

# Sweden Declares War on Crime Gangs After Polish Father is Shot Dead

The tragedy was the final straw.

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Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson kneels at a temporary memorial in the centre of Skärholmen, south of Stockholm, on April 11, 2024, where a father was shot dead in an underpass (Photo: AFP/TT/Claudio Bresciani)



**Jobban mondva- heti vélemény hírlevél** - ahol a hét kiemelt témáihoz fűzött személyes gondolatok összeérnek, részletek itt.

A 39-year-old Polish man was shot dead in Stockholm on Wednesday night after a confrontation with young members of a local gang. The man and his son were cycling towards the local swimming pool in Skärholmen, southern Stockholm, when they were confronted by a gang of young people near an underpass, according to a review by the international V4NA news agency.

The inexplicable attack has brought the rise of criminal gang activity to the forefront of the country's political discourse.

**Sweden has experienced a record number of shootings in recent years, correlating with a dramatic rise in criminal gang activity primarily in its major cities. Many of the criminal gangs are dominated by foreign nationals who recruit Swedish minors to undertake high-risk work including drug deals and attacks on rival gangs.**

In September last year, Ardavan Khoshnood, a leading criminologist at Malmö University, described Sweden as the bombing capital of Europe, noting the Scandinavian nation is now second only to Mexico as the top country in the world not currently at war to experience the most bombings on its territory.

Fatal shootings have also sky-rocketed. In 2022, a total of 391 shootings were reported in Sweden, of which a record 62 were fatal, surpassing the 45 firearm fatalities recorded the previous year. Wednesday's shooting was the third in Skärholmen within the last month alone, and locals are terrified of leaving their houses. Two other shootings in the area saw one man killed on March 1 near the scene of Wednesday's attack, and a 25-year-old victim was hospitalized on March 13 after being shot at a preschool in the area.

**Regurgitating platitudes is no longer enough. It is time for Sweden to declare full war against every single individual in these criminal gangs,**

– said Jimmie Åkesson, the leader of the Sweden Democrats who currently prop up the center-right Swedish government.

*Cover photo: Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson kneels at a temporary memorial in the centre of Skärholmen, south of Stockholm, on April 11, 2024, where a father was shot dead in an underpass (Photo: AFP/TT/Claudio Bresciani)*