



UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND LAW

# RETHINKING REGIONAL POLICIES FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: LESSONS FROM THE NORDICS

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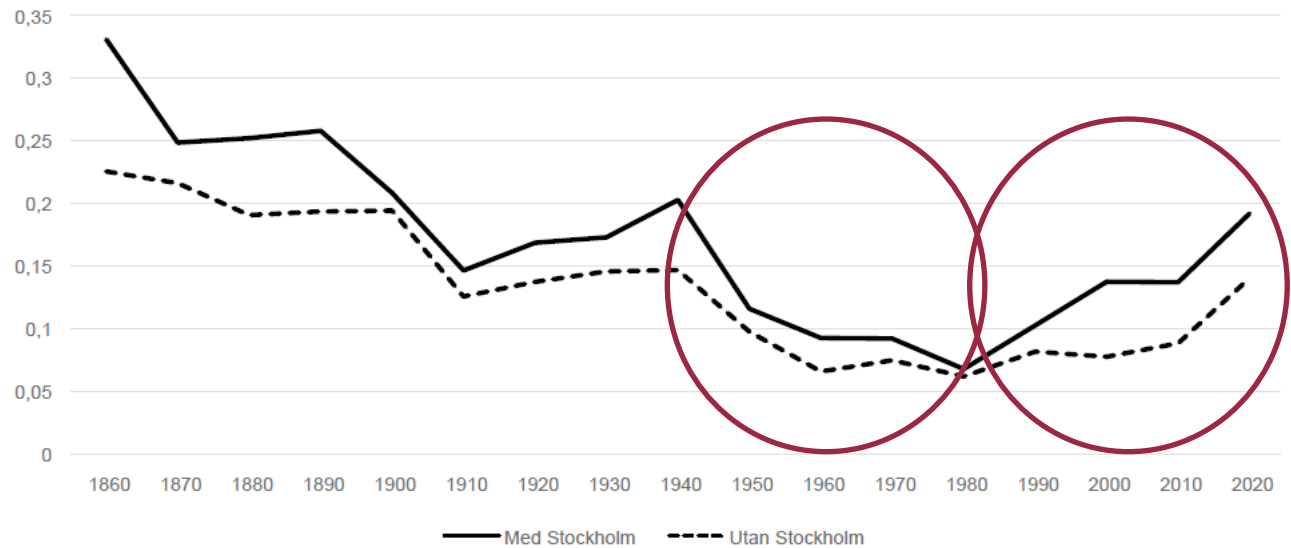




### Outline

1. Introduction
2. The regional world we came from
3. Three visions
4. What kind of change is this?
5. Regional questions to ask around the change
6. Final reflections

### K. ENFLO & M. HENNING ✱ EKONOMIN UNDER EFTERKRIGSTIDEN



Source: Enflo & Henning, 2022



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Northvolt

Hybrit

The battery factory in Mariestad

This picture is in the public domain





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1. An acceptance agenda around public involvement in large-scale technology- and production investments
  2. Localized natural resources suddenly become viable location factors again in our economies. Raises local compensation issues.
  3. Human capital shortages in unexpected regions, and promotion of something called “green skills”
  4. Electricity: production and distribution
  5. Demand for heavy infrastructural investments in relatively small localities



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1. Who picks up the bill from a rapid, and possibly risky, local expansion?
2. Creation of one-sidedness instead of diversified regional economic structures?
3. Are the “green skills” most important to achieve the regional targets? Where is local labour shortage actually created?
4. With a particular fancy investment, what *did we not* invest in?
5. Are the difficulties reasonably assessed?



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- The green transition is likely to be a bumpy process
- Green is more than reducing co2 emissions
- This has been a production-oriented perspective
- Regional firms that are closer to green: How can we nudge firms to do their thing in new but related ways? Credible business opportunities.
- Regional firms that are not green at all: how far can compensation reach in fighting the feeling that some regions “do not matter” in a future economy?
- Can we stimulate economic evolution more than economic revolution?
- If you are sceptical to the combination of “green” and “growth” remember that this is about more than us.



# Some important references

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