



# Thor Rutgersson – CV

*Eight pages in total*

## **Profile**

My name is Thor Rutgersson and I am a freelance writer. I have a lot of experience with NGO:s and civil society, but I also write fiction and poetry. I write in English and Swedish.

I have also worked as an editor, project manager, and lecturer.

I have experience from local, regional, national and European assignments.

## **Work experience (a selection)**

*For books, briefing papers, music albums and projects, see "projects and materials" (p3).*

### **EDITOR:**

**"INSIKT" (INSIGHT), FRISK & FRI – RIKSFÖRENINGEN MOT ÄTSTÖRNINGAR (THE SWEDISH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AGAINST EATING DISORDERS), STOCKHOLM, 2017-2018**

I was the editor of the magazine "Insikt" (Insight) during nine months, as the regular editor went on maternity leave. "Insikt" is the official magazine of Frisk & Fri, the Swedish national association against eating disorders.

### **PRESS OFFICER:**

**FRISK & FRI – RIKSFÖRENINGEN MOT ÄTSTÖRNINGAR (THE SWEDISH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AGAINST EATING DISORDERS), STOCKHOLM, 2016-PRESENT**

Frisk & Fri is the Swedish national association against eating disorders. I am currently employed there at 35 %, combining the position with freelance assignments.

### **MANAGER:**

**ABF DALA FINNMARK (A BRANCH OF WEA – THE WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), DALARNA, 2014-2015**

During the fall of 2014 I took on the role of manager for a WEA-branch with activities in seven rural municipalities.

### **GRUNDTVIG ASSISTANT, RESEARCHER, WRITER:**

**EAEA AND SOLIDAR, BRUSSELS, 2013-2014**

I assisted the EAEA office (European Association for the Education of Adults) and the SOLIDAR office (a European network of Civil Society Organisations working to advance social justice in Europe and worldwide), as well as monitored activities in Brussels on behalf of several Swedish organisations within the field of non-formal Adult Education. My employer was the SAEA (The Swedish Adult Education Association). I wrote several briefing papers during my time in Brussels.

### **MEMBER ORGANISATION'S ACTIVITIES DEVELOPER:**

**ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), NATIONAL HEAD OFFICE, STOCKHOLM, 2011-2013**

Activity development for WEA's member organisations.

### **PROJECT LEADER:**

**FOLKBILDNING I FÖRÄNDRING (CHANGES IN NON FORMAL ADULT EDUCATION), VÄSTRA GÖTALANDS BILDNINGSFÖRBUND, VGB, 2011-2012**

I worked part time for VGB (regional educational umbrella organisation for parts of western Sweden), managing a project dealing with the changes needed in non-formal adult education, in order to work with new target groups.

**PROJECT LEADER:**

**FOLKBILDNINGENS IDÈ OCH FRAMTID (THE IDEA BEHIND AND FUTURE OF NON-FORMAL ADULT EDUCATION), THE SWEDISH ADULT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, SAEA, STOCKHOLM, 2010-2011**

In 2010, I was hired by The Swedish Adult Education Association to nourish a broadening discussion leading into the future of non-formal adult education. The various projects included books, events and reports.

**NATIONAL PROJECT LEADER, MUSIC:**

**ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), NATIONAL HEAD OFFICE, STOCKHOLM, 2008-2010**

In 2008 my time was split between the Gothenburg Branch of ABF (WEA) and the National Head Office, as I became Project Leader for the development of the organisation's mutual profile within the music field. I worked with matters concerning music as well as youth – and constructed a graphic profile, internal training, external training program, network meetings, books and materials.

**HEAD OF MUSIC:**

**ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), GOTHENBURG BRANCH, GOTHENBURG 2007-2010**

In 2007 I was promoted to Head of Music at the ABF Gothenburg Branch (WEA Gothenburg), meaning I overtook the all-embracing responsibility for all activities within the field, including education, materials, disbursements, and events.

**WRITER:**

**CLUB NINTENDO MAGAZINE, BERGSALA, 2006**

Sweden's largest club magazine (now defunct) for video game enthusiasts. I wrote columns and reviews.

**ASSISTING MUSIC CONSULTANT:**

**ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), GOTHENBURG BRANCH, GOTHENBURG, 2005-2007**

ABF Göteborg (WEA Gothenburg) is one of the organisation's largest branches. As Assisting Music Consultant I worked with educational projects for the members of study circles in the field of music, about 300 unique groups at that point in time.

**CLUB/CONCERT ORGANISER:**

**CLUB MAYDAY, GOTHENBURG, 2004-2008**

Maydaycenter (Mayday Center) was a cultural concept in Gothenburg – simply put a group of artists and other cultural personalities that worked together to organise events and cultural happenings at various venues around the city. I co-founded Maydaycenter in 2004 and worked with the concept for four years. During that time I organised concerts and events at the locally famous rock/pop clubs Pusterviksbaren and Sticky Fingers (among other venues). I was also project leader for Mayday's line-up as part of the official program during the festivities surrounding the 2006 European Athletics Championships. Mayday was primarily funded by WEA, and thus I chose to end my active role at Maydaycenter when I was hired as Head of Music at the WEA Gothenburg Branch.

## **Projects and materials (a selection)**

### **WRITER AND EDITOR:**

**ALLT VI INTE PRATAR OM (EVERYTHING WE DON'T TALK ABOUT),  
MAKE EQUAL, STUDIEFRÄMJANDET, IOGT-NTO, ACAST, BONNIER BOOKERY,  
MÅNPOCKET, 2018 (BOOK)**

A book that explores masculinity through conversations with men from various backgrounds. Co-authored with equality expert, Ida Östensson.

### **PROGRAM HOST AND EDITOR:**

**ALLT VI INTE PRATAR OM (EVERYTHING WE DON'T TALK ABOUT),  
MAKE EQUAL, STUDIEFRÄMJANDET, IOGT-NTO, ACAST, BONNIER BOOKERY,  
MÅNPOCKET, 2018 (PODCAST)**

A podcast about men and all the things we never talk about. With equality expert, Ida Östensson and various guests.

### **FÖRFATTARE:**

**AMBIVALENS (AMBIVALENCE),  
VILDHALLON, 2017 (BOOK)**

A book with prose and poetry, illustrated by artist Marja Nyberg.

### **WRITER:**

**START! – ETT STUDIEMATERIAL FÖR RFSL UNGDOM (START! – A GUIDE FOR  
ACTIVISM AND ACTIVITIES, FOR RFSL UNGDOM),  
RFSL UNGDOM, NBV, 2017 (BOK)**

A manual for members of RFSL Ungdom (a national organisation for LGBT-youth) on how to run their local association or club, with tips on everything from budget to activities.

### **SKRIBENT:**

**DET STORA LILLA MUSIKLIVET (THE LITTLE, GREAT, MUSIC WONDER)  
CIRKELN, KOMBINERA, 2017 (LARGER ARTICLE)**

An investigative article on the importance of local cultural activities, for the magazine "Cirkeln".

### **WRITER:**

**VI FORTSÄTTER SPELA POP – MEN VI HÅLLER PÅ ATT DÖ (WE KEEP ON  
PLAYING MUSIC – BUT WE ARE DYING),  
STUDIEFRÄMJANDET, MoKS, LIVEMUSIK SVERIGE, 2016 (BRIEFING PAPER)**

A briefing on the state of pop venues (for live music) across Sweden, as well as their effects on economy and society.

### **WRITER:**

**KUNSKAPSLYFTET, NÄSTA STORA FRIHETSREFORM (LIFT OUR KNOWLEDGE –  
A NEW EDUCATION REFORM FOR FREEDOM),  
ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2016 (BRIEFING PAPER)**

A briefing paper looking back on earlier education reforms and making suggestions towards the future.

### **PROGRAM HOST AND EDITOR:**

**AKTIV OMTANKE (I CARE PODCAST),  
FRISK & FRI (THE SWEDISH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AGAINST EATING  
DISORDERS), 2016 (PODCAST)**

I was the show-runner and host for a series of shows discussing sports and eating disorders.

### **WRITER:**

**DEN DIGITALA MÄNNISKAN OCH STUDIEFÖRBUNDEN (THE DIGITAL HUMAN  
AND THE STUDY ASSOCIATIONS),  
SAEA, 2016 (INTERNAL BRIEFING PAPER)**

A briefing on the developments within the study associations, in the field of digitalisation.

**SONGWRITER, PRODUCER, MUSICIAN AND ARTIST:  
ALTERNATIVE MAINSTREAM,  
PEEPHOLE RECORDINGS, 2016 (CD/MUSIC ALBUM)**

My second full-length album with 12 new songs, released on indie-label Peephole Recordings.

**SCHOLARSHIP:  
THE WRITER'S UNION COPYING FUND, 2015**

I was awarded 60.000 SEK from the Writer's Union, for my publications in 2014 and 2015.

**AUTHOR:  
DEMOKRATIMODELLEN (THE DEMOCRACY MODEL),  
TRINAMBAI, 2015 (BOOK)**

A book about building open and democratic organisations with diversity. Written with human rights expert, Mirella Pejic.

**PROGRAM HOST AND EDITOR:  
FOLKRÖRELSEPODDEN (THE POPULAR MOVEMENT PODCAST),  
TRINAMBAI, 2015-2016 (PODCAST)**

I was the show-runner and host for a series of shows where I interviewed representatives from different Swedish NGOs.

**AUTHOR:  
INSTÄLLT PGA PANIK (CANCELED DUE TO PANIC),  
RECITO, 2014 (BOOK)**

Fictional book in Swedish.

**WRITER:  
ADULT EDUCATION IN EUROPE, A CIVIL SOCIETY VIEW  
EAEA, 2014 (BRIEFING PAPER)**

Briefing paper for EAEA on the state of Adult Education in Europe.

**WRITER:  
ORGANISING INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY: THE MISSING PIECE OF THE  
PUZZLE – NON-FORMAL AND INFORMAL LEARNING AS A DRIVER FOR  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE,  
SOLIDAR, 2014 (BRIEFING PAPER)**

Briefing paper for SOLIDAR on the benefits of non-formal and informal Adult Education.

**WRITER:  
BUILDING LEARNING SOCIETIES: EMPOWERING PEOPLE THROUGH NON-  
FORMAL AND INFORMAL LEARNING  
SOLIDAR, 2014 (BRIEFING PAPER)**

Briefing paper for SOLIDAR on the benefits of non-formal and informal Adult Education.

**WRITER:  
FOLKBILDNING OCH FOLKRÖRELSE I FÖRVÄNTNINGSSAMHÄLLET (NON-  
FORMAL ADULT EDUCATION AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN NEXTOPIA),  
ABF VÄSTRA GÖTALAND (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION, VÄSTRA  
GÖTALAND BRANCH), 2013-2014 (DISCUSSION PAPERS)**

Internal discussion papers for staff evaluation days, on recent research into popular movements, social media, youth trends and similar topics.

**PROGRAM HOST AND EDITOR:  
FBPOD (A PODCAST ABOUT STUDY ASSOCIATIONS),  
SAEA, 2013 (PODCAST)**

I was the show-runner for the very first season of the SAEA podcast, still being produced today.

**WRITER:**

**DIGITAL DELAKTIGHET: STUDIEFÖRBUNDENS ROLL (DIGITAL PARTICIPATION: THE ROLE OF THE STUDY ASSOCIATIONS), SAEA, 2013 (INTERNAL BRIEFING PAPER)**

A look at the work done by Study Associations to help marginalised groups with digitalisation.

**WRITER:**

**GÖR EN EGEN PODCAST, ABFPOD.SE (MAKE YOUR OWN PODCAST, ABFPOD.SE), ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2013 (INSPIRATIONAL PUBLICATION)**

A guide on how to create and distribute your podcast.

**WRITER:**

**LÖNESÄNKARNA (THEY WANT TO LOWER OUR WAGES), ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2013 (DISCUSSION BASIS)**

Questions and methodology for study circles on wages and union work, based on a Swedish documentary.

**PROJECT MANAGER AND EDITOR:**

**ENGAGERA OCH ORGANISERA! (ACTIVATE AND ORGANISE!), ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2012 (BOOK)**

A book about how board members in NGOs can acquire new skills.

**PROJECT MANAGER AND ON-SITE MANAGER:**

**ABF 100th CELEBRATION AT SERGELS TORG, ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2012 (EVENT)**

I managed part of the huge celebration and organised various activities at Stockholm's main square.

**PROJECT MANAGER AND EDITOR:**

**ABF 100th CELEBRATION MUSIC COMPILATION, ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2012 (CD AND BOOKLET)**

Music compilation from all across the country, celebrating a hundred years of education and progress.

**EDITOR, WRITER AND PROJECT LEADER:**

**FOLKBILDNING I FÖRÄNDRING (CHANGES IN NON-FORMAL ADULT EDUCATION), VÄSTRA GÖTALANDS BILDNINGSFÖRBUND (VGB), 2012 (BOOK)**

A book collecting experiences from the VGB-project (see "work experience", p.1).

**EDITOR, WRITER AND PROJECT LEADER:**

**UNGA FOLKBILDARE OM FRAMTIDEN (YOUNG EMPLOYEES ON THE FUTURE OF NON-FORMAL ADULT EDUCATION), SAEA, 2011 (BOOK)**

Interviews with young employees working with non-formal adult education in the different study associations of Sweden.

**WRITER AND EDITOR:**

**GENERATION Y SPELAR TEATER (THE DRAMA OF GENERATION Y), LANVALLEY FÖRLAG, 2010 (BOOK)**

A fictional book about four young people who try to define their youth, themselves and the world around them.

**EDITOR, MAIN WRITER AND PROJECT LEADER:**

**ABF?, ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2010 (BOOK)**

ABF? is a book collecting interviews and articles dealing with the future of the WEA and non-formal adult education.

**EDITOR, MAIN WRITER AND PROJECT LEADER:  
STARTA! (A COMPLETE GUIDE FOR LEADING STUDY CIRCLES  
IN D.I.Y.-CULTURE),**

**ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2009 (BOOK)**

During 2008 and 2009 I developed a system for educating organisers of study circles, together with Emelie Bergermark (WEA Örebro) and a group of music consultants from various WEA-branches. Several writers worked on the project and the book handles a range of fields, from music to the history of the Labour Movement as well as drama, film, Fair-Trade and environmental studies.

**PROJECT LEADER:  
GRAPHIC PROFILE FOR D.I.Y. STUDY CIRCLES IN MUSIC AND YOUTH  
CULTURE,**

**ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2006/2009 (GRAPHIC PROFILE)**

I was responsible for developing a graphic profile for music and youth within the WEA. I worked with a number of designers and artists. The profile was created in 2006 and updated in 2009.

**EDITOR, MAIN WRITER AND PROJECT LEADER:  
STUDIEHANDLEDNING TILL DO IT YOURSELF – FRÅN NOLL TILL HUNDRA PÅ  
EGEN HAND (GUIDANCE/DIRECTION FOR STUDY CIRCLES  
WORKING WITH DO IT YOURSELF),**

**ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2009 (BOOK)**

A step by step guide for study circles working with the main D.I.Y.-book (see below).

**WRITER:  
PÅ SAMMA GATOR (ON THE SAME STREETS),  
BILDA FÖRLAG, 2008 (BOOK/DVD)**

I spent three summers with photographer Magnus Liam Karlsson, meeting people without homes in Sweden's three major cities. Our proceedings resulted in a book and a DVD describing our experiences.

**ORGANISER/PLANNER:  
FORUM:UNG! (NATIONAL YOUTH FORUM), STOCKHOLM,  
ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2007 (EVENT)**

In 2006 I co-founded a national network for young employees within the WEA. In 2007 the newly formed network was given the task/responsibility of organising WEA:s first national forum for youth activities. I planned, managed and worked on site together with three other project leaders in order to make this massive event a reality. With over 200 scheduled events, 80 participating organisations and well over 2000 visitors arriving to the forum from all across Sweden, forum:ung! was considered a success and later returned as a branch-based affair, touring (in smaller scale) the country and highlighting the youth activities of different regions.

**PROJECT LEADER:  
WWW.DIY-ABF.SE,  
ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2006-2010 (INTERNET  
PORTAL)**

I managed the development of WEA's music webpage, a mutual hub for the music activities of different branches within the WEA. During 2009 I directed a complete overhaul of the structure and build-up, resulting in a re-launch of the site in May 2010. During the process, I supervised four people working with different components of the site. The site is no longer active.

**EDITOR, MAIN WRITER AND PROJECT LEADER:  
DO IT YOURSELF: FRÅN NOLL TILL HUNDRA PÅ EGEN HAND (DO IT  
YOURSELF: A GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR BAND),  
ABF (WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION), 2006/2009 (BOOK)**

I developed the concept behind, managed the making of and edited the final version of WEA's study material for music groups (study circles). Over 20 writers contributed and I was the editor-in-chief. The book is now used by study circles all over Sweden and in 2009 I supervised a revision for a second print-run.

**SONGWRITER, PRODUCER, MUSICIAN, ARTIST AND PUBLISHER:  
...I KNOW, BUT I'M STILL HOPING FOR A HAPPY ENDING,  
TRR, 2003 (CD/MUSIC ALBUM)**

In 2002/2003 I recorded a full-length album. I signed a distribution deal with "Sound Pollution" (one of the largest distributors in Sweden) and the album reached various outlets and shops. The project taught me a lot about leadership and dealing with different parties.

**Commissions of trust (a selection)**

**Representative:**

**European Year of Citizens, Closing Ceremony, Vilnius, 2014**

**Board member:**

**The Rimbo Junction of the Social Democrats, 2012-2014**

**Committee Member:**

**The Managerial Committee for the 50/50-Network (NGO working for equality within the Swedish music scene), 2009-2011**

**Deputy Member:**

**The Commercial Employees' Union, Local Committee, WEA, Gothenburg Branch, 2008**

**Member of the Committee/Working (Executive) Committee:**

**KulturUngdom (Culture and Youth NGO), 2007-2008**

**Committee Member:**

**The Commercial Employees' Union, Local Youth Committee, Gothenburg Branch, 2007-2008**

**Representative for the WEA Youth Network and WEA, Gothenburg Branch:**

**2007 World Social Forum, Nairobi, Kenya**

**Delegate for SSU, Gothenburg Branch (The Swedish Social Democratic Youth**

**League): 2007 National Congress, Örebro**

**Education and training (a selection)**

Bommersviksakademien – for future leaders in the Swedish labour movement, Bommersvik, 2011-2012

EAEA – younger staff training, non-formal adult education in the EU, Brussels, 2011

The Popular Adult Education Programme, "Folkbildningslinjen", Brunnsvik Folk High-School, 2006-2007

B-level paper: "Did Mao use religious symbolism to gain power?" (5p), University of Gothenburg, 2004

Resources and social progress (5p), University of Gothenburg, 2004

Identity and community (5p), University of Gothenburg, 2004

Religion and politics (5p), University of Gothenburg, 2004

Traditions and formation in knowledge (5p), University of Gothenburg, 2003

Contemporary debate and the public space (5p), University of Gothenburg, 2003

Society and culture (5p), University of Gothenburg, 2003

How to understand Asia (5p), University of Gothenburg, 2003

European Voluntary Service, working with the homeless, Brussels, 2003

Certificate in Advanced English, GRADEA, University of Cambridge, 2001

Music and percussion programme, Hulebäcksgymnasiet, Mölnlycke, 1998-2001

**Lectures and workshops**

I have planned and performed several lectures and workshops. My lectures are normally linked to a specific book or project that I'm working on and the subjects have ranged from music to homelessness, mental health and politics.

## **References**

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