

Nr 11 Sunday, March 17 2024

WASA DAILY - a modern newspaper with a layout from the 1870s. At that time, most newspapers had this format, corresponding to A4, and 4 pages. Lots of text, but no pictures at all, so there's a lot to read in a few pages. The newspaper contains quotes from old daily newspapers, taken from the National Archives (digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi). Text in this publication is generated in part with GPT-3, OpenAl's large-scale language-generation model. Upon generating draft language, the texts has been reviewed, edited, and revised the language and the newspaper takes ultimate responsibility for the content of this publication. Wasa Daily will continue to be published on Sunday mornings, but our aim is that it will eventually be published every day. The magazine can be read online for free, printed single issues cost 1 €. Advertising price 6 €/ millimeter, but standard ads are cheaper (25 mm high=140 €, 50 mm = 280 €, 75 mm=400 €. Repeated ads = 50% discount). Send ads to wasadagblad@gmail.com as jpg, tiff or png, the advertisements are then reduced to a column width of 46 mm. If the advertisement does not fit, we will contact you (space is limited). Editor-in-Chief: Hans Björknäs. Mail: Wasa Dagblad, Skolhusgatan 37 B 7, 65100 Vasa, telephone +358-40-5462455. E - mail: wasadagblad@gmail.com

Вітаємо всіх українців у Ваасі! Сподіваємося, вам тут сподобається і навіть залишитеся після закінчення війни в

Україні! A warm welcome to all Ukrainians in Vaasa! We hope you will enjoy yourself here and even stay after the war in Ukraine is over!



Here we are:
www.vpress.ovh

Ice looks nice but can be weak this time of the year

### **TODAY**

# Forced Labor in Healthcare: An Unacceptable Solution to a Complex Problem

The recent proposal demanding a three-year mandatory service in public health centers for newly graduated doctors raises a deeply disturbing issue. Forced labor, in any form, is an egregious violation of fundamental human rights. This extends not only to factory workers or agricultural laborers, but also to highly skilled professionals like doctors.

inland prides itself on being part of a Western society where individual liberties, including the right to choose one's workplace, are paramount. The proposed bill directly contradicts these core values.

Here's why this approach is fundamentally flawed:

Coercion is not a remedy: Forcing doctors to work in specific locations disregards their right to career growth and personal preferences. This stifles professional development and ultimately leads to a demotivated and potentially burnt-out workforce.

Focus on root causes: The doctor shortage stems from deeper issues like poor working conditions, inadequate compensation, and lack of work-life balance in public healthcare. Addressing these concerns to make the profession more attractive is crucial for long-term solutions.

A slippery slope: This precedent sets a dangerous example. Can nurses, teachers, or even police officers be subjected to similar forced labor practices in the future?

The solution lies in making public health careers genuinely desirable. This requires:

Competitive salaries and benefits: Offering compensation that reflects the immense responsibility and years of training doctors undergo is essential.

Improved working conditions: Addressing factors like excessive workload, lack of support staff, and administrative burdens can significantly improve job satisfaction.

Investing in infrastructure: Enhancing facilities, resources, and fostering a collaborative work environment can attract and retain talent.

Doctors are not commodities to be mandated. They are highly skilled individuals who deserve the freedom to choose their career paths. This bill represents a move towards an authoritarian system, far removed from the values Finland upholds.

Instead of resorting to forced labor, the focus should be on creating a healthcare system that prioritizes: Investing in preventative measures: Promoting public health initiatives and early intervention strategies can reduce the overall burden on the healthcare system.

Encouraging collaboration: Fostering teamwork between doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals can optimize workflows and improve patient care.

Long-term planning: Developing strategies to attract medical students and address the root causes of the doctor shortage requires a proactive and sustainable approach.

Finland must uphold its commitment to individual liberty and human rights. Coercing doctors into service is not the answer. Building a robust and attractive public healthcare system that prioritizes the well-being of both patients and medical professionals is the only viable path forward.



Photo Supplement - vpress.ovh

### **NEWS**

### Kumpula-Natri: The world's first Al regulation is here - neither too late nor too early

The transformative effects of artificial intelligence on society and the economy are beginning to take shape. Europe must construct a framework that respects fundamental rights and individual freedoms while also competing in technological advancement and economic competition against the United States and China.

forward as the nearly two-year-prepared EU regulation on artificial intelligence was adopted in Parliament's plenary session this Wednesday, March 13. The regulation establishes the necessary framework for ethical use and development of artificial intelligence. Member of the European Parliament Miapetra Kumpula-Natri (S&D) served as Vice-Chair of the European Parliament's Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence (AIDA) and represented her group in the negotiations on the AI regulation in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy.

"When we began our legislative work, we faced doubt and criticism that we were attempting to regulate something that did not yet exist. As easy-to-use and free AI tools began to become available to everyone, calls for regulation emerged, and skeptics believed we were late. However, now is an appropriate time; we are neither too late nor too early. Even though development is progressing rapidly, we are only at the beginning of AI development. It is important that society sets the rules, not individual companies whose interest is to maximize their economic gain. We want multiple stakeholders involved in the development," described Kumpula-Natri.

The regulation includes various obligations for the development of artificial intelligence depending on the risks of the applications. Applications with the highest risk are completely banned. For example, artificial intelligence must not be used to



assess citizens based on political and religious views, sexual orientation, or ethnic background. Similarly, programs that influence people's behavior or free will are prohibited. The EU does not approve a general face recognition method like that in China.

"These are important rules that secure civil liberties in the digitalized society," emphasized Kumpula-Natri.

The European Parliament deemed that general systems like ChatGPT should be regulated. A compromise was reached where smaller systems will only have transparency requirements, while larger, potentially systemically risky general systems, will have broader obligations.

Kumpula-Natri stressed that Finland must prepare for regulation whose real effects are tested in implementation. Compliance with the regulation's obligations requires competence, information dissemination, and support especially for small and medium-sized enterprises. It is certainly not clear to everyone where to seek help if developing systems that are on the borderline of risky but permissible. The right authorities and an EU-level AI office will support implementation together with the Commission.

"After the rules are finalized, we need competitive European programs! Artificial intelligence enables the development of innovations that drive society forward, and ethical AI is also a competitive advantage. Strengthening European AI ecosystems should be a strategic priority for the EU," stated Kumpula-Natri. A good example of high-quality European language model is the European supercomputer Lumi located in Kajaani and its open general language model Poro utilizing its computational power. The Commission also announced its support for European Al factories, which gather small and medium-sized enterprises, start-ups, and researchers to support companies in getting started and leveraging the created computational power and expertise.

"Finland can stay at the forefront of development, and new actors must be involved!" concluded Kumpula-Natri according to the press release.

They, who know a little more are
They, who read Wasa Daily

### Lecture on Divided America's Presidential Elections by Claus Stolpe at Almas Adult Education Center

n open and free lecture titled "Choice in a Divided USA (Elections in Divided America)" will be held at the Almas Adult Education Center in Vaasa on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM, located at Kirkkopuistikko 15, Arbis Hammarström (auditorium). The lecture will be conducted in Swedish.

#### THIS NEWSPAPER CAN BE READ ANYWHERE



Like here in the Borneo Island in Indonesia

Senior University Lecturer Claus Stolpe, from Åbo Akademi University.

In November, Americans will head to the polls. While the media largely covers the presidential elections, at the same time, representatives for the Senate and the House of Representatives are also elected. Not to mention other state and local-level positions, from governors to sheriffs.

From our perspective, of course, the presidential elections are the most interesting, but we must not forget the Senate and House of Representatives elections.

The election circus is lavish and intense, surrounded by Trump's impeachment and Biden's threat of impeachment. All this is happening in the United States, which is perhaps more divided than ever since the Civil War of the 1860s.

The lecturer Claus Stolpe works at Åbo Akademi in Vaasa. He has written a dissertation on the history of U.S. presidents and has also defended his doctoral thesis in political science on the methods of presidential elections. Claus Stolpe's ability to explain things

in a very understandable way makes him the right person to lecture on this topic.

#### Bill: Doctors in forced labour in health centres

f all the most remarkable modern bills in Finland, this is one of the most prominent.

Here is an excerpt from this bill: "Proposition for an Act amending the Universities Act To Parliament MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE INITIA-TIVE

It is proposed that a new section 41 b be added to the Universities Act (558/2009), obliging a person admitted to education leading to a Licentiate of Medicine or Licentiate of Dentistry to give a written commitment that he or she will work in a position in the wellbeing services county or municipality corresponding to the education referred to in the Health Care Act (1326/2010) or in a corresponding position in the Province of Åland or in a similar po-

sition or in a position in the administrative branch of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health for at least 3 years (commitment period). The purpose of the proposed new article is to respond to the shortage of doctors in public health care, especially in health centers. Requiring licentiates of medicine or dentistry to work in public health care for at least three years after graduation would better secure the number of doctors in public health care."

### THL: Swedish-speaking Students Experience More Psychological Violence at Home

he latest results from the School Health Survey reveal a contradictory picture of the well-being of Swedish-speaking primary school students. Despite performing better in school than Finnish-speaking students, they experience more psychological vi-

#### Art Experience of the Week:



Fanny Maria Churberg, Finnish artist (1845—1892).

Born in Vaasa. Her first art teacher was Alexandra Frosterus-Såltin in Vaasa. Later she studied imDüsseldorf, also visited Paris and painted landscapes in original, bold and powerful execution. During her lifetime, she was not particularly appreciated as an artist. But in recent times she has been recognized as one of the best landscape artists that has existed in Finland

olence at home.

School Environment Supports Swedish-speaking Students

Students in Swedish-speaking primary schools feel supported in the school environment. They report that teachers are interested in their well-being and that they can speak with an adult in school about heavy topics more often than Finnish-speaking students. They are also less frequently subjected to bullying, and absenteeism from school is lower in Swedish-speaking schools.

More Common Experience of Psychological Violence at Home

Unfortunately, Swedish-speaking students experience psychological violence from their parents at home significantly more often than Finnish-speaking students. Particularly among students in grades 4 and 5, 41% of girls and 36% of boys

have experienced psychological violence at home.

**Inequality in Support Services** 

Although Swedish-speaking children and youth visit professionals in student welfare more often, they feel they receive less support than Finnish-speaking students. Only 70% of Swedish-speaking primary school students felt they received the support they needed from the school nurse, compared to 84% among Finnish-speaking students.

Lack of Swedish-speaking Services

Regional challenges limit access to basic social and health care services in Swedish. This may result in children and youth needing greater support not receiving the help they need from student welfare services.

Interpretation of Results

The results from the School Health Survey underline the vulnerability of Swedish-speaking students regarding psychological violence at home. It is crucial to develop and improve Swedish-speaking support services so that all children and youth receive the help and support they need regardless of their mother tongue.

# Waves Summit 2024 - Finland's First High-Level Event for Societal Innovations

aves Summit 2024 marks Finland's inaugural high-level event for societal innovations, serving as a meeting point for all changemakers dedicated to fostering positive societal change. Waves brings together these changemakers to learn, find inspiration, network, and cultivate a new culture for

\*6\* Wasa Daily 17.3.2024

\*7\* Wasa Daily 17.3.2024

addressing societal challenges. In a world that demands novel approaches to complex issues, should we not evolve as well?

Register today to secure your spot and join us in Helsinki on April 3-4, 2024! Explore the program and purchase tickets at: https://www.waves-forum.fi

#### Let's make waves together!

When? April 3-4, 2024
Where? Kulttuuritalo, Helsinki, and online.

Waves is a project organized by Ashoka Nordic and LeapFrog Projects, in collaboration with Gaia Consulting Oy, Tradeka-invest Ltd., Moomin Characters Ltd, Suomen kulttuurirahasto, Svenska folkskolans vänner rf, DNA, Konstsamfundet, and Storebrand Asset Management Finland. It also collaborates with Kukunori ry, Sitra, Yhteiskunnallisten yritysten osaamiskeskus YYO, Miltton, ARVO ry (Finnish Association for Social Enterprises), Hanaholmen, Aalto Ventures Program, Aalto NODUS Talks, University of Helsinki, and Wicked Community.

### National Veterans' Day in Vaasa this year

Veterans' Day 2024 will be celebrated on Saturday 27.4.2024 in Vaasa. The main event will be held in the Bothnia Hall.

eterans' Day has been celebrated in Finland only since the 1980s. The reason for this can be found in the years after the war, when Finland was obliged to the war under the Paris Peace Treaty and one of the losing countries. As a result, those who fought

the war were not valued and were even blamed for the defeat.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the appreciation of veterans was at its lowest. Although the majority of Finns did not share this view, it was not possible to speak on behalf of veterans.

In the 1980s, respect for veterans slowly began to grow. Colonel Adolf Ehrnrooth

broke the silence among the veterans and told the younger generations about the wars they had been. With this, the veterans' experiences and sacrifices began to receive the appreciation they deserved

The first National Veterans' Day was celebrated in Lahti in 1987 in connection with Finland's 70th anniversary. The day was chosen for 27 April because it is the anniversary of the end of the Lapland War. Today, National Veterans' Day is an important day to honour all veterans of Finland's wars and their sacrifices. The day is celebrated in many different ways, including the raising of flags, the laying of a wreath and festive events.

### New S-market opened its doors in Sundom

he 34th S-market chain store opened its doors on Thursday, February 15 in Vasa's Sundom. Han-delslaget KPO's new concept S-market was inaugurated by KPO's CEO Kim Biskop and Vasa City Council Chairman Joakim Strand.

Covering an area of almost a

thousand square metres, S-market offers its customers a diverse and wide selection. The store has two self-service checkouts, through which taking care of small pur-chases in particular is quick and smooth. In the yard area of the store there is an ABC automatic station and two charging points for electric cars. There are also 130 parking spaces in the yard.

The new S-market will bring a versatile service to Sundom and strengthen the area's commercial offering. The store is designed to serve the needs of both local residents and passers-by.



## Vanha Apteekksi ("The Old Pharmacy"



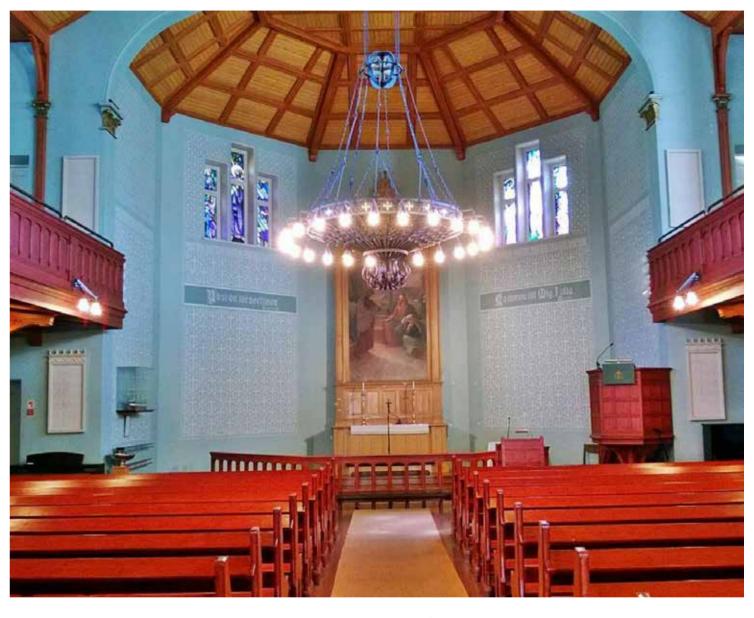
will move from the centre of Vaasa to Kivihaka near Citymarket.

The rent is to high in the Espen Shopping Center sais the pharmacist,

The Old Pharmacy in Vaasa is the oldest company in this townb.

### **NEWS**

#### Palosaari Church fills with music and celebrations in March



Palosaari Church offers a varied programme in March. The programme includes a Women's Day concert, a Super Organ concert, a 90th anniversary concert and an Easter Night Mass.

he Women's Day concert "A woman's own place" on Friday 8.3. at 19.00 will highlight music composed by women from the 1800s. The concert will be preceded by a lecture by blogger Hanna Kivisalo entitled "When life is not a success story, it can be a story of meaning" and coffee at 5 pm at Palosaari Parish Hall.

The Super Organ concert on Sa-

turday 16.3. at 6.30 pm offers a unique experience when organist Elias Niemelä from Kiiminki arrives to give a concert on his Super Organ. The programme includes virtuoso organ compositions, fine orchestral arrangements and film music.

#### **Sunday Service**

Sumday 17.3 kl. 13.00 Sunday service with songs, prayers and a message. Coffee afterwards.

The 90th anniversary concert on Saturday 23.3. at 14.00 celebrates a parishioner who has wanted to organize a concert open to all. The concert will feature the Laululiisat choir and Dort-

mund Opera cellist Risto Rajakorpi.

Easter Night Mass on Saturday 30.3. at 23.00 invites you to celebrate the miracle of the resurrection. Mass begins in a dim church, but as the feast progresses, the light increases and the altar is clothed in its full Easter glory.

#### Wedding night

Palosaari Church 2.4

At the night event at Palosaari Church, you can easily get married. Couples are married every half hour.

Of course, you must register in advance, no later than 10.3. More detailed information on the website of the Finnish parish.

\*8\* Wasa Daily 17.3.2024 \*9\* Wasa Daily 17.3.2024

### **EVENTS**

VAASA CITY ORCHESTRA 50 years of music! **EERO & IIRO** WEDN 20.3. AT 7 PM VAASA CITY HALL vaasankaupunginorkesteri.fi

RITZ

STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT - A musical about Frank Sinatra and Ava Gardner.

20.4.24 at 14 och 19

Strangers in the Night tells about the life and love of two Hollywood stars, which was not lacking in passion, jealousy and great drama.

Performers Elisa Lairikko and Petri Lairikko.

www.ritz.fi www.musiikkiteatteri.fi

NATIONAL VETERANS DAY in Vaasa this year

Veterans' Day 2024 will be celebrated on Saturday 27.4.2024 in Vaasa. The main event will be held in the Bothnia Hall.

VAASAN KUOROFESTIVAALI - VASA KÖRFESTIVAL - VAASA CHOIR FESTI-VAL

9-12.5.24 30 years old!

www.vaasa.fi

VAASA CITY ORCHESTRA

50 years of music!

**EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM** 

FRIDAY 29.3 AT 14.00 Kokkola

church

AT 20.00 Vaasa church Vaasan kaupunginorkesteri & Keski-Pohjanmaan kamarikorkesteri dir. Tomas Djupsjöbacka sol. Marjukka Tepponen, sopraa-

no, Ville Rusanen, baritoni

Kamarikuoro Canticum Maris & Vokalensemblen Röster

Johannes Brahms: Ein deutches

Requiem, op. 45

ILMAJOKI MUSIC FESTIVAL ARMI-opera

7.6 - 16.6.24



Solist: Lilli Paasikivi www.musiikkijuhlat.fi HERÄTTÄJÄJUHLAT IN VAASA 5.-7.7.2024

Vaasa is set to host the city's second-ever awakening festival in the summer of 2024, a remarkable 60 years after the last event The theme for the days is "Let the wind fill the sails."

The festival grounds are located in the city center, alongside many hotels and restaurants, making it easy to move around on foot or by bike. In Vaasa, you are truly by the sea, as the distance from the market square to the beach is just a few hundred meters. A tranquil evening stroll along the water-front, a visit to the playground, or exploring the city's magnificent cultural offerings can be easily done in the immediate vicinity of the festival area.

"Körttiradio" will broadcast programs around the clock throughout the event days.

**KORSHOLM MUSIC FESTIVAL 2024** 24.7-31.7.2024

www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi **TOVE TEUVALLA-OPERA** 

Östermark kyrka .Teuvan kirkko 3.8.24 - 11. 8.2024

https://www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi/tove-teuvalla/operan-tove-teuvalla

#### WASA FUTURE FESTIVAL

5-10.8.2024

The Wasa Future Festival 2024 is set to take place from 5th to 10th August. This event gathers knowledgeable and motivated individuals from the business world, universities, regional decision-making bodies, and ministerial corps to focus on solving issues in Vaasa and across Finland. The festival covers themes ranging from industrial innovations to cultural aspects, offering a platform for collaboration and problem-solving.

The event can be followed on Wasa Future Festival YouTube channel. Wasa Innovation Center Gerbyntie 18 65230 Vaasa https://wasafuturefestival.fi/



#### VAASA CITY THEATRE

On 12.9.2024, the classic musical Cabaret will premiere, which is a story about people hungry for life in the bustle of Berlin in 1929-1930. The young American writer Clifford Bradshaw is looking for himself, idealizing the free world. English cabaret singer Sally Bowles enjoys her status as the beloved lead star of the Kit Kat Club. When they meet, the story of the musical begins.

The University of Jyväskylä organizes a science evening, which deals with aspects of aging and discusses the well-being, functional capacity and working life of the aging population. According to research, the age group of 60-80 years old has become younger, and many feel younger, while the ability to function has improved in many measures. But how does this show up in working life? The theme of the science evening is "Old age delayed!" and it will take

The science evening program includes the following questions:

place on Tuesday 19.3. Library of

the University of Jyväskylä In the

source and as a webcast.

Why should aging be looked at with new eyes these days? Who flourishes, i.e. when wellbeing and functioning are at their highest?

How have the cognitive and physical functioning of the elderly improved?

How do people over sixty currently work in Finland?

Is your career boring to age discrimination?

Appearing as experts are:

Research Director Katja Kokko, University of Jyväskylä PhD researcher Kaisa Koivunen, University of Jyväskylä Associate Professor Monika von Bonsdorff, University of Jyväskylä

Comments:

According to research director

Katja Koko, traditional concepts of aging need updating nowadays, when people live longer and are in better health. At the same time, assistant professor Monika von Bonsdorff reflects on the role of working life from the perspective of the elderly and possible age discrimination. The event offers an opportunity for open discussion and information sharing. The science evening is organized by the University of Jyväskylä and the library Lähde, and it is open to everyone who is interested.

**MY HEALTH** 

Studying aging with new eyes - reflections of

the experts at the science evening

#### Katja Kokko:

"The stage of life starting around the age of 60 has traditionally been described in psychology as a stage of increasing losses. Many classic theories date from the 1950s. When people today live longer on average and are in better shape for longer, perceptions that emphasize losses need updating. Newer studies show that people over 60 are doing quite well mentally."

#### Kaisa Koivunen:

"Resilience is always situational, and both the individual's own resources and the resources offered by the living environment are relevant for it. For aging people, for example, good muscle strength and mobility are important in surviving sudden illnesses. The background of Vanhuu's ability to function is always the life lived and the living conditions during the entire life cycle. Access to education and health services play an important role in that."

#### Monika von Bpnsdorff:

"Extending working careers has once again become the focus of pension policy. Casting errors in pension systems are often corrected by raising the retirement age and blocking the routes to early retirement. The employees are supposed to work until they are at least 65 years old, maybe even longer in the future. In the light of the research, the vast majority of employees are able to continue their work due to their ability to work, but there are indications of age discrimination."



A science evening is organized in the library of the University of Jyväskylä in Lähti Tietoniekka space on Tuesday-Tuesday 19.3. from 18:00 to 19:30. There will also be a webcast of the event. The event is open to everyone.

### **OUR FORESTS**

# The Spruce Bark Beetle Threatens Our Spruce Forests

The spruce bark beetle (Ips typographus) is a beetle measuring about half a centimeter that poses the most significant economic threat to spruce trees in forest stands. Its reproduction primarily occurs in trees that have fallen due to wind or are weakened.

he spruce bark beetle reproduces in the inner bark of trees, both living and dead wood. The adult beetles overwinter in the forest soil and in the trees when environmental conditions are not conducive to reproduction. When conditions are right, adult bark beetles search up to half a mile in the guest for a vulnerable host. When they find a host, they bore through weakened bark to create tunnels where they can mate and lay eggs. They emit pheromones to attract more individuals to the tree. Two to five weeks after infestation, they may migrate to another host and repeat the process. When the larvae hatch, they feed and pupate under the bark. Up to three generat-ions can be produced per year.

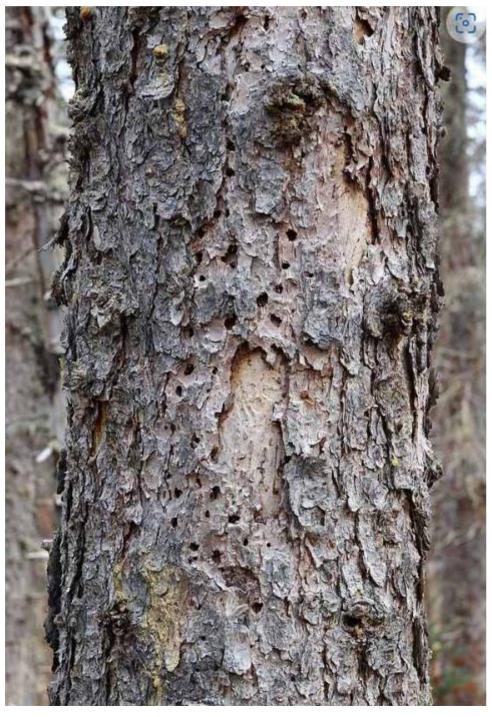
Spruce bark beetles communicate with each other by using pheromones, compounds, or mixtures that convey messages. Some electrophysiological and behavioral statistics show that spruce bark beetles can not only sense odor messages directly from other spruce bark beetles but also certain compounds from trees.

The spruce bark beetle can form a symbiotic relationship with certain Ophiostomatales fungi. These wood-living beetles supply fungi as a com-plement to their diet. The spruce bark beetle has the ability to spread rapidly across large areas. During outbreaks, spruce bark beetles can overwhelm tree defenses. Alt-hough they are specialized in spruce, they do not exist throughout the entire spruce ran-

ge. They also cannot survive in the northernmost spruce forests due to insufficient climate variations.

Impact

Ecologically, the spruce bark beetle has a significant impact on both the eco-logical and econo-



Bark Beetle signs



Image: Juan de Vojníkov, Creative Commons Attribution 3.0

mic environment of spruce forests. Together with storm events, bark beetle outbreaks are considered by some to be one of the most important natural disturbances in this region. Some researchers argue that this beetle is a keystone species, in part because it has an unusually large number of relationships with other organisms in the community and drama-tically alters its environment.

Bark beetle outbreaks generally help renew the forest and promote the evo-lution of stronger, more resistant trees by initiating different adaptations to ward off their attacks.

Economic Impact

Bark beetles are associated with various types of fungi, each with different basic ecological roles. Several fungal pathogens can be transferred to spruces by bark beetles, and one of the most damaging is a species of blue-stain fungus, Ophiostoma polonicum, which can kill healthy trees by blocking water

flow and causing them to wither. It also stains the wood with blue streaks, destroying its commercial value. The results of such bark beetle out-breaks can be devastating for the forestry industry in the area due to the time it takes for natural regression to occur.

Detection

Bark beetles typically attack the lower and middle parts of stems. Infected trees are easy to recognize by concentrations of brown dust from the bark at the base of the trunk. However, visibly infected trees with green crowns may lack bark due to larval and woodpecker activity. Other common ways to de-tect infection include the presence of reddish-brown dust (frass) in the bark's crevices, many round exit holes, or small resin droplets being forced out from the bark. Large populations can be detected from a distance through patches of red foliage.

Conservation

Measures for bark beetle outb-

reaks are controversial in places like Šumava National Park in Bohemia. Some suggest that outbreaks should be allowed to run their course, even if it means losing a significant portion of the forest. Others, including the forestry industry, request intervention. Some experts argue that salvage logging tends to have a greater negative impact on vege-tation than the bark beetle outbreak alone.

**Preventive and Control Methods** Several methods have been proposed to prevent the onset of bark beetle outbreaks. Some suggest using "trap trees" at the beginning of each repro-ductive cycle. This should be done in March, May, and at the end of June or early July. The trap trees should be debarked when clear larval galleries with small larvae are found. Another method is sanitation logging, removing sect-ions of trees at the first signs of infestation. Pheromone traps can capture thousands of bark beetles. However, their real utility in reducing tree da-mage is debated: some studies have found a significant reduction in damage in sites with pheromone traps, while others have found no effect or even a slight increase in the risk of new attacks. The effectiveness of pheromone traps can vary depending on local conditions.

Minimizing stress factors that can weaken trees, such as drought and pests, can also help prevent bark beetle infestation.

Summary

The spruce bark beetle poses a serious threat to our spruce forests, and ma-naging its impact requires active efforts from forest owners and the forestry management community. Effective control measures, combined with forestry management practices, can help limit the spread of the spruce bark beetle and preserve the health and economic value of our forests.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

# Copernicus: February 2024 was globally the warmest on record

The Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), implemented by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts on behalf of the European Commission with funding from the EU, routinely publishes monthly climate bulletins reporting on the changes observed in global surface air and sea temperatures, sea ice cover and hydrological variables. All the reported findings are based on computer-generated analyses and according to ERA5 reanalysis dataset, using billions of measurements from satellites, ships, aircraft and weather stations around the world.

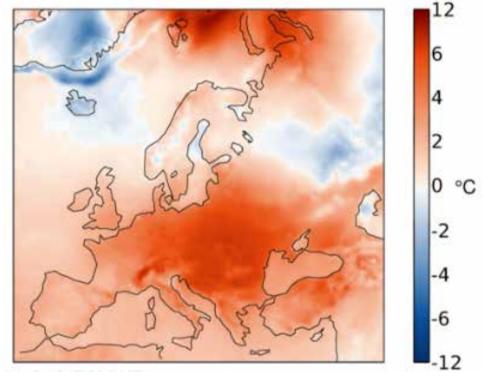
February 2024 – Surface air temperature and sea surface temperature highlights

February 2024 was the warmest February on record globally, with an average ERA5 surface air temperature of 13.54°C, 0.81°C above the 1991-2020 average for February and 0.12°C above the temperature of the previous warmest February, in 2016.

This is the ninth month in a row that was the warmest on record for the respective month of the year.

The month was 1.77°C warmer than an estimate of the February average for 1850-1900, the designated pre-industrial reference period.

The global-average temperature for the past twelve months (March 2023–February 2024) is the highest on record, at 0.68°C above the 1991-2020 average and 1.56°C above the 1850-1900 pre-industrial



Surface air temperature anomaly for February 2024 relative to the February average for the period 1991-2020. Data source: ERA5. Credit: Copernicus Climate Change Service/ ECMWF.

average.

The daily global average temperature was exceptionally high during the first half of the month, reaching 2°C above the 1850-1900 levels on four consecutive days (8–11 February).

European temperatures in February 2024 were 3.30°C above the 1991-2020 average for February, with much-above average temperatures experienced in central and eastern Europe.

Outside Europe, temperatures were above average over northern Siberia, central and northwest North America, the majority of

South America, across Africa, and in western Australia.

El Niño continued to weaken in the equatorial Pacific, but marine air temperatures in general remained at an unusually high level.

The average global sea surface temperature (SST) for February 2024 over 60°S–60°N was 21.06°C, the highest for any month in the dataset, above the previous record of August 2023 (20.98°C). Sea surface temperature is defined over the global extrapolar ocean, from 60°S to 60°N. This is used as a standard diagnostic for climate monitoring.

The average daily SST reached a new absolute high of 21.09°C at the end of the month.

### **EXHIBITIONS**

# In Eero Järnefelt's exhibition fascinates the big and small themes of nature



From 5.4.–25.8.2024, the Ateneum Art Museum will host an exhibition covering the entire career of the masterful nature and portrait artist Eero Järnefelt (1863–1937), who sought emotion and truth. The exhibition presents the extensive work of a cosmopolitan cultural family and the artist's significance for Finnish art and Finnishness. Diverse descriptions of nature make one wonder whether the nature depicted by the artist in the 1800s and 1900s still exists.

arnefelt sought to capture the essential elements of his works
Eero Järnefelt's art stems from his family's interesting cultural background and is characterised by the pursuit of essential features from nature as well as people. The artist was able to depict his subjects with detailed precision, delicate atmosphere and festive monumentality.

The exhibition sheds light on diffe-

rent aspects of Järnefelt's conception of landscape and people. It also provides information about the Järnefelt family, his family, study trips, home conditions in Suviranna on Lake Tuusula and the connection of his art to the Finnish thinking of his time.

Järnefelt's paintings of nature and landscapes from Koli make you wonder whether the nature depicted by the artist in the 1800s and 1900s still exists — and what our relationship is to nature and landscapes today. In the artist's works, the magnificent landscapes of danger as well as the delicate details of the buttercup and the casserole are treated equally.

Järnefelt is also known for his portraits of prominent figures of his time. Included are interesting portraits of journalist, doctor and Member of Parliament Tekla Hultin and Mathilda Wrede, who dedicated her life to helping prisoners and the underprivileged.

The exhibition also includes a route designed for visitors with children, which encourages people to look at the works and discuss them from the

children's point of view.

The curator of the exhibition is Timo Huusko, Chief Curator of the Ateneum. Most of the works come from the collection of the Finnish National Gallery, but there are also plenty of loans from other museums and private collections. More than 200 works are on display.

The family's influence on Finnish cultural life was enormous

In the exhibition, you can also get to know the Järnefelt family and close family, whose influence on art and culture at the turn of the 1800s and 1900s was enormous. The Järnefelt siblings, critic Kasper, writer Arvid, musician Armas and later known as Jean Sibelius's spouse Aino, are remembered not only as authors of visual art, literature and music, but also as part of a wider network of cultural actors.

Eero Järnefelt's father, Alexander Järnefelt, made the development of the Finnish national movement his life's mission. Mother Elisabeth Järnefelt is especially remembered for her literary salon, the most famous participant of which was Juhani Aho.

### RUSSIA'S UNPROVOKED ATTACK ON UKRAINE

#### **UKRAINE**

The fairer responses we have towards the Russian state, the harder it will be for Putin to continue his rule, and thus, the war – address by the President of Ukraine

Dear Ukrainians,

Rescue operations are still ongoing and assistance is being provided in Odessa following the Russian missile strike. It's a despicable act of cowardice: two missiles, with the second one hitting when rescuers and doctors arrived at the scene. Among the casualties and injured are emergency paramedics and rescuers from the State Emergency Service. My condolences go out to all their families and loved ones. Dozens are wounded, and the search for people under the rubble continues. All necessary services are engaged in this effort. I am grateful to everyone who is supporting the people now and saving lives, including the police, the State Emergency Service, medics. volunteers, and municipal services. I have instructed the regional authorities to fully support all those affected. Our Defense Forces will do everything to make Russian killers feel our just response.

I've held several meetings with military leadership and government officials. Commander-in-Chief Syrskyi, along with the Minister of Defense, visited the front lines and presented a report today on the current situation and the preparedness of our actions. We discussed the provision of ammunition, and frontline air defense. The Commander-in-Chief assessed the overall situation and actions of commanders on the front lines. I am thankful to all senior officers who, along with soldiers and combat units, truly care for the front lines, Today, we coordinated further active steps with the Commander-in-Chief. We also discussed the production and use of our strike drones and long-range drones, Russian logistics, and their war financing system. A joint meeting was held with the Commander-in-Chief, the Minister of Defense, the Chief of the General Staff, the

Chiefs of Defense Intelligence and the Security Service, and Commander of Unmanned Systems Force Sukharevskyi. Everyone understands the tasks and specific goals clearly. The Cabinet of Ministers must do everything to create even more high-tech and long-range, mass-produced drones. This must be the conveyor of Russian responsibility for terror. And this is a fundamental moment, in many ways historical. The fairer responses we have towards the Russian state, and the more palpable our actions are against the Russian system, the harder it will be for Putin to continue his sick rule, and thus, the war.

One more thing.

I chaired a meeting regarding our international work. We discussed the outcomes, communication with partners in the first half of March, and upcoming negotiations planned for the next few weeks. We are working hard to fulfill every agreement, including those regarding joint defense productions. Ukraine will become even stronger.

I thank everyone who works for our state and people. I thank everyone who fights for Ukraine!

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#### **RUSSIA**

### Operation to liberate Donbass has lasted more than two years - Gone according to plan?

n an article published by Izvestia two years ago, 25.2.22, Dmitry Abzalov, chairman of the Center for Strategic Communications, predicted that the operation to liberate Donbass and other regions would take about five days. The question now is - how has this prediction held up?

According to Abzalov, the operation should last for a baseline period, especially outside large cities. He mentioned that the eastern, central and southern regions could probably be liberated, and possibly a corridor to Transnistria could be madeall in about five days.

However, within almost two years, it is reasonable to ask, has everything gone according to plan? More than two years have passed since the liberation of Operation Donbass, and the situation raises concerns about how well the initial forecasts corresponded to reality.

### Tucker Carlson implicates Ukraine's involvement in Navalny's death

In a controversial comment, Tucker Carlson suggested that the Ukrainian authorities may have been involved in the death of Alexei Navalny, listed as an extremist and terrorist by Rosfin monitoring. Carlson claims that the Ukrainian special services may have murdered Alexander Dugin's daughter Daria Dugina in Moscow as part of a conspiracy to stage another murder and to take advantage of the situation. He also admitted that Navalny's death would be beneficial to the White House, fueling further speculation about the political dimensions of the case.

### Russia's chess icon Garry Kasparov ends up on extremist list -"An honor", says the champion

ussia's famous chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov has officially been added to the Russian extremist list published by Putin's regime on Wednesday. Kasparov, who has previously been highly critical of the Kremlin, responds to his new status as a "terrorist and extremist" with a comment that sheds light on the current political climate in Russia.

### **HUMOUR ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO**

#### TO INDIA

Some happy captains conducted frantic nightlife studies in that city of Stettin. Over time, they gained so much experience and wisdom that they were seized with vertigo. However, they continued with their trying work and at the dawn of a new day they found themselves gathered in an unfamiliar locus. Through the window they could see a strange city. Absolutely foreign and unfamiliar. -Where are we? — Where in the name of peace are we? They saw no possibility of finding out about their place of residence. Finally it was decided to reconnoitre, and one of the somewhat dull captains was sent out to cautiously find out where you were. Long, slightly anxious wait. Finally, the researcher returns. He looks devastated. — Boys, poor animals, we have ended up in — India! — India, you're crazy, but by the way, we've always known that.

- Enough, gentlemen. We are in India.
  ? 1 Si, on a wall over there I read clearly and distinctly:
- Die Toilette jenseits des Ganges!

#### THE BOY CHILD

The young couple have been blessed

with an heir, and all available relatives are assembled to witness the wonder. Among the aunts there is also a ninety-year-old diocesan virgin, who, after having subjected the contents of the cradle to an eyepiece inspection with the binoculars for a while, exclaims:

— Yes, if my memory serves me right now, it is a boy.

#### WEIGHT

Two families, in Tampere, who used to socialize fairly frequently, had been separated during the summer holidays. On the autumn side, the association would be resumed through a visit by director A. and the wife of director S. Mr. A. is received in the tambourine by S., who at the sight of Mr. A., who has become corpulent during the summer, exclaims:

- That was a hoot, you've gotten fat! Mrs. A. (pleasantly touched):
- Yes, look he eats such good food. Mr. A.:
- Well well, I guess I sometimes eat at home too.

#### AGE

Two newly married young wives sit and chat. One talks about his marriage:

»Think - my husband is twice as old as me, it's a shame anyway!»

The other: How old is he then?? — Yes, I'm 22(!) as you know and he's 44. Isn't that right??

— Yes, they're terrible — think when you'll be 44, then he'll be — 88 years old!!!

#### **FOOD AND DRINKS**

Some Americans were hiking in the Scottish Highlands. The provisions ran out, so one of the participants was sent to the nearest town to get provisions for a week. He returned with 20 whole John Beggs whiskey and a loaf of bread. When he showed his companions what he had bought, one of them exclaimed: — excellent, but who the hell is going to eat the bread?!

### WHERE THE CHILDREN COME FROM

There was a group of three flamboyantly dressed very little girls, with barks and ribbons and precious toys and neighbor dolls, and near them was playing on the sand a poor little girl of about the same age, scantily

#### What house is this?



Last weeks house: The Green Star Hotel

#### This weeks astronomical picture:



Ganymede, moon of Jupiter, NASA.jpg

Photo of Gariymede, obtained by the Galileo spacecraft, with enhanced contrast. This is a crop of image: The Galileon satellities (the four largest moons of Jupiter), of (PIA01299).

Here is the description from JPL's web entry for PIA00716 (http://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/catalog/PIA00716);

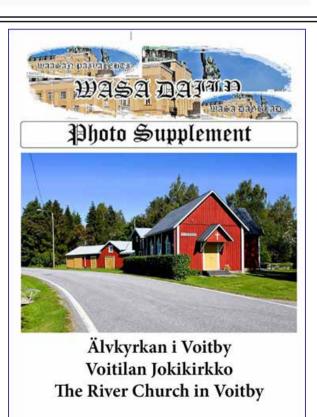
Natural color view of Ganymede from the Galileo spacecraft during its first encounter with the satellite. North is to the top of the picture and the sun illuminates the surface from the right. The dark areas are the older, more heavily cratered regions and the light areas are younger, tectonically deformed regions. The brownish-gray color is due to mixtures of rocky materials and ice. Bright spots are geologically recent impact craters and their ejecta. The finest details that can be discerned in this picture are about 13.4 kilometers across. The images which combine for this color image were taken beginning at Universal Time 8:46:04 UT on June 26, 1996.

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA manages the mission for NASA's Office of Space Science, Washington, DC. This image and other images and data received from Galileo are posted on the World Wide Web, on the Galileo mission home page at URL http://galileo.jp/, nasa.gov. Background information and educational context for the images can be found at http://www.ipl.nasa.gov/galileo/sepo.

A NASA/JPL/DLR

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#### **Next week:**



clad and with a home-made primitive doll in her arms. The three fine children discussed the interesting question of where they came from, which proved a highly interesting topic for toddler speculation.

- I come from a rose, mother said, uttered one of the little living dolls.
- And me again, interjected No. 2, I must have come from a head of cabbage.

"I, yes I was picked up by a stork," said number three. Whereupon she, who had come out of a rose, scornfully and proudly turned to the poor little scantily clad girl child, and said nobly:

- And you, there, where did you come from?
- Alas, answered little Cinderella, we are so poor, so terribly poor back home, that mother and father have to make their children themselves.

#### 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

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