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WINTER SWIMMING

The ice bath season is now opening in Vaasa – free cold shock awaits in the Inner Harbour



Winter swimmers can start warming up. The popular ice swimming area in Vaasa Inner Harbour will reopen on 6 November and is open daily from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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TODAY

EDITORIAL

Tax-Free After 65?

Finland wants people to remain in employment for longer. Officials at the Ministry of Finance have proposed gradually raising the minimum retirement age to 70, aiming to strengthen employment and public finances. But what if there were a much more appealing way to persuade people to stay at work?

Let people work tax-free after the age of 65!

It sounds radical, perhaps even financially irresponsible. Yet the idea deserves serious discussion.

When the retirement age of 65 became established, the world was very different. Life expectancy has increased substantially, and many 65-year-olds today are healthy, active and equipped with decades of valuable professional experience. Why should society automatically assume that their working lives must be over?

An incentive instead of an ultimatum

Imagine that people aged 65 and over could keep every euro of their employment income without paying personal income tax on it. Employers could also be exempted from specified employer-side social insurance contributions for these workers under a specially designed scheme.

For older employees, this would create a powerful financial incentive. An extra working day, a part-time position or a few additional years in employment could suddenly become much more attractive.

Employers would benefit too. They could recruit experienced staff with extensive professional knowledge while reducing employment costs. In health-

care, education, industry and consultancy, practical experience can be every bit as valuable as youthful energy.

Society could gain as well

If more people chose to remain employed, they might postpone drawing their pensions, economic output could increase and labour shortages might ease. Greater economic activity could strengthen parts of the tax base and reduce some public expenditure.

There is, however, an important catch: tax-free wages would also reduce government revenue. The overall financial effect would therefore have to be carefully calculated. The scheme must not encourage employers to replace younger workers with older employees simply because they are cheaper to hire.

An idea worth testing

Tax-free earnings after 65 are not a ready-made solution to Finland's economic challenges. But why not investigate a time-limited pilot scheme with income limits, voluntary participation and clear safeguards?

The proposal would need to address pension contributions, the rights of employees and the treatment of people who cannot continue working because of ill health or physically demanding jobs.

We are currently debating how long people should have to work. We should also discuss how to make continued employment attractive enough that people actually want to do it.

Less compulsion, greater freedom and better use of experience: perhaps this is a pension reform worth testing.

Photo Supplement



NEWS

WÄRTSILÄ

Wärtsilä Wins New Brazilian Order – Six Engines to Power Two River Vessels



Finnish marine technology is heading to one of South America's key transport corridors. Wärtsilä will supply six engines for two new river pusher tugs that will help move iron ore in Brazil. Delivery of the equipment is scheduled for 2027.

Three engines for each vessel Finnish technology group Wärtsilä has secured another order in Brazil's inland waterway sector. The company will supply six Wärtsilä 20 engines for two new pusher tugs being built by

Brazilian shipyard Estaleiro Rio Maguari.

The vessels will support the river logistics operations of LHG Mining, transporting iron ore from the Corumbá region as part of the company's wider export network. Their operating area is the Paraguay-Paraná waterway, one of South America's important inland transport corridors.

Each vessel will be equipped with three Wärtsilä 20 engines. The order was booked during the third

quarter of 2026, with delivery of the equipment planned for 2027.

Reliability is essential for river transport

Moving heavy cargo along inland waterways requires dependable vessels capable of operating intensively and under demanding conditions. Engine efficiency, operational availability and maintenance support are therefore important considerations for fleet operators.

LHG Mining president Darlan Carvalho says the Wärtsilä 20 engine platform has proved suitable for the company's requirements. The latest order allows LHG Mining to build on an established technical solution while continuing to develop its long-term inland logistics operations.

Building on an earlier order

The new contract continues the cooperation between Wärtsilä, LHG Mining and Estaleiro Rio Maguari. In 2025, Wärtsilä received an order for the same engine type for four similar vessels. The Finnish company also has service agreements covering other vessels in LHG Mining's fleet.

The Wärtsilä 20 engine is designed for fuel efficiency and can operate on different fuels, including biodiesel blends. This flexibility can help operators respond to changing fuel availability and environmental requirements. However, the announcement does not state that the new vessels will operate exclusively on biodiesel or specify a particular emissions reduction.

A vital link in the export chain

Inland waterways are an important part of South America's freight infrastructure. For the mining industry, reliable river transport helps connect production areas with wider export logistics networks.

The new order strengthens Wärtsilä's presence in the region's inland waterway market. It also highlights the international reach of Finnish marine engineering, combining engine technology with commissioning assistance, spare parts and longer-term service capabilities.

For Wärtsilä, the contract represents another opportunity to support customers beyond the initial equipment delivery. For LHG Mining, it provides continuity as the company expands its fleet and develops its river transport operations.

Source: Wärtsilä, press release, 20 October 2026: Wärtsilä engines selected for two additional inland waterway tugs in Brazil.

VAASA

Rents fell in the capital – but rents rose sharply in Vaasa



For those looking for a rental apartment, the choice of city can mean a surprising amount. In the Helsinki Metropolitan Area, tenants still have room for negotiation, but in Vaasa, the situation is different: rents have risen at the highest rate in the country.

According to Statistics Finland's figures for the third quarter of 2026, the rents of non-subsidised rental dwellings decreased

by 0.3 per cent in Greater Helsinki per year. In the rest of Finland, they increased by an average of 0.4 per cent.

The rise was strongest in Rovaniemi, where rents rose by 2.0 per cent. Vaasa followed closely behind with a rise of 1.3 per cent. In Seinäjoki and Joensuu, the rise amounted to 0.8 per cent.

The experiences of landlords support the statisti-

cs. In Vaasa and Rovaniemi, nearly three out of four landlords estimate that the negotiating position is in their favour. In the Helsinki Metropolitan Area, about two out of three consider the situation to be the opposite.

The number of applicants also indicates the difference: some landlords in Vaasa receive a large number of applications for their apartments, while in

Helsinki there may be only a few applicants.

The rents of state-subsidised dwellings increased even more, by 2.8 per cent in Vaasa.

The message of the rental market is clear: there is no single unified rental market in Finland. Local supply decides who gets to bargain and who cannot.

Source: Finnish Landlord Association

WELLBEING AREA

WELLBEING AREA

Major Shake-Up Aims to End Elderly Care Queues in the Ostrobothnia Region



Long waiting lists for elderly care have become one of the biggest challenges facing the Ostrobothnia wellbeing services county. Now local decision-makers are launching a major reform designed to speed up access to care and ease pressure across the entire health-care system.

The regional board has approved a package of measures intended to tackle bottlenecks that have affected elderly care, especially in the Vaasa region, where waiting times have been among the longest in the area.

The problem has stretched far beyond care homes. Many older residents who have already been granted a place in 24-hour service housing have been forced to wait for a vacancy while staying in primary care hos-

pital wards. This has delayed patient transfers from specialised healthcare and created congestion throughout the care chain.

According to regional figures, an average of 142 people were waiting for a place between January and July 2026. Some people waited longer than three months, exceeding the time limits set by legislation. More than half of those waiting came from Vaasa and the neighbouring municipality of Korsholm.

To tackle the situation, the wellbeing services county will add 34 new places in 24-hour service housing in the central area. At the same time, six respite care places will be repurposed as part of a broader reorganisation aimed at increasing long-term care capacity.

A new respite-care unit will

also be opened in Korsholm. Officials say this should help ensure that family caregivers can more easily take the statutory breaks to which they are entitled. Capacity can be expanded further if demand requires it.

Healthcare services are also being restructured. A new acute primary care ward with 17 beds will be opened in the H-building of Vaasa Central Hospital. Meanwhile, surgical inpatient services will be reorganised, reducing specialised healthcare bed capacity by up to 18 places.

The goal is simple but ambitious: move patients more quickly to the level of care they actually need and eliminate delays between specialised care, hospital wards and elderly care services.

Regional leaders believe the changes will significantly improve access to services while helping staff work more efficiently. For elderly residents and their families, the hope is that long waits and uncertainty will gradually become a thing of the past.

Source: Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia, Board Decision, 19 October 2026:

WELLBEING AREA

New Beginning for Newborns – December Babies to Arrive in Modern Maternity Facilities

A major upgrade is transforming maternity care in Vaasa. From November, the delivery unit and the maternity and gynaecology ward at Vaasa Central Hospital will move into newly renovated facilities, meaning babies born in December will be among the first to experience the new environment.

The extensive renovation of the hospital's T-building is nearing completion, bringing modern facilities designed to improve comfort, safety and flexibility for families. Although the number of delivery rooms remains unchanged at five, the services available to mothers will expand considerably. The number of

birthing pools will increase from one to three, supporting both pain relief and water births. Some delivery rooms will also feature ceiling-mounted yoga supports and projectors capable of displaying calming images or videos.

Safety has been a key focus of the redesign. The new location allows faster access to operating theatres in urgent situations, while the number of observation rooms will increase from two to three. Every patient room will also have its own bathroom and shower, offering greater privacy and convenience.

Partners and family members have not been forgotten. Convertible armchairs that can be turned into beds

will be available in delivery and observation rooms, and can also be used in single-patient rooms after birth. A new multi-purpose room will host antenatal classes and other family-related activities.

The project also includes new facilities for the Seriv Support Centre. Hospital leaders believe the new environment will make childbirth more personal, comfortable and reassuring for growing families across Ostrobothnia.

Source: Joulukuun vauvat syntyvät jo uusissa tiloissa / Senast i de-cember föds bebisarna i nya utrymmen, Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia, 21 October 2026

NEWS

LOCAL NEWS

WINTER SWIMMING

The ice bath season is now opening in Vaasa – free cold shock awaits in the Inner Harbour



Winter swimmers can start warming up. The popular ice swimming area in Vaasa Inner Harbour will reopen on 6 November and is open daily from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. The facility at Hietasaarenkatu offers heated changing rooms, lighting, camera surveillance and a wake open with pump technology. For those who dare to take the step into the cold water, there is both a ladder and stairs with heating elements that keep the ice away. In addition, everything is free. Perhaps the city's cheapest wellness project – and possibly the coldest.

Source: City of Vaasa, 22.10.2026. [vaasa.fi]

VAASA

The classrooms of the future will have no roof Onkilahti invests in nature and fresh air

Forget dusty blackboards and stuffy classrooms. In Vaasa, the best study environment is found in the open air. An alternative is being created at Onkilahti – an accessible and completely new outdoor classroom has been completed – and without any extra waiting, as the construction was completed already at the beginning of October.

The outdoor classroom is conveniently located next to last year's new luontopolku (nature trail) and offers wooden benches, locally grown larch and plenty of space for both large and small groups. Perfect for school classes who want to combine biology lessons with a little breath of fresh air – or for companies who want to hold a creative meeting in the middle of cones and needles.

Vaasa.Reference: Vaasan kaupunki

UNIVERSITY OF VAASA

New woman at the helm of Tritonia: Wants to equip students against fake chatter

Now new winds are blowing on the bookshelves when Marita Ahola, Master of Philosophy, takes over as the new director of the cherished Tritonia Science Library. Ahola will take up the role on 7 December 2026, with an extensive CV in both the library and cultural sectors – among other things, she has previously served as the Director of Culture and Library in Vaasa.

Tritonia serves as a joint knowledge stronghold for Vaasan Yliopisto (Vaasan yliopisto), Vaasan University of Applied Sciences and Novia University of Applied Sciences. At a time when disinformation and AI-generated noise challenge us all, Ahola emphasizes how important source criticism and the joint research library actually are.

Time and place: Starting date is 7 December 2026. Location: Tiedekirjasto Tritonia, Vaasan yliopiston campus, Vaasa.Reference: Vaasan yliopisto / STT Info

STUDENT PARTY

Student party in Vaasa: Cul-

ture, sports and rock karaoke for a pittance

Are you a student and feel that your wallet is a little too empty? Then it's time to book your calendar for the Vaasa <3 students campaign week, which starts in mid-November. Then the city invites the city's higher students to dance with a bang – where one in five residents actually studies at university level! During the week, you can go to the theatre with a student discount, visit the city's art museums for free, or why not go to the swimming pool and gym without it costing a single penny? For the hard rock enthusiast, the literature festival LittFest also offers interesting conversations and hard rock karaoke at the Pataässä restaurant.

Time and place: 9–15 November 2026. Location: Various cultural venues, theatres, swimming pools and museums in Vaasa.Reference: Vaasan kaupunki

CYCLING

Vaasa wants to know: How is the bike rolling in the city?

Have you cycled your tyres on an angry bump or been happy about the new bicycle wheels this summer? Now Vaasan kaupunki (City of Vaasa) wants to know what residents really think about cycling conditions. The city has a busy year behind it filled with renovated bicycle bridges at Vaskiluoto and smart new bicycle repair shops.

A new resident survey is now being rolled out to take the temperature of cycling, and as an extra carrot, the city is raffling off a seasonal bicycle service among all respondents. The survey is open to everyone – and this year they especially hope to hear thoughts from younger cyclists under the age of 15. Swing into the saddle and have your say!

Time and place: Runs until 5 November 2026. Answer digitally or at Kansalaisinfo (Tammipiha, Teräksenkuja 1) and Vähänkylön yhteispalvelupiste (Vähänkylöntie 11), VAasa.Reference: Vaasan kaupunki

MIKKO OLLIKAINEN

Harsh words from Ollikainen: Healthcare needs money that can be trusted – "The staff cannot run faster"

When budget forecasts suddenly fluctuate by millions of euros, it becomes difficult to cure either health care crises or headaches. Member of Parliament Mikko Ollikainen (Swedish People's Party) emphatically states this. According to the latest calculations, it looks like the Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia may lose as much as EUR 16 million in funding for 2028.

Ollikainen, who was previously the Chairman of the Council of the Wellbeing Services County, demands that the Funding Act be rewritten. He emphasises that the staff cannot run faster and that patients should not pay the price of government fluctuations. In addition, he points out that bilingualism in the region must be reliably safeguarded.

Reference: SFP

ARTE MARE

Opening day in Korsholm: When water enters, life begins

Time to dust off the cultural side and head for Korsholm! The municipality invites art enthusiasts to a long-awaited opening where local and exciting expressions are at the center.

Textile art by Katharina Sjöberg 1-11 – 29.11.2026 Opening on 31.10 at 13

World Heritage Gate – MaaIlmanperintäportti Arte Mare

Replotvägen/Raippaluodontie 2 10 am - 6 pm

It's a great opportunity to soak up the joy of creation, mingle with other culture lovers and maybe find a new favorite work to rest your eyes on.

Reference: Korsholm Municipality

WASA DAILY

Nearly everythin You need to know on 14 pages - .vpress.fi

NEWS

YLE

When the news takes the stage – Yle Live comes to Vaasa

Bilingual shows i Vaasa on Nov 10



What really makes a story news? Who decides what the public should hear about? And where is the line between a passionate football fan and a hooligan?

These are some of the questions Yle will explore when several of its young journalists and content creators leave the newsroom and step onto the stage this November.

The Yle Live tour will visit five Finnish cities as part of Yle's 100th-anniversary celebrations. The tour stops in Vaasa, Seinäjoki, Jyväskylä, Lahti and Lappeenranta, combining journalism with theatre, sound, images, lighting and live performance.

For Vaasa, the big day is 10 November, when Yle Live arrives at Ritz. There will be two performances, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., and the Vaasa show will be bilingual.

The programme is aimed par-

ticularly at young people aged 15 to 19, but the format is designed to be much more than a traditional news programme.

Among those appearing on stage are YleX's Aino "Aikku" Silkelä, Mikael Salmelainen from the Menny pahaks podcast, Pyry Vaismaa from Yle Mix, Jenni Matikainen from Yle Kioski, Charlotte "Challe" Lindberg from Yle Watt and Saku Manneh from Yle Galax. Yle's US co-responder Ilmari Reunamäki will also take part.

Each city will also have at least one journalist from Yle's regional newsroom on stage.

The audience will get a behind-the-scenes look at journalism and the questions journalists face every day. Topics include the difference between a football fanatic and a hooligan, what a working day inside Donald Trump's White House might look like,

and the fundamental question of who has the power to define what becomes news.

Radio will also be brought directly to the audience. YleX afternoon hosts Aikku and Mellu will take their radio studio on the road, allowing visitors to watch their live broadcast from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The daytime performances are being offered free of charge to local upper-secondary and vocational students. Evening performances are open to everyone, with tickets priced at 10 euros.

After Vaasa, the tour continues to Seinäjoki on 11 November, Jyväskylä on 12–13 November, Lahti on 16 November and Lappeenranta on 17–18 November.

The Lahti performance will be recorded and later shown on Yle Areena on 22 December, as well as on Yle TV2 during December.

For Vaasa, the combination of journalism and live entertainment offers a rare chance to see familiar media personalities outside the usual screen – and to discover how news is made from the inside.

Vaasa, Ritz, 10 November: 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. The performance is bilingual.

Source: Yle, 5.10.2026.

Image: Johanna Kannasmaa / Yle

UNIVERSITY OF VAASA

An electric truck does not solve everything – a researcher investigated how heavy transport can reduce its emissions



Can heavy-duty transport reduce its emissions without the costs of transport getting out of hand? A doctoral dissertation examined at the University of Vaasa shows that the solution cannot be found in a single technology.

Clara Rajalehto, M.Sc. (Econ.), studied the decarbonisation of heavy-duty road transport from both an economic and environmental perspective. The thesis examined, among other things, battery-powered trucks,

biogas and renewable diesel (HVO) fuel.

The key finding of the study is practical: the most suitable solution depends on how far you drive, what kind of transport is done and what kind of infrastructure is available.

Electricity can be an economical option when the driving routes are suitable for the battery's range and charging can be arranged efficiently. Biogas, on the other hand, can be suitable

for long transports. The advantage of renewable diesel is that it can be used without the same changes to the fleet as in electrification.

Reducing emissions therefore requires more than just acquiring new vehicles. Companies must calculate investments, operating costs, fuel availability and practical requirements for transport.

Rajalehto's doctoral dissertation was examined on 15 October 2026 in the Kurten auditorium of the University of Vaasa.

The message of the study is that there is no single miracle solution. The best way to reduce emissions is to choose the technology based on the transport task and not just on the trend.

Source: University of Vaasa – Clara Rajalehto's doctoral dissertation.

Photo: University of Vaasa

NEW TESTAMENT

New Swedish Translation of the New Testament Brings Ancient Text into Modern Language

In September 2026, the Swedish Bible Society released NT 2026, a new Swedish translation of the New Testament. It is the first completely new Swedish New Testament translation since the 1981 edition, which later became part of the Bible 2000 translation. The project involved years of work by biblical scholars, linguists and theologians, aiming to combine modern scholarship with clear and contemporary Swedish.

The publication coincides with the 500th anniversary of the first Swedish New Testament, published in 1526. According to the translators, both the Swedish language and biblical research have advanced considerably since the previous translation, creating a need for a fresh approach.

One of the main goals was to move closer to the original Greek text. This can be seen in several passages. For example, the Gospel of John previously stated that "The Word became human", whereas the new translation renders the phrase as "The Word became flesh". Translators argue that the latter reflects



the original wording more accurately and preserves its powerful imagery.

Another notable change concerns Judas. Earlier translations said that Judas "betrayed" Jesus. In NT 2026, he instead "hands over" Jesus. This follows a translation principle in which the same Greek term is rendered consistently throughout the narrative.

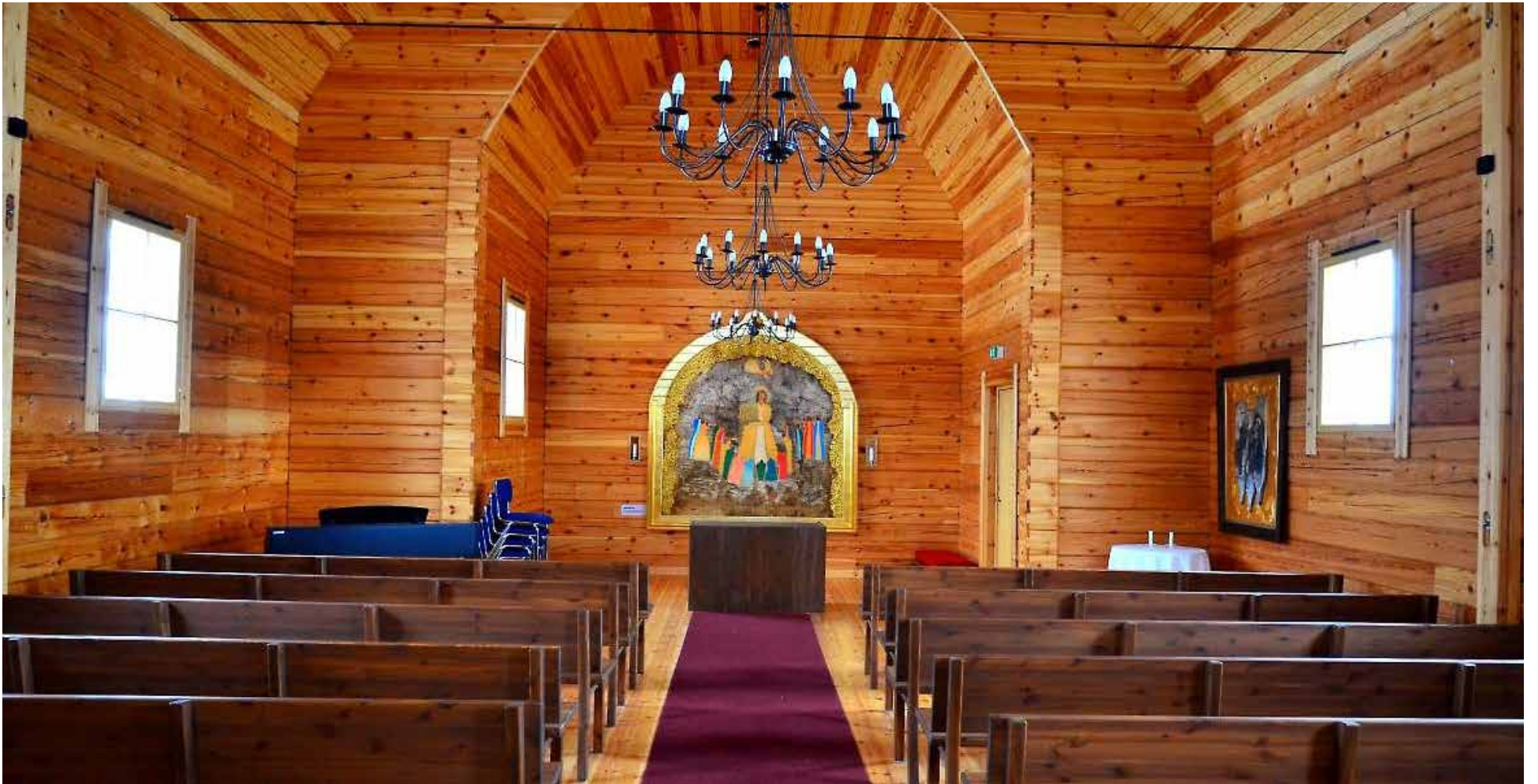
The language has also been modernised. Older expressions have been replaced with wording that feels more natural to contemporary readers.

In Finland, the most recent official Bible translation remains Raamattu 1992, now more than three decades old. In the English-speaking world, several translations are used side by side, but one of the most widely read, the New International Version (NIV), received its most recent major revision in 2011.

Whether NT 2026 will achieve the same influence as earlier Swedish Bible translations remains to be seen. However, it is already regarded as a significant cultural event with potential impact not only on church life but also on the development of the Swedish language itself.

LAPLAND CHURCH FOR SALE

Paavo Väyrynen's unusual wooden shingle church enters the property market



One of the most distinctive tourism destinations in Finnish Lapland is looking for a new owner. The Pohjanranta estate in Liedakkala, Keminmaa, owned by Paavo and Vuokko Väyrynen, has been placed on the market, bringing with it a rare combination of hospitality, culture and local history.

The sale covers far more than a traditional rural property. Included in the package are a hotel, a caravan and camping area, a vineyard, and the estate's best-known attraction, the ecumenical Wooden Shingle Church, known locally as the Paanukirkko.

Completed in 2010, the church was inspired by medieval Nordic timber churches dating back to the 14th century. Built from logs and covered with traditional tar-treated wooden shingles, the structure immediately stands out among modern buildings. With a floor area of approximately 110 square metres, it has become one of the most recognisable landmarks in the region.

The project emerged from Paavo Väyrynen's long-standing interest in local history. The church was inspired by Keminmaa's first medieval church, which once stood at Valmarinniemi. Because detailed plans of the original building no longer exist, historical examples from Sweden were used to guide the design and construction process.

Visitors often comment on the church's atmosphere even before they take in its architectural details. The scent of tar from the wooden shingles creates a distinctive impression,



recalling centuries-old Nordic building traditions. Combined with the high interior ceiling and traditional craftsmanship, the result is a setting unlike most contemporary church buildings.

The interior's focal point is the striking altarpiece "Moses and the Ten Commandments", created by Finnish artist Juhani Palmu. Its golden tones provide a dramatic contrast to the timber surroundings and make it one of the church's most memorable features.

Although located on private land, the church has served a public role since its opening. It was formally blessed for use in 2010 by Bishop Samuel Salmi. Over the years, the venue has hosted weddings, concerts, exhibitions and various cultural events. It has also become a popular stop for domestic and international travellers exploring northern Finland.



Construction began in 2009 and was completed the following spring. The total investment exceeded €200,000, with part of the funding coming through public development support.

Now, as Pohjanranta seeks a new chapter, the future of the unique estate has become a topic of interest across the region. Whoever acquires the property will receive not only a tourism business, but also a remarkable piece of local heritage that blends history, architecture and culture in a distinctly Lapland setting.

Sources: Public information from Pohjanranta, regional news reporting, and published material on the Wooden Shingle Church and local church history, consulted in 2026.

FINLAND

HELSINGIN BOOK FAIR

Helsinki Book Fair Unveils Massive Programme – More Than 2,000 Speakers and 1,000 Events. Still open today on Sunday Oct 25.

Book lovers are in for one of the biggest cultural events of the year. The full programme for the Helsinki Book Fair has now been released, revealing four days packed with authors, artists, public figures and cultural discussions.

More than 2,000 participants will appear across 17 stages, contributing to over 1,000 programme events during the fair. Organisers say this year's theme focuses on the importance of language and its role in modern society.

Visitors can expect discussions ranging from literature and culture to freedom of expression, public debate and the future of reading in a digital age.

Swedish-language programme plays a major role

The Swedish-speaking audience will find a particularly rich offering. Around 200 events will be held on Swedish-language stages, highlighting the fair's bilingual character and the strong position of Swedish-language literature in Finland.

Those unable to attend in person can still take part. Programmes from the Senaatintori and Hakaniemi stages will be streamed live online and made available afterwards as recordings.

Spotlight on the future of publishing

Before the official opening, journalists and social media creators will be invited to a special briefing discussing the current state of the book industry. Representatives from Finland's booksellers and publishers will examine the opportunities and challenges facing the sector.

The event will also feature the presentation of the Finnish Fair Foundation's Book Industry Promotion Award, worth €15,000.

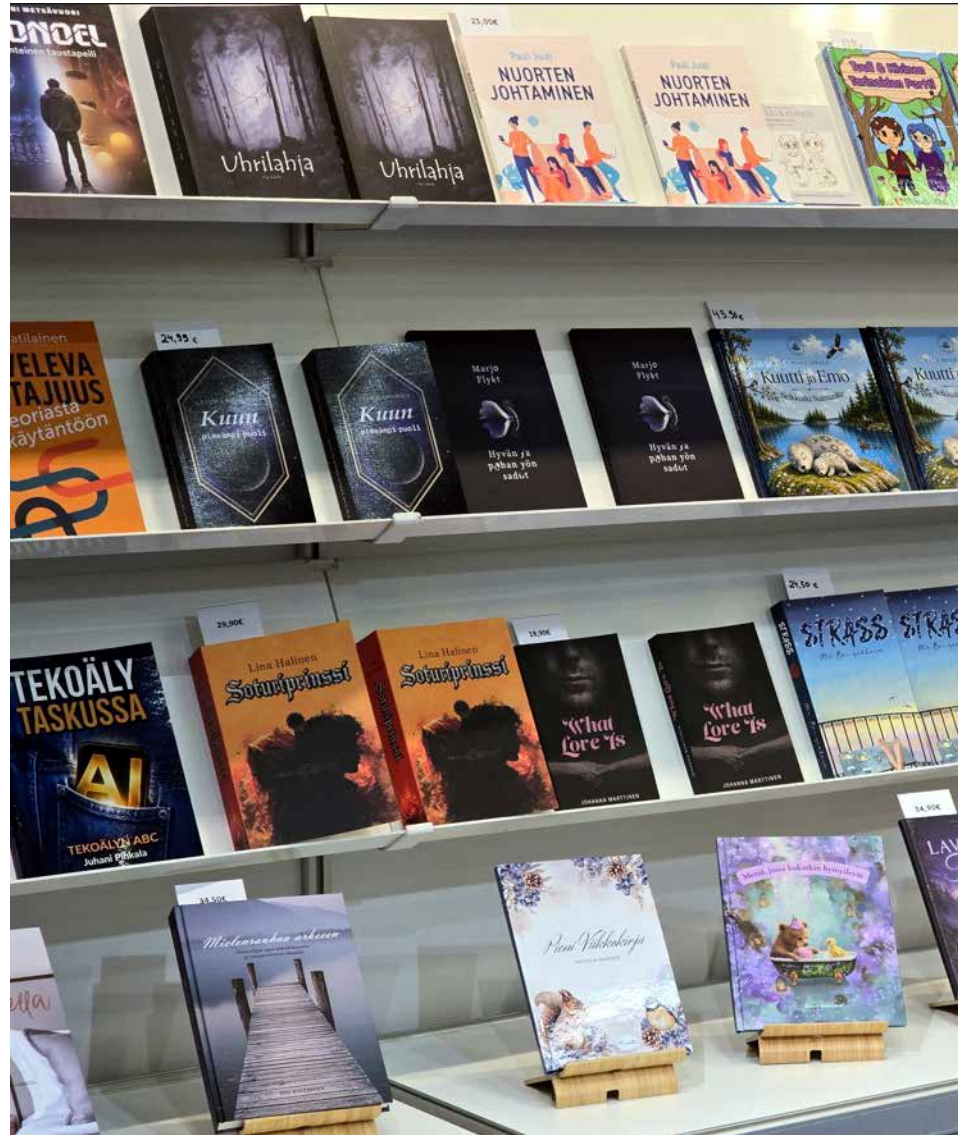
A ceremonial opening

The fair officially opened by Helsinki Mayor Juhana Vartiainen and Helsinki Expo and Convention Centre CEO Anni Vepsäläinen, who will cut the traditional red ribbon.

Over the years, the Helsinki Book Fair has established itself as one of the most significant literary events in the Nordic countries. This year's edition promises inspiring encounters, lively debate and a powerful reminder of why books, reading and language continue to matter.

Source: Helsinki Book Fair programme information 2026.





1984

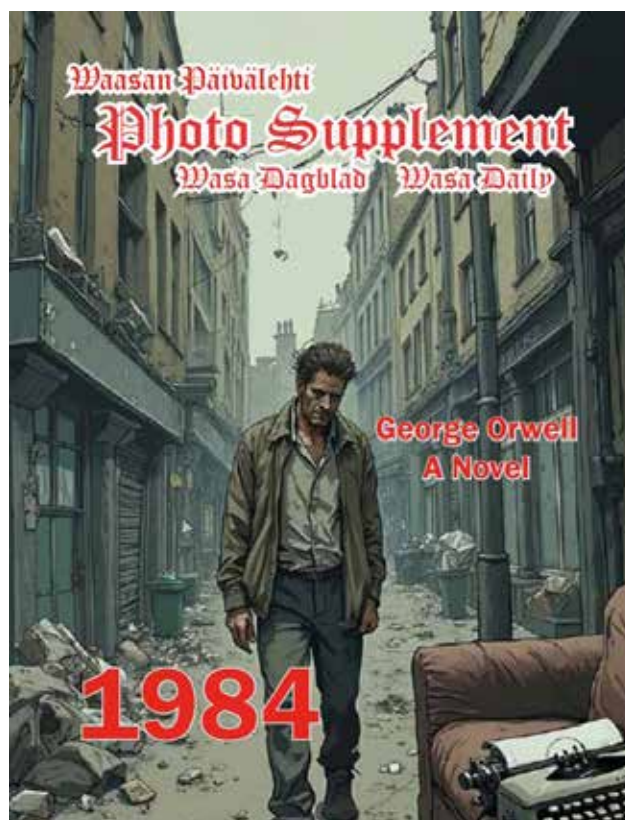
George Orwell's book 1984 still relevant: Now as a musical in Yerevan

A new interpretation of the classic – what happens when the dictatorship falls?

On October 17, 2026, a new multimedia musical based on 1984 had its world premiere at the Sundukjan National Academic Theater in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia. Directed by Konstantin Kamensky, the performance combines Orwell's dystopian world with a love story, newly written music and modern visual expressions. A second performance was scheduled for October 18. The production is not a straightforward retelling of the novel.

It also asks a question that Orwell could not answer: What happens to people when the dictatorship one day falls? Will they be free overnight? Can those who used to be part of the propaganda machine suddenly wash their hands and start over? It is an interesting starting point. Dictatorships are not only maintained by a small group of leaders and security forces. They also need officials, journalists, media personalities and ordinary citizens who carry out orders, repeat official messages or choose not to protest. The musical therefore allows Winston Smith to look back on the past. In this interpretation, he appears not only as a victim of the system, but also as a person who was previously part of its propaganda machine.

This makes the story more complicated than a simple struggle between good and bad people. Winston Smith becomes a rock musician. The lead role is played by Alexander Krasovsky, frontman of the Russian rock band Animal ДжаZ and the music project Zero People. Yulia is portrayed by Teona Dolnikova, while Yevgeny Pronin and Vladimir Daraganov are also part of the ensemble. The music is specially written for the production of Krasovsky, and the lyrics have been written by the poet Vera Polozkova. The performance combines rock music and dramatic dialogues with video projections and digital images. It is thus somewhere between a traditional musical and a modern theater performance with strong multimedia elements. The stage image uses modern technology to blur the line between reality, memories and manipulation. Images on screens and transparent stage constructions create a world where the audience cannot always be



sure of what is really happening and what is a constructed reality. It is an expression that fits Orwell's story particularly well. In 1984, the struggle for reality is as important as the struggle for political power.

Love as an act of resistance

One of the musical's most important ideas is that human relationships can offer a counterforce to totalitarian control. Director Konstantin Kamensky has also drawn inspiration from the Russian author Yevgeny Zamyatin's dystopian novel *Vi*, an earlier literary work about a society in which the individual is subordinated to a collective system. The love story between Winston and Julia thus becomes more than a romantic side story. It is about the right to have a private life, to feel something that power has not decided, and to create a bond with another human being without the state being allowed to control it. In a world where emotions and memories can also become political affairs, love can appear as a last refuge for the individual. But Orwell also shows how vulnerable this sanctuary is when the state has enough power over people's lives. Why is 1984 still so relevant? It is tempting to read Orwell as if he were only writing about Stalin or the old Soviet Union.

But the real strength of the novel lies in the fact that it is not limited to one country or one political ideology. It describes mechanisms that can recur in different societies: when governments try to decide what facts can be published, when journalists are pressured to repeat official messages, when history is

rewritten to suit today's political needs, and when citizens begin to fear the consequences of expressing their opinions.

In our time, these issues have taken on additional dimensions. Digital surveillance, facial recognition, artificial intelligence, manipulated images, and deepfakes can make it more difficult to determine what is genuine. Technology is not inherently totalitarian, but it can be used to monitor people, influence public opinion, and spread false information. It is precisely this mixture of old power politics and new technological possibilities that makes Orwell's novel so useful to today's readers. At the same time, it is important not to equate every surveillance camera or political lie with the complete repression depicted in 1984. The novel works best as a warning and a tool for critical thinking, not as a label that can be easily pasted on any political opponent.

A warning – but also a defence of humanity. The fact that 1984 is now being performed as a musical in Yerevan shows that a literary classic can be given new life through completely different art forms. Rock music, digital performing arts and a love story can bring Orwell's ideas to an audience that may never have read the novel. There is also something symbolic in the fact that a story that was once banned in the Soviet Union is now being interpreted on a stage in another former Soviet republic, while the book is once again selling very well in today's Russia. But perhaps the most important thing is not the similarities between the novel's fictional dictatorship and any single real state.

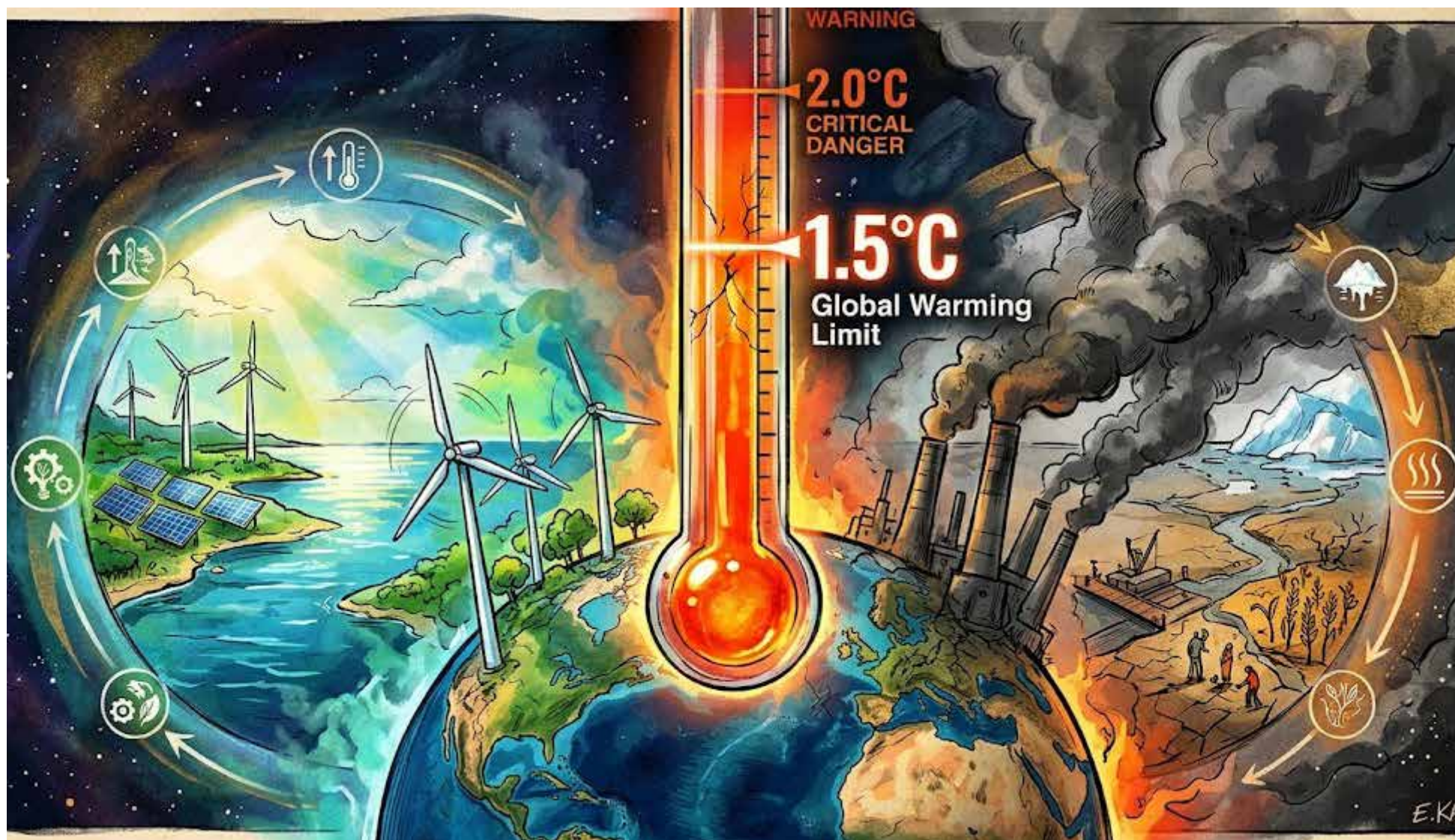
That is the question that the story leaves behind: How do we protect the human right to think for themselves, speak freely and love without fear? Orwell's dark vision of the future is not a prophecy that everything must go wrong. It is a reminder that freedom requires vigilance, that truth must be defended, and that people must never leave their entire judgment to those in power.

Big Brother can change faces, technology can become more advanced and propaganda can take on new forms. But as long as people need to defend their freedom, George Orwell's 1984 will have something important to say..

CLIMATE CHANGE

UN

Climate Alarm: The 1.5°C Limit Will Be Broken – But Scientists Say There's Still a Way Back



The world is heading towards a historic climate milestone, and not in a good way. According to a new United Nations report, global warming is now expected to exceed the critical 1.5°C threshold above pre-industrial levels. Yet amid the warning comes a surprisingly hopeful message: humanity still has a chance to bring temperatures back below that level before the end of the century.

The assessment comes from the UN Environment Programme's new report, Emissions Gap Report 2026: The Point of Return. It concludes that even under the most optimistic pathway, global temperatures are likely to peak at around 1.7°C to 1.8°C above pre-industrial levels by the middle of this century.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres urged governments not to interpret the projected overshoot as defeat.

"Overshoot is not surrender," he said. "We can still keep it as small and as short as possible and bring temperatures back below 1.5 degrees by the end of the century."

The Numbers Behind the Warning

The report outlines the scale of action required. To achieve the lowest possible overshoot

scenario, global emissions must fall by 18 per cent by 2030, 45 per cent by 2035 and 69 per cent by 2040, compared with 2025 levels.

Without stronger action, the outlook becomes much darker. UNEP warns that current policies could lead to approximately 2.8°C of warming during this century. Even if all currently pledged national climate plans are fully implemented, warming would still reach roughly 2.6°C.

The projections are more pessimistic than those published a year ago. UNEP attributes the shift partly to the United States' withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and revised estimates of historical greenhouse-gas emissions.

Reasons for Hope

The report also highlights significant progress. Since the Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015, renewable energy deployment has expanded rapidly worldwide. Climate policies have helped curb emissions in many regions, and growth in fossil-fuel use has been slower than previously anticipated.

UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen stressed that every fraction of a degree

matters. Additional warming increases the likelihood of devastating floods, heatwaves, wildfires and other climate-related disasters already affecting communities around the globe.

To avoid the worst outcomes, UNEP calls for tripling renewable-energy capacity by 2030, accelerating energy-efficiency improvements, moving away from fossil fuels and halting deforestation.

A Critical Decade Ahead

Attention is now turning to COP31, the next major UN climate conference, due to begin in Antalya, Türkiye. UNEP hopes the meeting will strengthen international commitments and speed up implementation of existing climate goals.

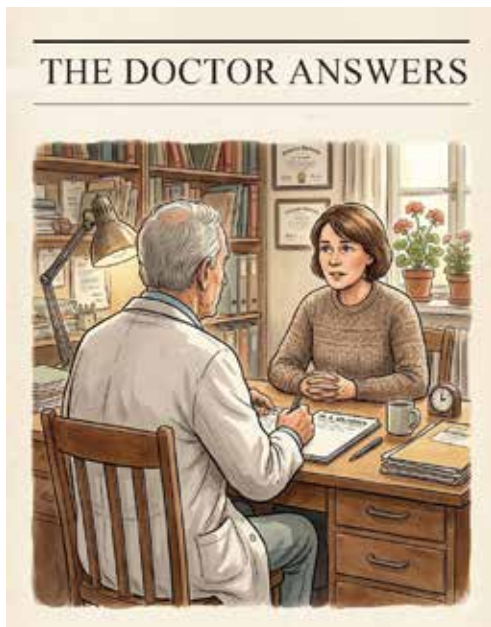
The message from the United Nations is both stark and encouraging: the 1.5°C threshold may no longer be avoidable, but a full-scale climate disaster is not inevitable. The choices made over the next few years could determine the future climate for generations to come.

Source: UN News / UNEP, 21 October 2026

HEALTH

THE DOCTOR ANSWERS

Lung cancer can affect also those who have never smoked – why?



Question: Pope Leo underwent surgery for lung cancer a few days ago. How is it that he, who has certainly never smoked, got this disease?

Answer: Pope Leo XIV has undergone surgery for lung cancer. According to the Vatican, the examinations showed that he has lung adenocarcinoma, a common form of lung cancer. A natural question is: How can you get lung cancer if you have never smoked?

Smoking is the biggest risk factor for lung cancer, but it is not the only one. The disease also occurs in people who have never smoked. In such cases, several factors can interact, and sometimes it is not possible to determine a single cause.

There are several types of lung cancer. They are mainly divided into two groups: non-small cell lung cancer and small cell lung cancer. The former group accounts for about 85 percent of cases. This includes adenocarcinoma, which often occurs in the outer parts of the lungs and is the most common type even among people who have never smoked. Small cell lung cancer is more strongly linked to smoking.

What other factors can come into play? Ra-

don in indoor air is also an important risk factor for non-smokers. Radon is an invisible, odourless radioactive gas that can penetrate from the ground. Passive smoking, air pollution and exposure to certain substances in the work environment, such as asbestos, can also increase the risk. Age and hereditary or acquired genetic changes can also play a role.

Sometimes cancer develops even though the person has no known risk factor. This does not mean that someone has done anything wrong – cancer can occur through changes in the genome of cells that we cannot fully explain.

Can lung cancer be prevented? The most important thing is not to smoke and to avoid passive smoking. The radon concentration in the apartment can be measured if necessary, and elevated levels can be corrected.

The Pope's illness reminds us that lung cancer is not just a smoker's disease. Early detection can improve treatment options, but there is not yet a general screening that is recommended for everyone. In case of prolonged cough, coughing up blood or new shortness of breath, you should contact your healthcare provider.

MILK ALLERGY

Breakthrough Hope for Families: Many Milk-Allergic Children May Tolerate Heated Milk



New research from the University of Helsinki is offering fresh hope to families dealing with childhood milk allergy. Scientists have found that many children diagnosed with milk allergy may actually tolerate milk that has been heated at high temperatures, even if ordinary milk causes allergic reactions.

The study was conducted by physician and doctoral researcher Otso Nieminen at the University of Helsinki and HUS Skin and Allergy Hospital. Researchers investigated how children with confirmed milk allergy reacted to strongly heated milk products. Heating changes the structure of some milk proteins, making them less likely to trigger the immune system.

The results were encouraging. More than half of the children included in the study were able to tolerate heavily heated milk. According to Nieminen, the likelihood of tolerance remained high even among some children who had previously experienced severe reactions to unheated milk.

The findings could have an important impact on treatment strategies. Traditionally, milk allergy has been managed through strict avoidance of dairy products. However, researchers emphasise that an unnecessary dairy-free diet is not without consequences and may even make it harder for children to develop tolerance over time.

Evidence from the study suggests that consuming heavily heated milk may help speed up the disappearance of milk allergy. This makes early identification of suitable children particularly important.

The research also highlights a potentially safer diagnostic approach. Today, hospital-based milk challenge tests remain the standard method for confirming milk allergy. These procedures can require a full day in hospital and carry the risk of significant allergic reactions. Researchers found that blood tests measuring antibodies to milk proteins were highly useful in identifying milk allergy without the need for exposure testing.

In addition, the study established allergy threshold values specifically suited to Finnish children over one year of age. Researchers also developed a new severity scoring system that has already been incorporated into Finland's national Current Care Guidelines.

Nieminen defended his doctoral dissertation at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Helsinki on 23 October 2026. The work is considered internationally significant because research on tolerance to extensively heated milk remains relatively limited worldwide.

Experts believe the findings may help doctors tailor treatment more individually in the future, potentially reducing unnecessary hospital visits while improving the quality of life for children and their families.

INTERESTING STORY



HEALTH

It Pays to Be Happy and Well-being: You Don't Get Dementia

As life expectancy increases and the global population ages, we are faced with an undeniable challenge: how to reduce the growing burden of neurodegenerative diseases like dementia.

Dementia, with Alzheimer's disease as its most common form, has been on the rise for decades. An estimated 139 million people worldwide are projected to be living with dementia by 2050. Alarmingly, over 10 million new cases are diagnosed each year—roughly one every three seconds.

However, new research provides hope and offers a refreshing perspective: well-being may hold the key to preventing, or at least mitigating, the risk of dementia. While most public health strategies focus on biomedical interventions, emerging evidence suggests that promoting mental well-being and fostering positive emotions could serve as powerful tools in dementia prevention.

A Decade of Research Linking Well-Being to Brain Health

A landmark study conducted by researchers from the Well-being and Emotion across the Lifespan Lab (WELLab) at Washington University in St. Louis, and highlighted in the 2024 World Happiness Report, shows a strong correlation between well-being and a reduced risk of dementia. This interdisciplinary research, spanning over a decade, makes a compelling case for the protective effects of well-being on the brain.

The study's findings are based on data collected from older adults in Chicago and Illinois, starting in 1997. Participants underwent annual evaluations of their cognitive abilities and provided self-assessments

of their emotional states and overall well-being. The researchers found that individuals who consistently reported higher levels of well-being were less likely to develop memory and thinking impairments, even when they had the biological markers associated with Alzheimer's disease.

While the exact mechanisms behind this link remain unclear, the results strongly suggest that maintaining high levels of well-being throughout life could help delay or even prevent the onset of dementia.

Well-Being: A Buffer Against Dementia?

The research also touches on a broader question: why is there a connection between well-being and brain health? According to Dr. Emily Willroth, Director of WELLab and one of the study's lead researchers, there are several factors that might explain this relationship.

"People who report higher well-being are more likely to engage in activities known to promote brain health, such as regular physical exercise, social interaction, and mental stimulation," says Dr. Willroth. These activities have long been associated with a reduced risk of cognitive decline, but the study goes a step further by suggesting that well-being may also act as a buffer against the harmful effects of stress, a known contributor to neurodegenerative diseases.

Dr. Kyrsten Costlow Hill, another co-author of the study, explains that stress can damage the

brain's critical systems responsible for maintaining cognitive function. Higher levels of well-being, on the other hand, may provide the resilience needed to withstand or counteract this damage.

What Does Well-Being Look Like for Those Already Living with Dementia?

While well-being is now recognized as a potential preventative measure, it also plays a crucial role in improving the lives of those already living with dementia. The WELLab team emphasizes that well-being interventions can enhance autonomy, competence, and relatedness, even in advanced stages of dementia.

Simple activities such as physical exercise, spending time outdoors, and engaging in social activities have shown significant benefits for individuals with dementia. These interventions not only improve mood and cognitive function but also increase life satisfaction. Moreover, methods like reminiscence therapy, where individuals are encouraged to reflect on past memories, can foster emotional stability and enhance overall well-being.

Aging in place—remaining in one's home rather than relocating to an institution—has been shown to be particularly effective in boosting the well-being of older adults with dementia. By using home adaptations, assistive technologies, and maintaining social connections, individuals can experience greater satisfaction with life. Dementia villages, which provide a safe yet familiar environment, have also emerged as a model for maintaining dignity and quality of life for those affected by the disease.

The Path Forward: Acting on What We Know

Despite the promising findings, Dr. Willroth stresses that there is no "miracle cure" for dementia. However, the evidence points toward actionable steps that can be taken today to reduce the risk of this devastating condition. Public health initiatives should prioritize well-being as a cornerstone of dementia prevention. As the global population ages, the demand for strategies that not only treat but also prevent neurodegenerative diseases will continue to rise.

Incorporating well-being into daily routines is not just a matter of living a happier life; it may also be the key to preserving cognitive function well into old age. Physical activity, social interaction, mindfulness practices, and positive emotional engagement are all accessible and effective means of improving both mental health and brain health.

As the research suggests, investing in well-being pays dividends far beyond happiness—it may hold the key to unlocking a future with fewer cases of dementia. While we cannot completely eliminate the risk of developing neurodegenerative diseases, the steps we take today toward fostering mental and emotional well-being may reduce the likelihood of dementia for millions.

In a world where dementia remains one of the most pressing public health challenges, we must act now. Prioritizing well-being, both in our personal lives and through public health policies, can lead to healthier aging and, ultimately, a reduced burden of dementia on individuals, families, and society. After all, the cost of ignoring well-being is far too high—for our minds, our bodies, and our collective future.

THE CONTENT OF OUR MAGAZINE IS PRODUCED RESPONSIBLY.
WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE JOURNALIST GUIDELINES.
<https://jsn.fi/en/journalists-guidelines/>

EVENTS

TODAY

SUNDAY WALK TODAY

Vaasa Walks Together – The Feel-Good Sunday Sensation Is Back!

Lace up, Vaasa! This Sunday, Oct 11th, 10:00-13:00, the beloved Sunday Walk returns at Kauppatori, by the statue. Join the 10km community stroll through the city's best autumn spots – you set the pace, no one walks alone, and a shorter route is always okay. Afterwards, enjoy a cozy coffee together, self-paid. It's free, friendly and open to all. Same time also on Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1.

Source: Event Sunnuntaikävely, organizer Vaasan Kävelyklubi ry, Huovinkuja 9 D 2, Vaasa.

HELSINKI BOOK FAIR - STILL TODAY!

22.-25.10.2026

Words take centre stage at Helsinki Book Fair



Language will be in the spotlight when Helsinki Book Fair returns this autumn. From 22–25 October 2026, Helsinki Expo and Convention Centre will host authors, books and discussions, with almost 1,000 programme events planned.

The 2026 theme is Kieli / Språk / Language, exploring the power and development of language, the future of Finnish, multilingual literature, translation and world literature. Language minorities will also have a stronger voice.

The Nordic region's largest literary event attracted more than 100,000 visitors in 2025, setting a new attendance record.

Time: 22–25 October 2026. Thu–Sat 10am–8pm, Sun 10am–6pm.
Location: Helsinki Expo and Convention Centre.

Source: Messukeskus / Helsinki Book Fair

OCTOBER

RITZ

Krista and Mark celebrate Finland-Swedish life at the Ritz on 29 and 30.10.26

Krista Siegfriids and Mark Levengood bring the show "How Lovely the Song

Sounds" to the Ritz stage. The performances are on Thursday 29 October and Friday 30 October 2026 at 7 pm. Tickets 49,90 euros.

The show is Finlandssvensk fest on stage: Lucia crowns, crayfish parties, dialects, songs, laughter and maybe a little tear in the corner of your eye. The duo celebrates their roots, nostalgia and everything that Finland-Swedes living abroad miss. The evening will be a warm-hearted and humorous experience, where mosquitoes are not needed, but schnapps can be part of the thing. Reference information: netticket.fi.

NOVEMBER

YLE

Yle Live comes to Vaasa on Nov 10

Yle's lively new stage show arrives at Ritz in Vaasa on 10 November. The bilingual event combines journalism, humour, music, theatre and behind-the-scenes stories from the world of news. The show is especially aimed at 15–19-year-olds. Performances take place at 1 pm and 7 pm. Evening tickets cost €10.

LITTFEST

VAASA LITERATURE FESTIVAL LITTFEST 12-14.11.2026

The literature festival that will be held in November, 12–14.11.2026, will once again bring together well-known writers in Vaasa. LittFest will be attended by Monika Fagerholm, Kjell Westö, Kirsti Manninen (Enni Mustonen), Axel Åhman, Emmi Itäranta, Jessikka Aro and Tuomas Enbuske. In the autumn, book circles are also promised before the festival.

VAASA CITY THEATRE

Vierailu: Elämälle kiitos! Marion Rung 80v Juhlakiertue Nov 13 at 19

VAASABAROQUE

BLÄNDAD AV DÖD OCH KÄRLEK 13-15.11.2026

When the Baroque dances tango – strong emotions on stage
Italian early baroque meets Argentine tango and contemporary dance in the choreographic total work Dazzled by Death and Love. Vaasa Baroque and Carl Knif Company will perform the performance in Helsinki on 13–14 November and in Vaasa on Sunday 15 November at 17:00 at the Ritz.

Choreography and direction by Carl Knif, musical design by Kajsa Dahlbäck. On stage are singers Kajsa Dahlbäck and Erica Back, musicians with violin, bandoneón, lute, viola da gamba and harpsichord, and dancers Jonna Aaltonen, Carl Knif and Terhi Vaimala. Music by Claudio Monteverdi, Barbara Strozzi and Astor Piazzolla interacts with the bodies' expressions of existence, passion and transience.
pe / Fri 13.11 klo / 19.00 Tanssin talo, Helsinki / Dance House, Helsinki (Liput / tickets: tanssintalo.fi)
Sat / Sat 14.11 klo / 15.00 Tanssin talo, Helsinki / Dance House, Helsinki (Liput /

FINLANDIA-HOUSE

You still have time! Soile Yli-Mäyry's art conquers Finlandia Hall – the exhibition closes at the end of October



The power of colours, strong emotions and distinctive imagery! Artist Soile Yli-Mäyry's exhibition Broken Hands offers an art experience in Helsinki until the end of October.

Yli-Mäyry, who is originally from Kuortane, is known for his personal expression, in which colours, human figures and symbolic motifs build a recognizable artistic world. In addition to paintings, his production includes glass art, and

his works have also been exhibited outside Finland's borders.

The exhibition now on display invites the viewer to pause and reflect on the conflicts between people, emotions and the world. The very title of the exhibition raises questions: what do hands tell us about a person and what kind of traces does life leave?

The exhibition will be on display in the Showroom of Fin-

landia Hall in Helsinki until 30 October 2026. In mid-October, art lovers will still have plenty of time to make a cultural excursion to the capital.

Art does not always need a long explanation. Sometimes one work of art is enough to provoke thoughts even on the way home.

Source: Finlandia Hall – Soile Yli-Mäyry's exhibition.

tickets: tanssintalo.fi)

Su / Sun 15.11 klo / kl. 17.00 @ Ritz, Vaasa / Vaasa

The performance lasts about 70 minutes and is followed by an artist discussion. Tickets for the Vasa performance via netticket.fi/vaasa-baroque-syksy-host-26, to Helsinki via tanssintalo.fi.

Source: vaasabaroque.com

WASA TEATER

"Snöfall"-premiere on November 14, 2026



The magic of Christmas returns to Vaasa. A lonely child, a mysterious letter and a world where the elves need help. When the Christmas favourite "Snowfall" returns to Wasa Theatre, a colourful family show awaits – but behind the glitter there is also a story about something very human. It starts

with a wish.

Photo: Wasa Teater

VAASA CITY THEATRE

Viirun ja Pesosen joulu



Viirus and Pesonen's Christmas
From 19.11.2026, Julia Stage will feature Viiru and Pesonen's Christmas. The show, directed by Seppo Välinen, brings the beloved characters to a shared experience for the whole family.
Premisere on Nov 19, 2026

RITZ

ABBA frenzy takes over the Ritz with the Dancing Queen show 21.11.26

The ABBA Dancing Queen tribute show brings the legendary band's hits to the Ritz stage. Shows seen in previous performances (e.g. 13.12.2025) have offered brilliant singers, dancers and circus acts. The performance will feature Mamma Mia, Dancing Queen, Fernando, Waterloo and many others. The glamorous costume, choreograp-

UKRAINE PRESIDENT

Starlink and Starshield Operations Have Been Re- stored to the Speeds We Had Before All the Restriction- s – Address by the President



24 October 2026

I wish you good health, fel- low Ukrainians!

The most important thing today is that Starlink and Starshield operations have been restored to the speeds we had before all the restrictions. The speeds are now where they need to be. The restoration began overnight, and by this morning, speeds were already sufficient to use this communication service. I want to thank everyone who helped us restore Starlink and Starshield operations, supported Ukraine’s communication on this issue, and made it possible to return to normal conditions. This is crucial. This really matters: for our frontline logis-

tics, for defending Ukraine against jet-powered “shaheds.”

This morning, Ukraine’s Defense Minister Yevhenii Khmara delivered a report. We ran tests: Starlink and Starshield are working. I thank all Americans and all our partners who took this seriously and truly helped us. I thank members of Congress, senators, all the media, the State Department, and the President. Protecting lives matters.

We continue communicating with partners to restore other levels of our cooperation with America as well. It is very important that deliveries of air defense interceptors resume – interceptors against

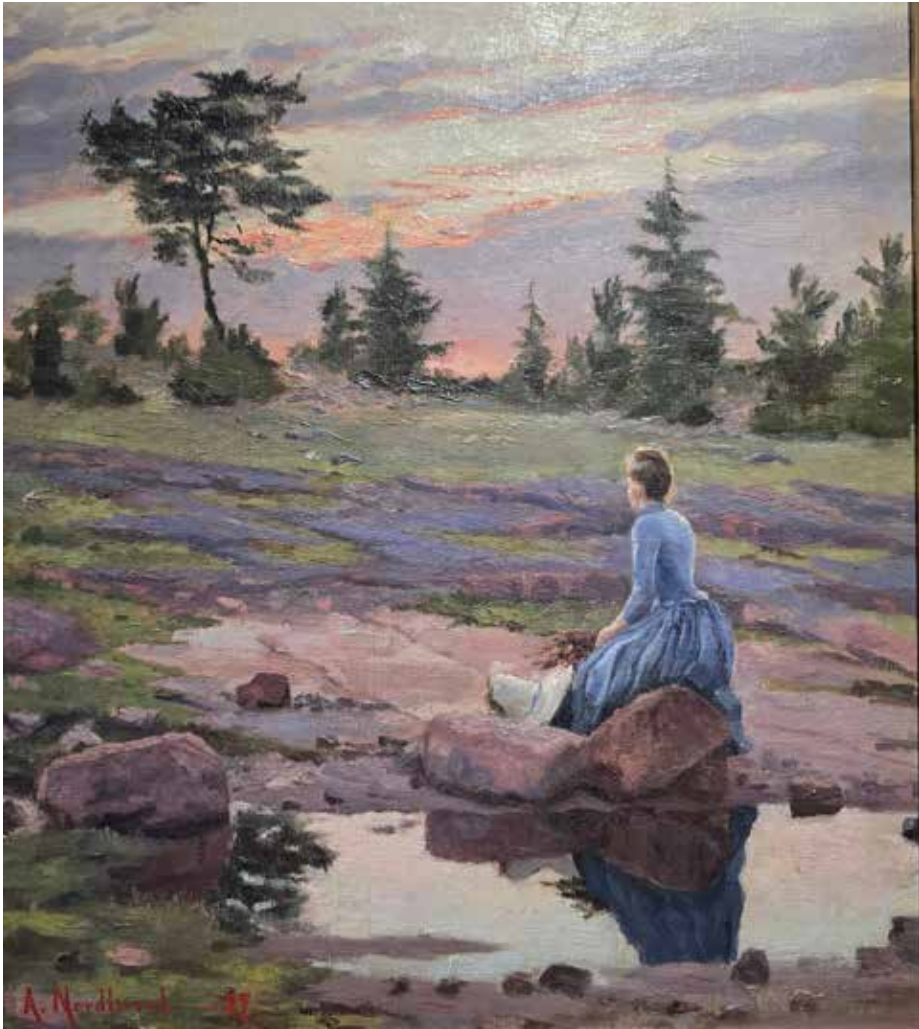
Russian ballistic missiles. There are packages we are still waiting for. Both American packages and those from European partners. Packages for which political decisions have already been made.

The third point: we are preparing meetings in Europe with envoys of the American President, as well as with our European partners – Europe must be part of the diplomatic process. Ukraine always involves Europe, and we expect diplomatic efforts to continue next week.

...
Read more:
<https://www.president.gov.ua/en>

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ART EXPERIENCE OF THE WEEK



Elin Alfild Nordlund
9.4.1861, Närpes
24.7.1941
A Women in gthe Landscape 1887
Turku Art Museum
Can now be seen at Tikanoja

George Orwell

1984

Part 50

Besides, they were far older men than I was. They belonged to the old days, before the Revolution. I barely knew them by sight.'

'Then what was there to worry about? People are being killed off all the time, aren't they?'

He tried to make her understand. 'This was an exceptional case. It wasn't just a question of somebody being killed. Do you realize that the past, starting from yesterday, has been actually abolished? If it survives anywhere, it's in a few solid objects with no words attached to them, like that lump of glass there. Already we know almost literally nothing about the Revolution and the years before the Revolution. Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book has been rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street and building has been renamed, every date has been altered. And that process is continuing day by day and minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the Party is always right. I know, of course, that the past is falsified, but it would never be possible for me to prove it, even when I did the falsification myself. After the thing is done, no evidence ever remains. The only evidence is inside my own mind, and I don't know with any certainty that any other human being shares my memories. Just in that one instance, in my whole life, I did possess actual concrete evidence after the event--years after it.'

'And what good was that?'

'It was no good, because I threw it away a few minutes later. But if the same thing happened today, I should keep it.'

'Well, I wouldn't!' said Julia. 'I'm quite ready to take risks, but only for something worth while, not for bits of old newspaper. What could you have done with it even if you had kept it?'

'Not much, perhaps. But it was evidence. It might have planted a few doubts

here and there, supposing that I'd dared to show it to anybody. I don't imagine that we can alter anything in our own lifetime. But one can imagine

little knots of resistance springing up here and there--small groups of people banding themselves together, and gradually growing, and even leaving a few records behind, so that the next generations can carry on where we leave off.'

'I'm not interested in the next generation, dear. I'm interested in US.'

'You're only a rebel from the waist downwards,' he told her.

She thought this brilliantly witty and flung her arms round him in delight.

In the ramifications of party doctrine she had not the faintest interest. Whenever he began to talk of the principles of Ingsoc, doublethink, the mutability of the past, and the denial of objective reality, and to use Newspeak words, she became bored and confused and said that she never paid any attention to that kind of thing. One knew that it was all rubbish, so why let oneself be worried by it? She knew when to cheer and when to boo, and that was all one needed. If he persisted in talking of such subjects, she had a disconcerting habit of falling asleep. She was one of those people who can go to sleep at any hour and in any position. Talking to her, he realized how easy it was to present an appearance of orthodoxy while having no grasp whatever of what orthodoxy meant. In a way, the world-view of the Party imposed itself most successfully on people incapable of understanding it. They could be made to accept the most flagrant violations



of reality, because they never fully grasped the enormity of what was demanded of them, and were not sufficiently interested in public events to notice what was happening. By lack of understanding they remained sane. They simply swallowed everything, and what they swallowed did them no harm, because it left no residue behind, just as a grain of corn will pass undigested through the body of a bird.

Chapter 6

It had happened at last. The expected message had come. All his life, it seemed to him, he had been waiting for this to happen.

He was walking down the long corridor at the Ministry and he was almost at the spot where Julia had slipped the note into his hand when he became aware that someone larger than himself was walking just behind him. The person, whoever it was, gave a small cough, evidently as a prelude to speaking. Winston stopped abruptly and turned. It was O'Brien.

At last they were face to face, and it seemed that his only impulse was to run away. His heart bounded violently. He would have been incapable of speaking. O'Brien, however, had continued forward in the same movement, laying a friendly hand for a moment on Winston's arm, so that the two of them were walking side by side. He began speaking with the peculiar grave courtesy that differentiated him from the majority of Inner Party members.

'I had been hoping for an opportunity of talking to you,' he said. 'I was reading one of your Newspeak articles in 'The Times' the other day. You take a scholarly interest in Newspeak, I believe?'

Winston had recovered part of his self-possession. 'Hardly scholarly,' he said. 'I'm only an amateur. It's not my subject. I have never had anything to do with the actual construction of the language.'

'But you write it very elegantly,' said O'Brien. 'That is not only my own opinion. I was talking recently to a friend of yours who is certainly an expert. His name has slipped my memory for the moment.'

HUMOUR ONE HUND-RED YEARS AGO



GIFTED FAMILY

You are an incredibly talented family, said the polite guest. Your son plays the flute, your wife is a pianist or your daughter a violinist. What are you yourself? Pessimist, was the answer.



THUNDERSTORM

Sir: There was a terrible thunderstorm last night...
Wife: Oh, God, why didn't you wake me up? You know I can't sleep when there's a thunderstorm!

Astronomic picture of the week:



Thor's Helmet Nebula

This VLT image of the Thor's Helmet Nebula was taken on the occasion of ESO's 50th Anniversary, 5 October 2012, with the help of Brigitte Bailleul — winner of the Tweet Your Way to the VLT! competition. The observations were broadcast live over the internet from the Paranal Observatory in Chile. This object, also known as NGC 2359, lies in the constellation of Canis Major (The Great Dog). The helmet-shaped nebula is around 15 000 light-years away from Earth and is over 30 light-years across. The helmet is a cosmic bubble, blown as the wind from the bright, massive star near the bubble's centre sweeps through the surrounding molecular cloud.

Credit:ESO/B. Bailleul Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License

BLOG WRITERS

Join Wasa Daily as a Blog Writer! Are you passionate about sharing your thoughts, stories, or expertise with the community? Wasa Daily is looking for enthusiastic blog writers to contribute engaging content for our readers.

Whether you love writing about local events, culture, lifestyle, business, or personal experiences, we welcome your voice!

Writing for Wasa Daily is a great opportunity to reach a wider audience, connect with fellow locals, and showcase your creativity. No prior experience is needed—just bring your ideas and enthusiasm! We value diverse perspectives and fresh voices that reflect the vibrant spirit of our community.

Interested? Send us your blog pitch or a short sample, and let's get your words published! Join us in making Wasa Daily a platform for meaningful conversations and inspiring stories.

Contact us at wasadagblad@gmail.com for more details. We can't wait to hear from you!

WASA DAILY

A modern newspaper with a layout with features of the press of the 1870s. Back then, newspapers had only 4-8 pages. Lots of text, but no images at all, so there's a lot to read on a few pages. Our paper is one of the very few newspapers in English serving English-speaking inhabitants in the Osthrobotnia region

The magazine contains quotations from old daily newspapers taken from the National Archives (digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi). GPT3, Gemini, Aria and Monica do some of the routine editing work, such as translation, corrector reading, and short notice writing. All texts have been checked by journalists and the editorial staff is responsible for all the content of the texts.

Wasa Daily is a daily newspaper type publication, so far it is published on Sunday mornings. But our goal is for it to come out every morning in the future. The magazine is available online for free.

Editor-in-chief Hans Björknäs. Readers' writings are welcome! The magazine is locally owned and will remain so. For ever! Editorial office: Wasa Daily, Toimen linja 9 B 36, 00530 Helsinki. Phone +358-40-5462455. Email: wasadagblad@gmail.com

FROM OUR READERS

We very much welcome submissions from our readers. Comments, stories, memories, debate, news from home. Probably this will be the most important part of this spring paper. But space is limited, so please write as short as possible! So please send posts to: wasadagblad@gmail.com

ADVERTISE

Being among the first to advertise in this historic and hyper-modern daily may have some PR value. Send ads to wasadagblad@gmail.com

WASA DAILY

wasadagblad@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR A ROOM

Landlady: And what's more, the morning sun shines into this room. Prospective tenant: Well, that's no problem. I see there's a roller blind here.

LOOKING FOR A ROOM

Prospective tenant: But the walls here are so thin that you can hear what's being said in the next apartment. Landlady: Yes, but you know, sir... very interesting people live there.

LOOKING FOR A ROOM

Landlady: And our house is just a stone's throw from the railway station. Prospective tenant: That doesn't matter to me. I never go around throwing stones at railway stations.

A MOROCCAN TALE

An Arab was eating bread, cheese, and roasted meat. A cat came up beside him, mewing. The man tossed it a piece of bread. The cat sniffed it but didn't eat it. The man tossed it a piece of cheese. The cat didn't eat that either; it just sniffed it. Then the man tossed it a small coin and said: — Go buy whatever you want.



HOROSCOPE FOR OCTOBER 2026

What's in the Stars for You This Month?

Aries (March 21 - April 19): You're feeling bold, Aries! But before you start rearranging your furniture or challenging your boss to a dance-off, remember: moderation is key. Use your energy wisely (maybe just redecorate one room).

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): This month, comfort is calling your name. Whether it's extra blankets or extra snacks, lean into your cozy instincts. Just don't let Netflix ask, "Are you still watching?" more than three times in a row.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20): You'll be juggling social plans like a circus performer, but careful, Gemini—drop too many balls, and you might end up at two dinner parties on the same night. Pro tip: Bring snacks to both!

Cancer (June 21 - July 22): The mood swings are strong, but so is your ability to turn a crisis into a dramatic monologue. Channel your inner soap opera star and add some flair to your daily life. Who says grocery shopping can't be theatrical?

Leo (July 23 - August 22): As the star of your own show, you're ready for the spotlight. Just make sure you let others shine too—unless, of course, it's karaoke night. Then by all means, belt it out like you're headlining Madison Square Garden.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): Lists, lists, and more lists. But here's the twist: not everything needs to be planned. Surprise yourself this October by doing something spontaneous. Don't worry, you can still make a checklist about it afterward.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): October is all about balance, Libra, but you already knew that. Just remember, balance means a little bit of cake and kale. Enjoy your treats without feeling guilty—life's all about those sweet and savory moments!

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): You're mysterious, Scorpio, and this month your secretive side is working overtime. Whether it's keeping Halloween costume ideas under wraps or dodging awkward conversations, your poker face is flawless.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): Adventure awaits! But maybe skip the bungee jumping and stick to exploring new coffee shops. Your sense of humor will be your best compass this month, so laugh it off when you end up in a cafe with no Wi-Fi.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19): You're climbing that mountain of success, but October reminds you to take a break. Celebrate the little victories—like finally organizing your sock drawer. Yes, that counts!

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18): Your quirky ideas are in full bloom this month. Maybe it's time to finally start that weird hobby you've been thinking about—macramé plant holders, anyone? The sky's the limit for your creativity!

Pisces (February 19 - March 20): Your dreamy side is on overdrive, Pisces. Just don't get too lost in your fantasies, or you might accidentally miss that important Zoom meeting. Maybe set a few extra reminders (and make sure they're not all daydreams!).

Happy October, everyone—may your stars be aligned and your socks always have matches!

