

*Anna Lindhs Plats*

The story of a name in Stockholm . . . and a disparaged name element

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Summary

This article begins with a general discussion of commemorative names in Stockholm and, more generally, around the world. A UN resolution from 2002 and a recommendation from the Swedish Place-Name Advisory Board arising from it are mentioned in support of a restrained and carefully considered approach to commemorative naming. The author goes on to discuss the fundamental problem with commemorative names – that the actual naming situation is back to front, with a name in need of a place, rather than the other way round. The greater part of the article is then devoted to the case of Anna Lindh, the Swedish foreign minister murdered in 2003. What suggestions and ideas have been put forward regarding the naming of a place in Stockholm after her? What discussions took place and what arguments were advanced within the Name Drafting Committee of the City of Stockholm before it decided to recommend the name *Anna Lindhs Plats* for a small square in the Södermalm area?

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