



RALF DAHRENDORF **ROUNDTABLES**

Grounded – Beyond ‘flygskam’

Flygskam. This Swedish word, which translates as “flight shame”, has spread across the world. It is symbolic of a movement in which people are choosing not to fly. Air travels contribution to European carbon emissions is growing and presents an increasingly important climate threat. Yet limiting flying is a challenge to the liberal idea of free movement, and a high degree of mobility has long been an important European ideal vital to the integration of the union.

On December 5 Fores will host a launch event for the ELF publication *Grounded: Beyond flygskam*. Breakfast and coffee will be served before the panel discussion begins. The panellists are the two authors of the report, Nina Wormbs and Maria Wolrath Söderberg, who will introduce and outline the study. Finnish journalist Hanna Nikkanen, who won awards for her book on climate change, will give her reflections on the study from a Finnish perspective. Mette Kahlin McVeigh, director of the climate program at Fores, will moderate the following discussion. The event will also be live streamed on Fores’ YouTube channel.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

05.12.2019 | 08.00 – 10.45

FORES, STOCKHOLM

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| 08.00 | Breakfast served |
| 08.30 | Welcome by
Mette Kahlin McVeigh , Director, Climate Programme, Fores |
| 08.35 | Introduction and Overview of the study
Nina Wormbs , Professor of Technology History at KTH
Maria Wolrath Söderberg , PHD in Rhetoric, with research focus on climate rhetoric at Södertörn Högskola |



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- 08.50 Reflections
Hanna Nikkanen, Finnish Journalist
- 09.00 Panel discussion
Nina Wormbs
Maria Wolrath Söderberg
Hanna Nikkanen
Moderated by **Mette Kahlin McVeigh**
- 09.20 Questions from the audience
Moderated by **Mette Kahlin McVeigh**
- 09.30 End of seminar
- 09.45 Closed roundtable, Chatham House Rule (upon invitation only)
Discussion moderated by **Mette Kahlin McVeigh**
- 10.45 End of roundtable

Working language

English

A roundtable discussion organised by the European Liberal Forum (ELF) with the support of Fores. Co-funded by the European Parliament. The European Parliament is not responsible for the content of the programme, or for any use that may be made of it. These views do not necessarily reflect those of the European Parliament and/or the European Liberal Forum.



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ABOUT THE PUBLICATION

Flygskam. This Swedish word, which translates as “flight shame”, has spread across the world. It is symbolic of a movement in which people are choosing not to fly. Air travels contribution to European carbon emissions is growing and presents an increasingly important climate threat. Yet limiting flying is a challenge to the liberal idea of free movement, and a high degree of mobility has long been an important European ideal vital to the integration of the union.

With that background, this book explores the motivations of those who voluntarily stay on the ground, and tells the stories of why people have chosen to stop flying. The authors’ analysis reveals that for this selected group, insight about the seriousness of climate change and knowledge about the impact of their own behavioral choices is crucial. Moreover, their social context is key to the behavioural change. Children play a central role in the book, for both moral and educational reasons. Tightly connected to the importance of educating children in issues pertaining to climate change is people as role models. Perhaps encouraging, the people in this study feel that their actions matter: they have a sense of justice, they are knowledgeable, and strive to be an example to others. Social movements are opportunities for political change. There is therefore much to learn from the group of people who stop flying.

ABOUT THE RALF DAHRENDORF ROUNDTABLES

By connecting the roundtable series with the name of Lord Dahrendorf, ELF wishes to underline his achievements. In his many functions he championed liberal democracy and European integration. He consistently promoted the role of the EU as a guarantor of human rights and liberty. His wide experience combining science and politics provided an excellent background to his activity in the German Parliament for the liberal Free Democratic Party, as European Commissioner, as member of the British House of Lords and as Chairman of the Board of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (1982-1987).

During his four years in Brussels (1970-1974), Lord Dahrendorf was responsible for the European Community’s Foreign Relations and Trade, and later for Research, Science and Education. He actively supported a stronger Europe. As Commissioner he was a sharp critic of European Union bureaucracy while he was passionately in favour of a European Parliament exercising greater power.