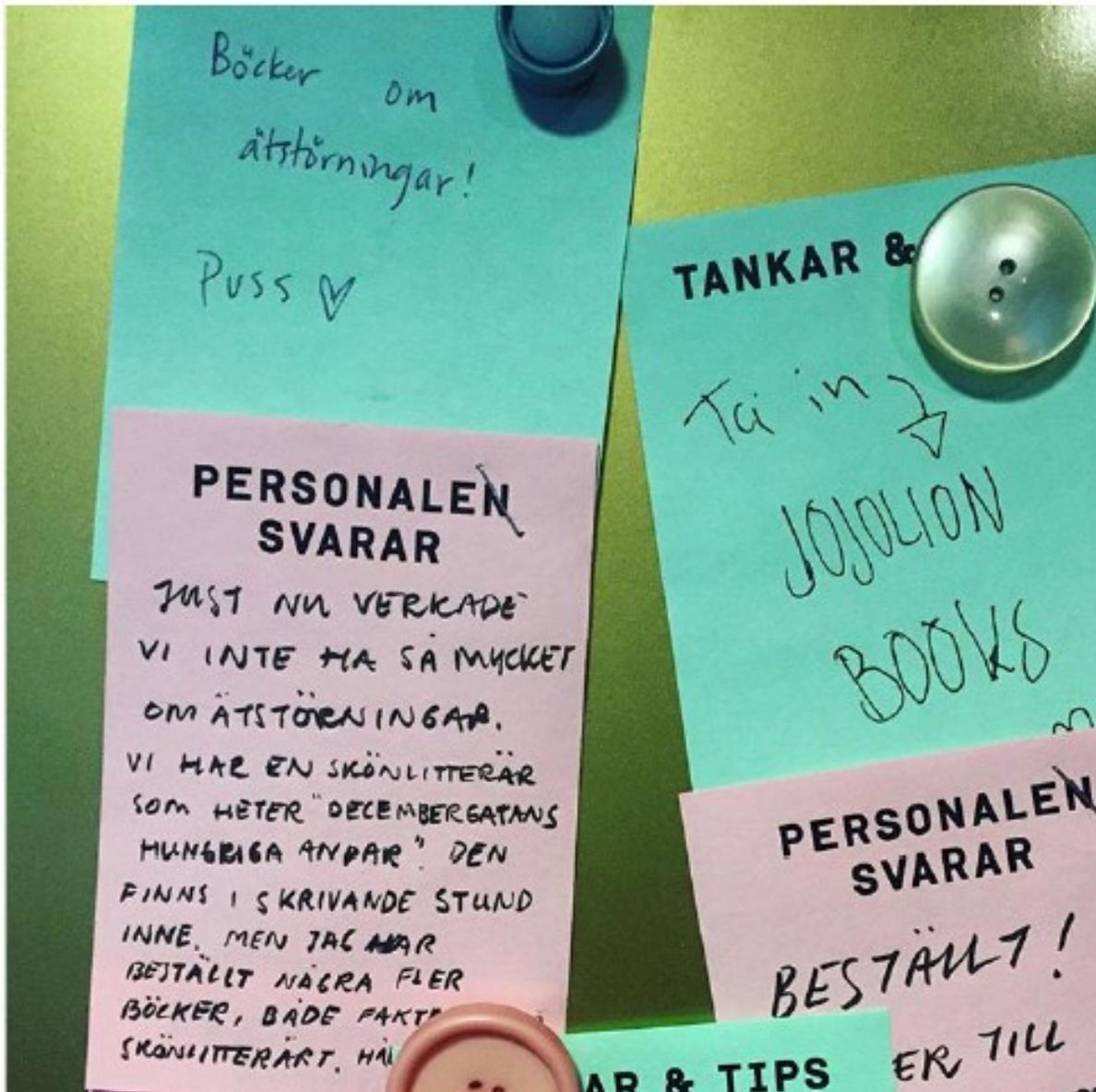


Author [kanini malmobibblan](https://mataja.pl/2017/03/o-tym-jak-w-szwecji-budzi-sie-w-dzieciach-milosc-do-ksiazek/). Source. <https://mataja.pl/2017/03/o-tym-jak-w-szwecji-budzi-sie-w-dzieciach-milosc-do-ksiazek/>

Mamy czekające na dzieci. Biblioteka Malme



Autor [kanini malmobibblan](https://kanini.malmobibblan). Źródło. <https://mataja.pl/2017/03/o-tym-jak-w-szwecji-budzi-sie-w-dzieciach-milosc-do-ksiazek/>



"A notebook of requests" - children write their wishes on blue slips of paper, library staff answer on pink slips of paper



Author [kanini malmobibblan](https://mataja.pl/2017/03/o-tym-jak-w-szwecji-budzi-sie-w-dzieciach-milosc-do-ksiazek/). Source. <https://mataja.pl/2017/03/o-tym-jak-w-szwecji-budzi-sie-w-dzieciach-milosc-do-ksiazek/>

In addition to lending books (from a rich and well-chosen book collection) Swedish libraries organize e.g. help with homework, art, theater and music classes.



For adults they organize support, e.g. how to start your own business.

They hold lectures, meetings with writers, writing workshops, classes for do-it-yourselfers. The librarians are also cultural animators.



Libraries in Sweden are friendly and accessible to everyone. They encourage parents with children, adolescents growing up, old men playing chess to spend their free time.

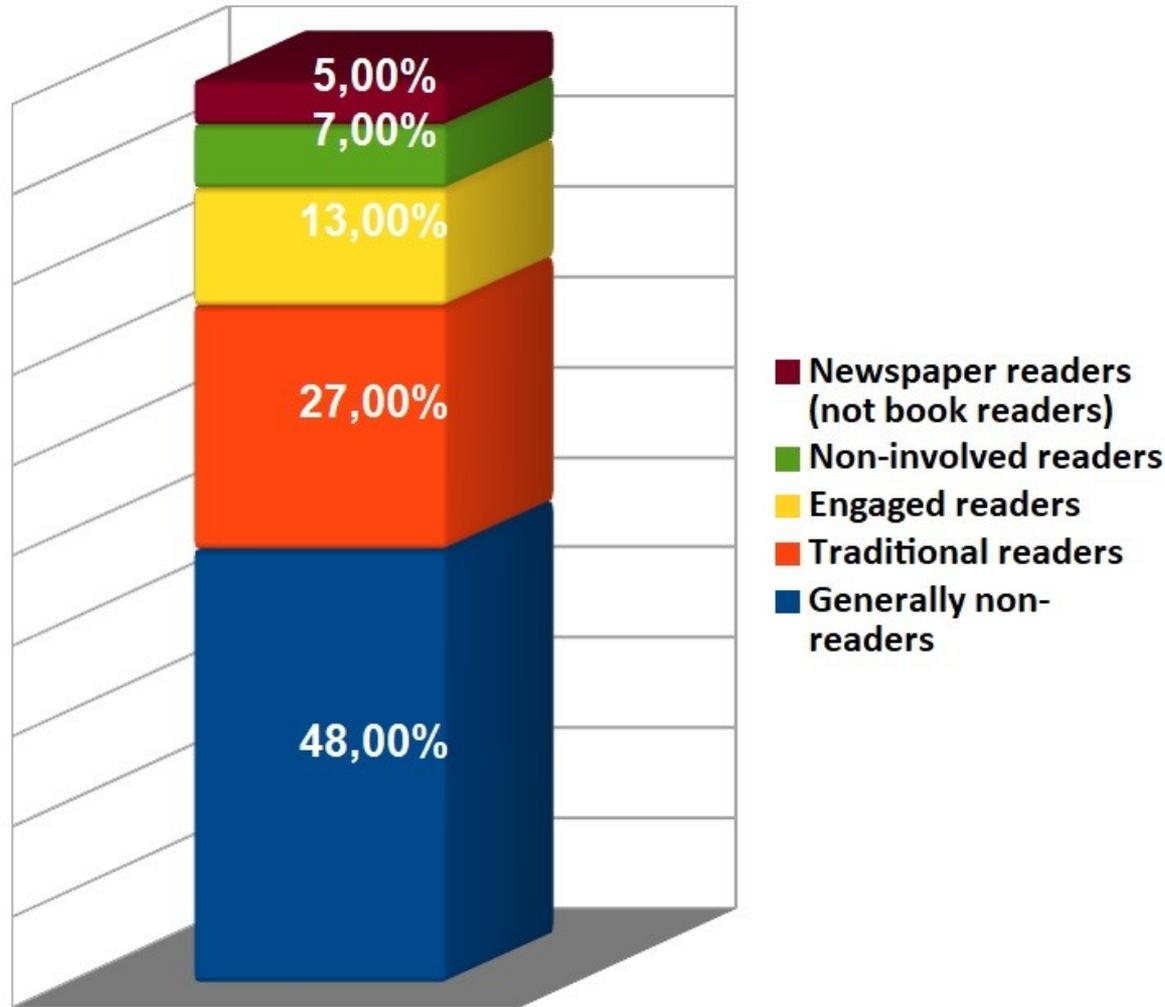
The library is a culture-creating center that promotes positive role models, builds interpersonal bonds and strengthens local communities.



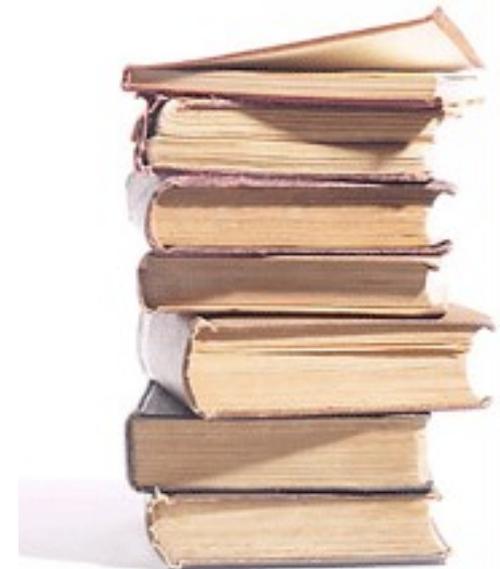
Supporting questions



The inhabitants of Poland can be divided into the following groups.



Question 1.
To which group should reading promotion be targeted ?



The National Reading of "Trilogy" Henryk Sienkiewicz, Łódź September 2014, Staromiejski Park

Author Zorro2212. Licencja Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International [CC BY-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/)

Source: https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Narodowe_Czytanie#/media/

File: National_Reading_of_Triology_by_Sienkiewicz,_%C5%81%C3%B3d%C5%BA_September_2014_04.jpg



Question 2 What group of readers are in the audience ?

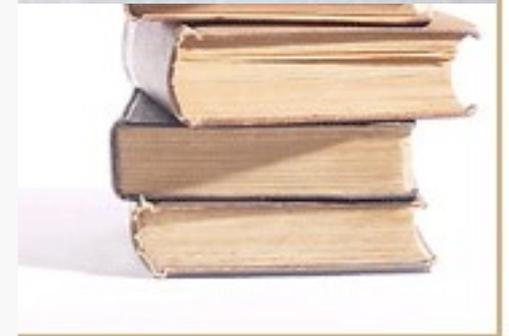


Mayor of Giżycko reads fairy tales in kindergarten.

Question 3 What promotion does he take part in?

List in the right (in your opinion) order.

- a) fairy tales;**
- b) of reading;**
- c) her own;**
- d) the kindergarten director;**
- e) the teacher;**



Correct answers (by presentation author)



1. Promotion should be targeted at all children (children of parents from all reading groups).
2. These are certainly engaged readers. They don't need to be convinced to read, they are already convinced enough, but they are willing to take part in such actions because they feel such a need.
3. The author's opinion. 1) The kindergarten director, 2) The Mayor, 3) The teacher, 4) Reading, 5) Fairy tales.



In Sweden, surprising forms of reading promotion are used



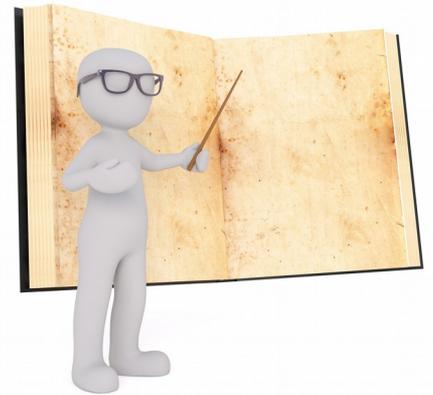
1) 1) Book reviews are placed in popular (gossip and local) newspapers that target "general non-readers" and "traditional readers".

2) There is a Reading Ambassador, who is a writer or illustrator (not a politician) chosen (not appointed by the ruling party) to promote the joy of reading and spread awareness of the importance of literature among young people.

The ambassador is chosen for 2 years through a competition. The competition committee consists of representatives from the literature and library industry. The Ambassador is selected according to the following criteria: the Ambassador must be an active writer or illustrator of books for children and young adults, the Ambassador must be recognized and known by readers, the Ambassador must be committed to promoting reading, the Ambassador must have the ability to communicate with both children and parents, and the Ambassador must be able and enjoy public speaking.

The first ambassador Johan Unenge (2011- 2013) developed ten tips for parents. These are:

- 1. Read aloud to your children at bedtime.**
- 2. Read to yourself - reading is contagious.**
- 3. Find books about your children's interests.**
- 4. Informational books are books, too. They will interest boys especially**
- 5. Comic books are also books. They are finally starting to be more widely accepted**
- 6. Write together with your children. Buy a notebook and make notes about the past day.**
- 7. Buy audiobooks for the car.**
- 8. Plan a trip to the library and discover something for everyone.**
- 9. Realize that your children will not stop playing on the computer. The games are just too appealing.**
- 10. Thin books are less of a deterrent.**



3) In Sweden, there is the Culture Council, an Agenda of the Ministry of Culture (financed by the budget).

a)The Council maintains a catalog of books for children and young adults. The electronic version of the catalog is a list of published and recommended publications since 2003, which can be displayed by category, or you can search for individual titles using the search function.

b)The Council awards grants for publishing activities. Those who are professionally active in publishing in Sweden are eligible for grants.

c)The Council gives grants for projects that support reading, such as organizing events. They are available, for example, to municipalities, schools, libraries, bookshops and non-profit organizations operating in Sweden.



4) Financial instruments are used - e.g. reduction of Vat on books - in Sweden 2002 VAT was reduced from 25% to 6%. The effects have been studied. According to reports (those who read - read more, those who don't read find other reasons not to read.

5) Funding for libraries comes from many sources. Municipalities are responsible for organizing libraries, but libraries are also supported by the State and other organizations.



6) Reading is supported by many non-profit organizations such as.

a) Swedish Children's Book Institute - a foundation funded by grants from the Ministry of Education and Stockholm Municipality that supports research and education related to children's and young adult literature.

b)The Reading Movement - a foundation that works with Mc Donalds restaurants to include free books on their children's menus.

c)"Storytelling Ministries" - A foundation that runs Writing Workshops, open to children ages 18 and under.



Importantly, in Sweden there is much higher financing from the state budget for activities related to the intellectual development of the country's inhabitants than in Poland (also in Lithuania and Latvia)



Education funding level (school libraries) and culture funding level (public libraries)

Expenses (% GDP in 2017)	Denmark	Sweden	Lithuania	Latvia	Poland
Education	6,50%	6,70%	4,90%	5,80%	4,90%
Recreation, Culture and Religion	1,70%	1,20%	1,50%	1,70%	1,20%
Together Education + Recreation+ Culture+Religiin	8,20%	7,90%	6,40%	7,50%	6,10%
Education and Culture Expenditure per Person (International Dollar)	4274	4186	2229	2195	1948

Source - Own elaboration based on Eurostat data

In Poland, a different direction of investment is being implemented from the national budget, e.g. freeways, express and regional roads are being built



Condition of freeways and express roads in Poland

- existing,
- under construction,
- at the stage of tendering,
- planned.

10.02.2021

The construction cost of 1 km of freeway is about EUR 8 ml



Condition of highways and express roads in Poland

Author: Docxent - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,

Source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=73794289>



Example of road investment financed from the national budget.

New traffic circle in Gizycko - cost ca. 4 million EUR.

Author's remark - for such an amount one can build a beautiful library

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/Gizycko.info/videos/3135886009863226>

**Sports investments are very popular in Poland,
e.g. football stadiums**

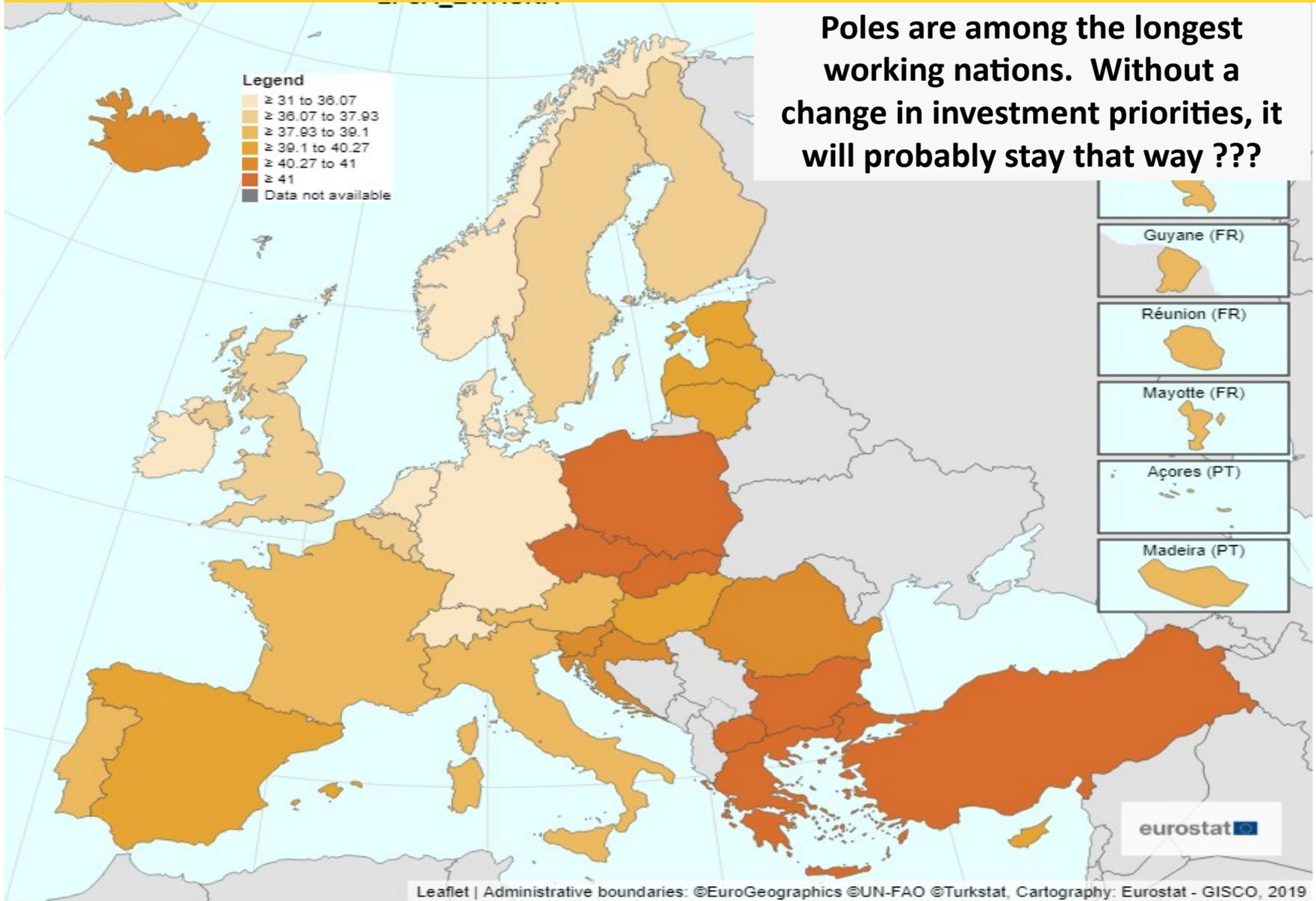


**National Stadium in Warsaw, construction cost ca. 450 million EUR
Photo by Przemysław Jahr / Wikimedia Commons**



The city of Giżycko is also trying to develop its sports infrastructure. In the photos the newest sports infrastructure in Giżycko - on the top - the building of the Municipal Water Sports Base, on the left - the football and athletics stadium, on the right - Mazurian Ice Sports Centre, Source: Municipal Sports and Recreation Centre in Giżycko <http://mosir.gizycko.pl/>

Average number of normal weekly working hours in EUROPEA



Source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/lfsa_ewhuna/default/bar?lang=en

Trainees' own work

Write which activities implemented in Sweden should be transferred - adopted in Poland, Lithuania, Latvia. Send your work in the national language in a file format *.doc or *.docx or *.odt format, send it to the address k.ambroziak@poregizycko.pl

