



# Democracy Step By Step

**Media Literacy and Democracy  
Education for Societal Resilience**  
Conference Helsinki 2025  
Nordic Council of Ministers

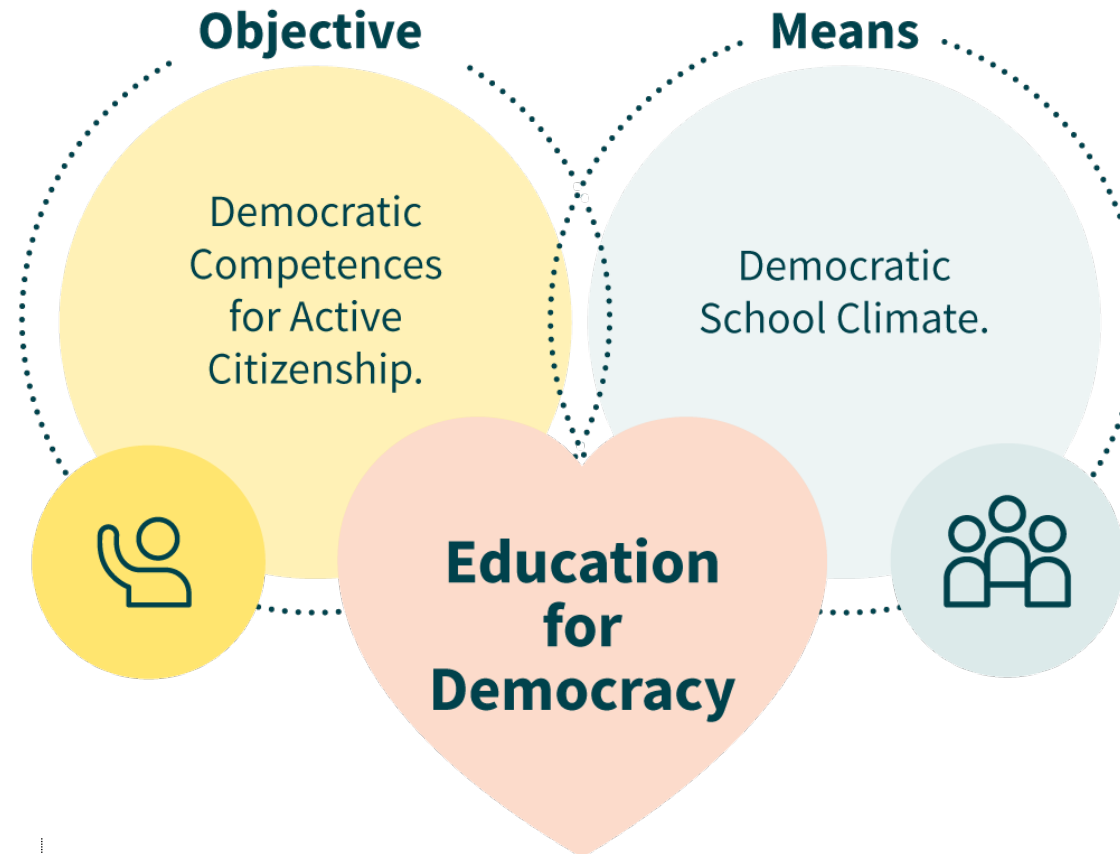
[hugo.wester@skolverket.se](mailto:hugo.wester@skolverket.se)  
[ingiberg.olafsson@fhs.ku.se](mailto:ingiberg.olafsson@fhs.ku.se)

# Democracy Step by Step responds to Challenges

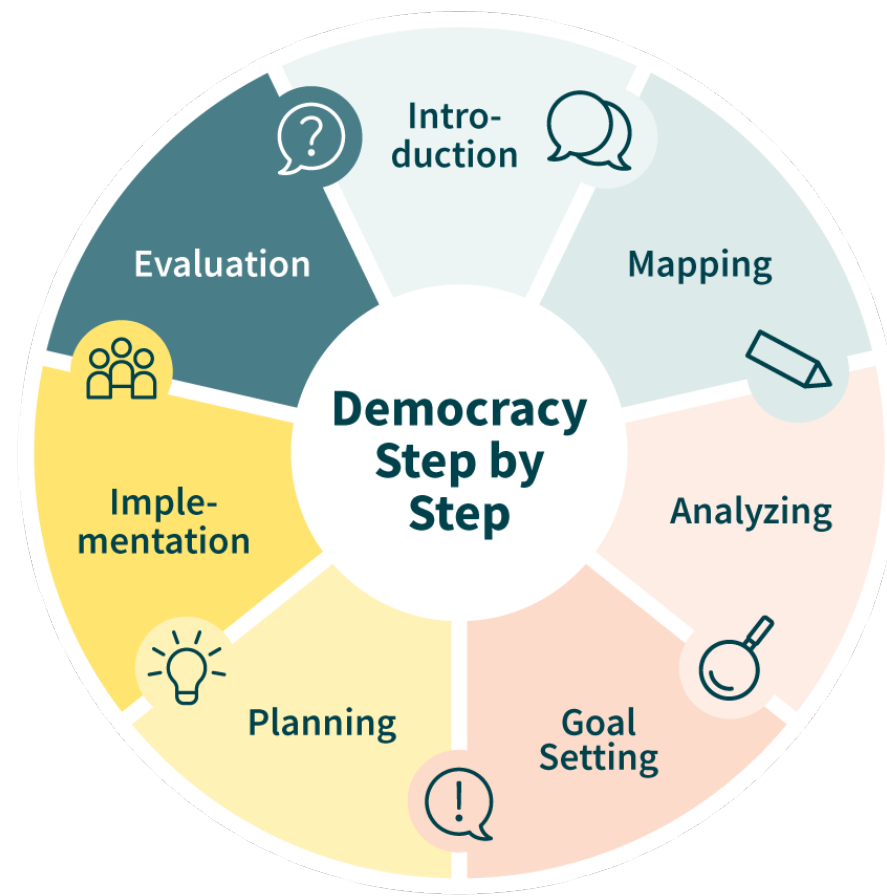
- Role of education in Democratic backsliding
- Nordic Countries perform good but with inequality
- Fundamental democratic values and respect for human rights must permeate school climate
- Democratic assignment needs to be clarified, and methods chosen from the best of knowledge
- Systematic work for long-term sustainability



# Common vision and understanding

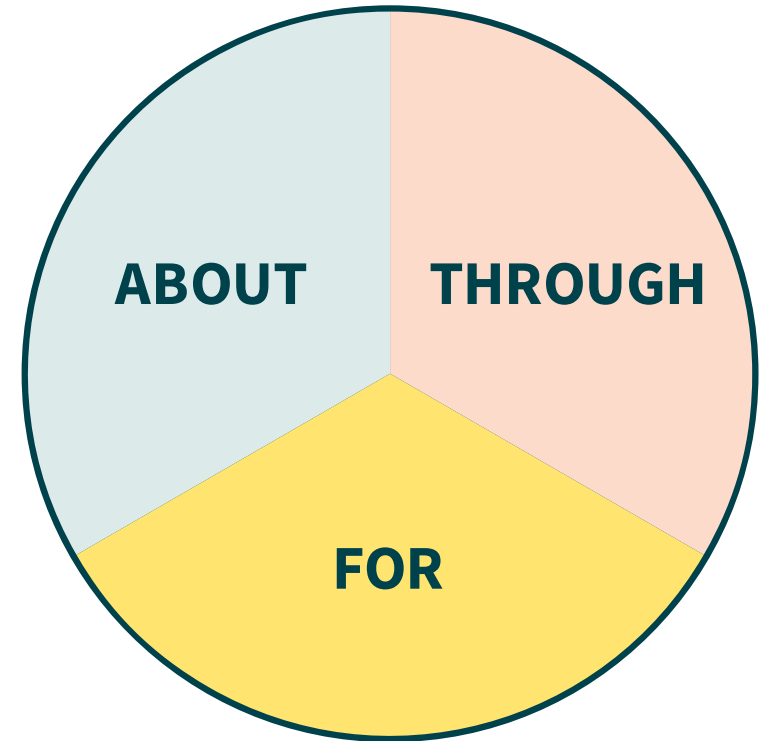


# Systematic Whole School Approach



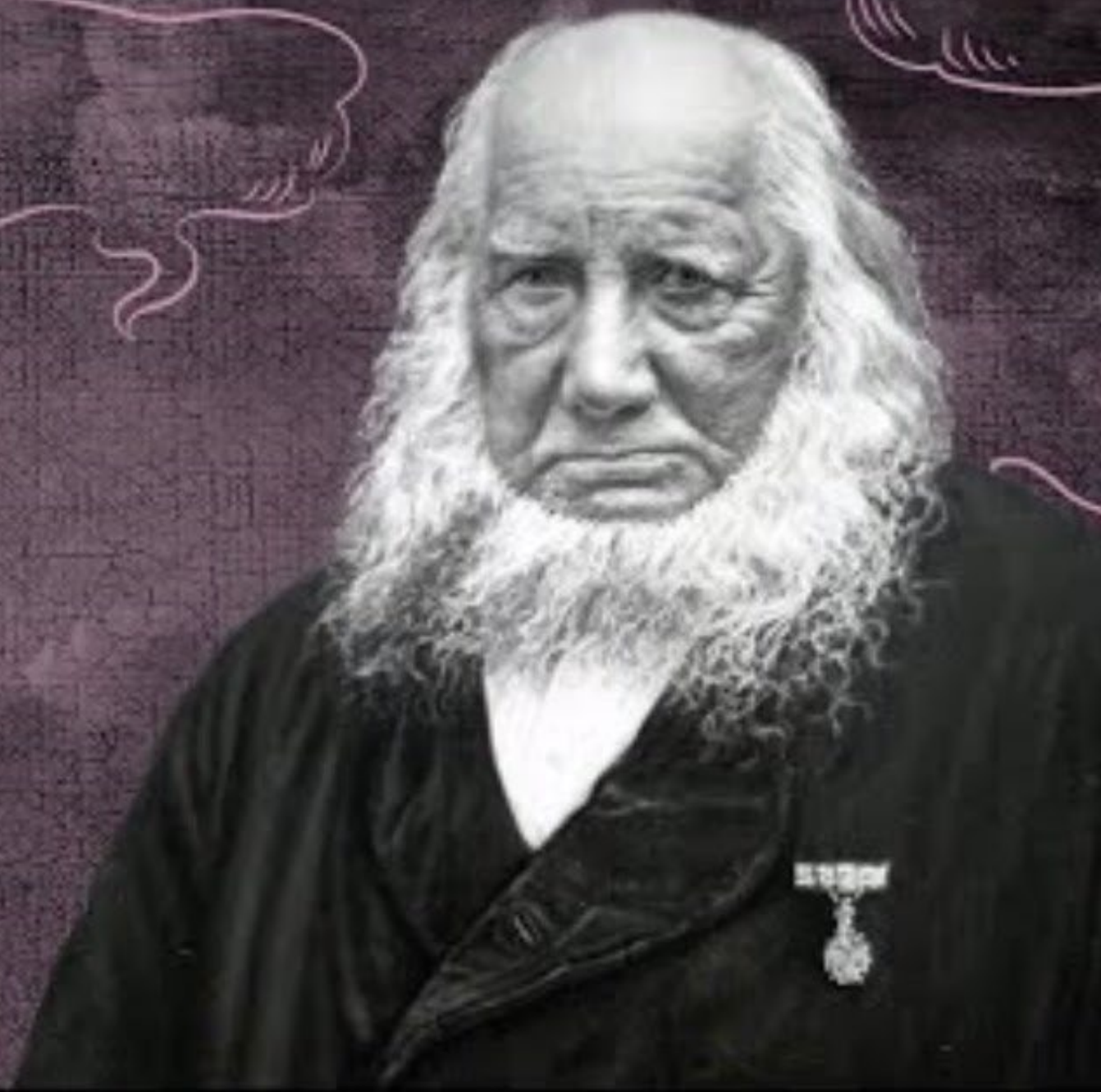
# Learning about, through and for democracy

- Learn **about** democracy and human rights
- ...**through** a democratic school climate and...
- ...**for** active citizenship to strengthen our democracies.



# GRUNDTVIG

The Visionary Behind  
Folk High Schools



WHAT WE DID IN 2022 – 2023

# **FOCUS AREA:**

# **PERCEPTION OF THE OTHER**

- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STAFF**
- **STRENGTHENING OUR CLASS COUNCILS**
- **SHARED THEMATIC STUDIES (GENERAL COURSES)**

WHAT WE DO NOW

**DEMOCRACY**  
**AS AN ONGOING**  
**DIALOGUE**

**CONVERSATIONS THAT  
ARE **EXPLORATORY** AND  
CONVERSATIONS THAT  
ARE **FORMATIVE****

”

Liberating education consists  
in acts of cognition, not  
transferrals of information.

PAULO FREIRE

