

## **Lars Hedström**

Director, Strategic Implications and Innovations Center – Swedish Defence University

Lars Hedström is the Director of the Strategic Implications and Innovations Center at the Swedish Defence University, where he leads work on total defence, national and homeland security, and defence policy innovation. He has extensive experience in crisis management, civil protection, and international security cooperation.

Prior to his current role, he served as Deputy Head of the Department of Security, Strategy and Leadership and as Senior Associate Dean for External Relations at the Swedish Defence University (2018–2023). He was also Executive Director of the Institute for National Defence and Security Policy Studies (2012–2017).

Earlier in his career, Mr. Hedström held senior positions in Swedish government agencies under the Ministry of Defence, including the Swedish Emergency Management Agency and the Swedish Rescue Services Agency. He also served in the Prime Minister's Office, Crisis Management Coordination Secretariat (2007–2012), and as a Staff Officer and International Expert at NATO's Civil Emergency Planning and EADRCC.

With over three decades of experience, including leadership roles in municipal fire and rescue services, Lars Hedström has been a key figure in shaping Sweden's approach to national security, emergency preparedness, and strategic resilience.