

# WASA DAILY

Nr 21 Sunday, May 26, 2024

ISSN 2954-2456

Вітаємо всіх українців у  
Ваасі! Сподіваємося, вам тут  
сподобається і навіть залишитеся  
після закінчення війни в Україні! А  
warm welcome to all Ukrainians in Vaasa! We  
hope you will enjoy yourself here and even  
stay after the war in Ukraine is over!

**Maaria  
Salo:  
Mystical  
East in Tika-  
noja**

**All EU-can-  
didates**

**A New  
Tick-borne  
Disease**

**HERE WE ARE:  
vpress.ovh**

**Mysterious green  
giants in the La-  
si-palatsi square,  
Helsinki**

**Find Refuge n the  
roads**

**Russia's economy:  
A façade of re-  
silience that is  
crumbling**





# Russia's economy: A façade of resilience that is crumbling

For months, the narrative surrounding Russia's economy has been characterized by a surprising resilience. Despite crippling sanctions, oil and gas revenues seemed to protect the nation from immediate collapse. Gross domestic product is said to rise, as a result of much more weapons now being produced than before. That increase in production does not benefit ordinary Russians.

However, a closer look reveals a history of accelerating deterioration, masked by temporary solutions and unsustainable practices. The initial effect of the sanctions was undeniable. The ruble plummeted, inflation skyrocketed and foreign companies fled. Nevertheless, Russia managed to stabilize the currency through capital controls and by exploiting its energy exports. However, this is a double-edged sword. High energy prices are a temporary blessing, but also a sign of global disruptions, and a future downturn could be catastrophic.

Beyond the headline figures, the picture darkens. Supply chains are in disarray, essential goods are becoming scarce and domestic industry is crippled by a lack of access to foreign technology and expertise. The long-term consequences of this isolation are profound. Social welfare programmes are strained, leading to a lowering of the standard of living for ordinary Russians.

The price of eggs has skyrocketed, to the extent that eggs are available in all stores. The price of new housing in Moscow has more than doubled. Ordinary Russians do not have any opportunity to buy a home, especially since favorable loans will end this summer. This is according to articles in pro-regime Moscow newspapers (and other than pro-regime ones do not exist nowadays). Interest rates on loans move around 18%. There have been cheaper housing loans, but they are likely to be discontinued.

Unemployment is likely to be at a record low. We do not know, but can assume that a man who registers as unemployed is ordered to appear at a recruitment office. If all the unemployed – and there are enough – are sent to the front, the unemployment

rate will be low.

Exports of gasoline have been suspended (as a sign that Ukraine has managed to destroy a significant part of the refineries). A week ago, Ukraine told us that a fuel depot near Vyborg had set on fire, 30 km from our border. But this information has only been partially confirmed. The export of sugar has also been banned.

Putin has already spoken about the need to reform taxation in Russia, which now has a 13% flat tax. Efforts are being made to prepare the population for a transition to progressive taxation in order to increase tax revenues. But the population is assured again and again that this only affects high-income people. And the increased tax revenues should go to social spending. It is not said that tax money would go to the war, but everyone should understand it anyway.

In the old Soviet Union, the command regularly consoled with claims of "how good it will be." Putin has now fallen into this old habit. By 2030, he will double the minimum wage (which is now below €200), and double the living space per person (which is now supposed to be 18 square meters). All houses with dwellings that do not meet the minimum requirements must be taken out of use.

The price level of everyday goods is less than the same as in the West. With a mi-

nimum wage of €200, it is not possible to maintain any standard of living, not one if the salary were to double.

Incidentally, about €200 is also the average pension in Russia. Should not guarantee a carefree old age.

The brain drain is increasing as skilled workers seek opportunities abroad. This exodus further weakens the country's innovation capacity and future growth prospects. The Kremlin may project an image of economic control, but the reality is a ticking time bomb. The real costs of the war are accumulating and the foundations of the Russian economy are being eroded. Without a significant change of course, Russia faces a future of stagnation and decline.

Putin's trip to China last week can hardly be described as anything other than a poor little brother's trip to his rich big brother to beg for help. And help will be given to Russia, because it is in China's interest that the war in Ukraine lasts as long as possible. As the Russian army has bled to death in the fields of eastern Ukraine, it is China's army that will be the most powerful on the entire Eurasian continent. The decision-makers in the countries of Southeast Asia will listen to Beijing instead of Moscow. And if China should ever need more territory in the direction of Siberia, then Russia has no strength to oppose.



Photo Supplement - vpress.ovh

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, OpenAI's large-scale language-generation model. Upon generating draft language, the texts have 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



Rudolf Koivu (1890-1946)

## Eastern spirituality in Tikanoja 18.5-27.10.2024

The exhibition that will open at the Tikanoja Art Home this summer sheds light on the perceptions of Eastern spirituality in art in Finland from the 1800s to the present day through cultural-historical objects and nearly a hundred works. The exhibition presents several works by Ilona Harima, who was born in Vaasa, some of which are on public display for the first time.

The exhibition was presented by Maaria Salo on May 17.

Ideas about the mystical East and about Eastern spirituality have been produced and repeated in Western culture over the centuries. For example, yoga, meditation, Eastern dance or Eastern religions have been sources of inspiration for several artists. The exhibition on display at the Tikanoja Art Home presents the theme with the help of cultural-historical objects and nearly a hundred works of art in Finland from the 1800s onwards.

The exhibition is based on Nina Kokkinen's research project. She is a Post-doctoral Researcher at the Donner Institute. She has investigated the artists' interest in Eastern spirituality, to which in addition to Buddhism, Hinduism and beliefs generally related to Asian culture there is also a strong element of esoteric spirituality.

"A lot of discussion related to Eastern spirituality was also related in Finland to Theosophy, which artists became interested in already at the end of the 1800s," says Kokkinen, whose research work has previously also led to several exhibition projects.

### Genuine desire to understand

The Tikanoja Art Home features works by Ilona Harima, who is a significant artist from the point of view of Eastern spirituality. Some of the works are part of Tikanoja's art collection. Harima was a theosophist, a fellow Freemason and she was also one of the founding members of Finland's first Buddhist association. Harima painted Eastern miniatures from the 1930s onwards and used Buddhist images from Tibet, among other things.

The exhibition also presents Akseli Gallen-Kallela's art and objects he collected during his travels. In the shadow of colonialism, many exotic objects were brought to Europe and they often became part of the museums' collections or the interior of studios. The exhibition reflects the problems of perceptions related to Eastern spirituality, but also the artists' genuine desire to understand and learn about other cultures.

In recent times, Eastern spirituality has become part of popular culture and the motley landscape of new spirituality. It lives in people's minds as a longing for aesthetics, escapism, and a desire to examine life from a spiritual perspective. The exhibition also includes works by contempo-

rary artists, such as Outi Heiskanen, J.O. Mallander and Silja Rantanen, who draw from Eastern traditions and philosophies - and offer views on spiritual growth and liberation from the shackles of the mind.

### Rare finds through mapping of works

For the exhibition, a nationwide survey of works has been carried out, especially on works by female artists with connections to Vaasa. In addition to Ilona Harima, works by Eva Bremer, Meri Genetz and Lyyli Visanti have been mapped. The works that have been highlighted in public and private collections and the information about them will also be utilised in further research.

"We have found rare works that have not previously been shown in exhibitions, and gained a slightly better idea of the production of these four female artists, says curator Noora Lehtovuori from Vaasa's museums.

Among other things, a portrait that Eva Bremer has painted of the Persian-born dancer Enayet Hanoum was found through the research project. Kokkinen identified as the same dancer as the one Eemu Myntti has painted several portraits of. His works are part of Tikanoja's collection. The exhibition also includes Bremer's work Morning Gymnastics, which is part of the museum's collection and which nicely illustrates the close contact between Eastern dance and yoga in the early 1900s.

The artists represented in the exhibition are: Eva Bremer, Carolus Enckell, Akseli



**THIS NEWSPAPER CAN BE READ ANYWHERE**



Like here in Voitila Rapids

Gallen-Kallela, Meri Genetz, Ilona Harima, Outi Heiskanen, Ester Helenius, Rudolf Koivu, Inari Krohn, J.O. Mallander, Eemu Myntti, Ahti Lavonen, Anitra Lucander, Leena Luostarinen, Silja Rantanen, Veny Soldan-Brofeldt, Per Stenius, Carl-Erik Ström, Lyyli Visanti, Hannu Väisänen and Jan Kenneth Weckman. Furthermore, objects are on display in the exhibition, such as Eastern pots and large-scale Persian works from the Tikanoja collection.

The exhibition Eastern Spirituality will be on display 18.5.–27.10.2024 at the Tikanoja Art Home. The exhibition has been produced by the Vaasa Museums and with the working group Nina Kokkinen, Noora Lehtovuori and Maaria Salo. The exhibition includes several loans from art museums and private collections, which are rarely shown.

**Vaasa's museums attract crowds: The number of visitors exceeded 55,000!**

The number of visitors to Vaasa's museums has risen spectacularly over the past year. More than 55,000 visitors enjoyed what the museums had to offer, which is more than 10,000 visits more than in the previous year. The most popular destination was the Ostrobothnian Museum, whose threshold was crossed by almost 20,000 visitors.

The Ostrobothnian Museum charmed groups in particular, and its magnificent exhibitions told stories from the past in a captivating way. The Kuntsi Museum of Modern Art brought modern art close to the public, and Tikanoja Art Home offered a unique glimpse into the artist's life and work. Kunsthalle Vaasa and Old Vaasa Museum complemented the museum offering with changing exhibitions and a fascinating experience diving into history.

Let us be glad that Vaasa's museums have found more and more friends! The diverse offering and changing exhibitions attract visitors from people of all ages and backgrounds.

**149 defibrillators in Vaasa**

More defibrillators in Vaasa: the latest at Länsimetsä and Variska schools

A defibrillator is a device that aims to restore the heart to beat at a normal pace. There are also heart strikers in several properties of the City of Vaasa, and the newest ones can be found at Länsimetsä and Variska schools.

It is estimated that approximately 40 Vaasa residents suffer sudden cardiac arrest in everyday life every year. In cardiac arrests, the first helper is often a passerby.

Starting CPR and using a cardiopulmonary resuscitator within 3 to 5 minutes of cardiac arrest multiplies the chances of survival. Therefore, it is important for everyone

to know where the nearest heart attacker is located.

There are currently a total of 149 heart attackers in Vaasa. There have been 18 more devices compared to a until last year. The nearest heart striker can be located in the 112 Suomi app and the defi.fi service.

(City of Vaasa/Iina Nordin)

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

**Lifti's prices will be harmonized: Easier and clearer ticket purchases**

From 1 July 2024, the pricing of the Vaasa region's public transport Liftis will become more uniform and customer-friendly. The goal is to simplify ticket purchases and make it more transparent for all travelers.

Currently, the price of a one-way ticket varies depending on the payment method. For example, a mobile ticket in the Waltti app costs €3.00, while the cheapest ticket with a travel card costs

**Art Experience of the Week:**



**Robert Wilhelm Ekman**  
1808-1873

The country's most influential artist in the middle of the 19th century, considered by many to be the father of painting in Finland.  
Landscape from Subiaco, 1844

€1.33. The trip can also be paid for with contactless payment (€1.50), cash (€2.00) or via partner apps (€1.50 – €3.00).

According to the proposal, all payment methods except cash will cost the same price for a one-way trip for adults in zone A from 1 July 2024. The price will then be €1.70. The ticket price for cash payments will be increased to €2.20.

"We want to make pricing even clearer and more customer-friendly," says Public Transport Specialist Anastassia Backlund. "After the change, bus tickets will still be among the cheapest in Finland."

Harmonised prices:

One-way adult zone A: €1.70 (all payment methods except cash)

One-way adult zone A (cash): €2.20

Children and young people under 17 years old: 50% discount on adult tickets

Group discount (minimum 10 people): 30% discount on adult tickets

The changes will enter into force on 1 July 2024.

**New Tick-Borne Threat Emerges in Finland:**

Neorlichiosis Can Cause Long-Term Fever  
Climate change brings new threats to our health. One such concern is a tick-borne bacterial infection called "Neorlichiosis," with the first case confirmed in Finland. Infectious disease specialist Ulla Hohenthal warns of this new danger in the medical journal Mediuutiset.

The primary symptom of Neorlichiosis is a prolonged fever that can last for weeks. Diagnosis can be challenging because the disease is still rare, and its symptoms can mimic other tick-borne illnesses like Lyme disease. Fortunately, treatment for Neorlichiosis is effective with antibiotics, the same ones used for Lyme disease.

The risk of tick-borne diseases increases with climate change as ticks thrive in warm and humid weather. It's crucial to protect yourself from tick bites by wearing long clothing and using insect repellent. Additionally, monitor tick bites and seek medical attention if symptoms develop.

The discovery of Neorlichiosis serves as a reminder to be vigilant for emerging infec-

tious diseases. By following public health guidelines and practicing tick prevention, we can minimize the risk of contracting this and other tick-borne illnesses.

**Families with children have found paradise: Almost four children are born per woman in Larsmo!**

The birth rate is plummeting – only one municipality has crossed the threshold for renewal!

Fewer and fewer children are born in Finland. The downward trend that started in 2010 continues, and now there are also large differences between municipalities and regions.

Tampere, Joensuu, Turku and Savonlinna have the lowest numbers of births. In these towns with over 20,000 inhabitants the total fertility rate was only 1.07 to 1.12 children per woman in 2020 to 2023.

But luckily there are glimmers of light! In some municipalities, children are worth a treasure. In Larsmo, Pyhäntä and Merijärvi, 3–3.6 children are born per woman! In



Luoto, the figure has even risen in recent years.

"Municipalities with a birth rate of more than three children per woman are now a rarity in Finland. In the early 2000s, there were still 17, now only four," says Juhana Nordberg from Statistics Finland.

The larger the municipality, the fewer children. The statistics reveal a clear link: the smaller the municipality, the more likely it is that more children will be born.

The total fertility rate for the whole country was 1.26 in 2023, which is the lowest birth rate since 1776. This means that a woman gives birth to an average of 1.26 children during her lifetime.

The share of foreign-language speaking mothers among women who have given birth has grown almost throughout the 2000s. Their share is now around 16 %, compared with only 4 % in 2000. The largest foreign-language groups are Russian (3,804 births), Arabic (2,479) and Somali (2,259).

Source: Statistics Finland

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

## Senior meetings are organised for 70- and 80-year-olds in Uusikaarleby and Vaasa

In May, the Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia organises senior meetings for 70- and 80-year-olds who do not receive other regular help, such as home care. At the senior meetings, the elderly receive tips for promoting health and functional capacity, but also for support for living at home. The senior meetings are mainly aimed at these age groups, but other seniors are also welcome to participate.

"It is a good idea to come to a senior meeting, because you can meet your own area's senior adviser and you can also get information about the activities and objectives of the senior counselling service. You will also find out in which matters you can contact the senior adviser. During the senior meeting, you also have the opportunity to fill in a self-assessment form to get an idea of your own health," says Annikka Tetrault, Coordinating Ward Nurse for Health Services for the Elderly.

## Time and registration for the senior meetings

The Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia organises two Swedish-language senior meetings:

For 70-year-olds on Tuesday 14 May 2024 at 13–15, Nykarleby Town Hall

For 70-year-olds on Wednesday 22.5.2024 at 13–15, Vaasa City Library, Main Library, event space Venny

and two Finnish-language senior meetings:

For 70-year-olds on Tuesday 21.5.2024 at 13–15, Vaasa City Library, Main Library, event space Venny

For 80-year-olds on Thursday 23.5.2024 at 13–15, Vaasa City Library, Main Library, event space Venny

You can register for the senior meetings in Nykarleby by sending a text message to 050 514 4898 or by calling 06 786 2753 no later than Thursday 10.5.2024. You register for the senior meetings in Vaasa four days before the meeting you want to attend by sending a text message to 040 186 2846 or 0400 992 438. It is also possible to register by calling the numbers between 8.30 and 9.30, also at least four days before the meeting. There is a limited number of places at the meetings.

## The program includes the importance of diet

The program at the senior meetings varies slightly, but at all meetings you will receive information about the importance of diet as you get older, exercise, how to prevent falls, assistive devices and senior counselling activities. The program also includes break gymnastics.

The senior meetings take a summer break and then return in August and September. Senior meetings are organised in all municipalities of the Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia in either Finnish or Swedish. The date and time will be announced in August.

## THL: Obesity in Finland is already causing major problems – now is the time for societal action

The BMI of about 1.2 million adults exceeds the obesity threshold (30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>). 30% of women and 27% of men are obese. Obesity is most common among people aged 40–64, of whom one in three has obesity.

Waist obesity is even more common and affects almost every second adult. The limit value for waist obesity is considered to be a waist circumference of more

than 90 cm for women and more than 100 cm for men.

Obesity and abdominal obesity have become more common among people of working age, i.e. those aged 20–64. Among working-age men, obesity has increased by 3 percentage points and among women by 4 percentage points compared to 2017. A medium-sized man has gained 1.6 kg and a woman by 1.8 kg.

This data is based on THL's Healthy Finland study, in which 10,000 randomly selected people aged 20 and over were invited to a comprehensive health examination. Of these, 5,800 (58% of those invited) took part in the health check.

"Obesity is becoming more common and the problems it causes are exploding. Obesity costs the health care system an additional billion euros every year. Comprehensive measures from society are needed at the latest now to stop population obesity. Such measures can be, for example, taxes and marketing restrictions because the food is unhealthy," says Associate Professor Annamari Lundqvist, who led the study.

## Korsholm Music Festival starts with Tjuvstart-Varasstart-Early Start event on 23.7.

The 42nd season of Korsholm Music Festival will open with the Tjuvstart-Varasstart-Early Start event at Vaasa Cathedral on 23 July at 7.30 pm. The program has a unique combination of silent film and organ playing.

The silent film Ostrobothnia (1925) depicts Ostrobothnia and its people in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The film was directed by Teuvo Puro and is one of the classics of Finnish silent film. The organ accompaniment is by Jimi Järvinen,

The event is free of charge. It is organised in cooperation with Vaasa Parish Union.

The Tjuvstart-Varasstart-Early Start event is a great opportunity to get to know the atmosphere of Korsholm Music Festival and experience a unique experience with historical silent film and organ accompaniment.

## Lidl: The cheapest grocery store in all cities – shopping cart up to 20% cheaper than competitors

Lidl has compared shopping cart prices in seven different cities around Finland and the results are clear: Lidl is the cheapest

grocery store regardless of location. Lidl's shopping cart was up to 20% cheaper than its competitors.

"We have been doing shopping cart comparisons for several years and the results are always the same: Lidl is the cheapest option," says Lidl's Commercial Director Mikko Forsström. "This time, we also wanted to challenge the way shopping basket comparisons are carried out in public. In our comparisons, we have taken into account all the same products and package sizes, as well as taken regional price fluctuations into account."

Lidl's comparison included Prisma, K-Citymarket, S-Market and K-Supermarket. The comparison was made in Jyväskylä, Kuopio, Oulu, Tampere, Turku, Vantaa and Helsinki.

"We believe that transparency and fair competition benefit consumers," says Forsström. "That's why we want to open our shopping cart comparisons to everyone and challenge other operators to do their comparisons in the same way."

## The Finnish Medical Association maintains its position: Euthanasia will not be legalised

The Finnish Medical Association will not change its position on euthanasia. The delegation of the Finnish Medical Association decided to keep the Association's position unchanged at its meeting on Thursday 16.5.2024.

According to the decision, the Finnish Medical Association continues to oppose the legalisation of euthanasia and the obligation for doctors as a profession to perform procedures whose primary purpose is to accelerate the death of a patient.

According to the Finnish Medical Association, euthanasia is an irreversible procedure that strongly tests the ethical principles of doctors, and its effects may have significant consequences on, for example, the coping of doctors and the equality of patients.

In addition, the Finnish Medical Association does not believe that the Finnish healthcare system is currently ready to legalise euthanasia.

## Confederation of Finnish Industries Business Cycle Barometer: Business outlooks remain gloomy

29.4.2024 Confederation of Finnish Industries EK

Based on the April Business Cycle Barometer of the Confederation of Finnish Industries EK, Finnish companies' assessments of the economic situation have remained at the level of crisis times. Non-financial corporations' business cycle expectations have risen slightly from last January's survey, but are still clearly minor. The economic downturn is hitting construction and industry in particular. Service sectors, in turn, have continued to support the Finnish economy and especially employment in recent months.

"The prolonged weakening economic cycle has hit corporate profitability hard. The operations of companies were also affected by large-scale strikes organised by the trade union movement, which came up when asked about obstacles to growth. The strikes caused harm, especially in industry. Based on the respondent companies, no easing in profitability development is expected in the coming months either, so the difficult times will continue at least until Midsummer," says Sami Pakarinen, Director General of the Confederation of Finnish Industries.

Production and sales have declined in recent months. Companies expect the decline to continue over the next three months. In manufacturing and services, production is expected to start growing in six months' time. The decline in output is already clearly reflected in employment in the private sector. Enterprises' estimates of the development of personnel numbers will continue to be subdued also in the coming months.

"Employment has been declining for several months now. When we know that employment will only react to production with a delay, the turn for better employment will take place next year," Pakarinen continues.

The main obstacle to growth is still insufficient demand. Half of the respondents reported insufficient demand as an obstacle to growth. Problems with the availability of skilled labour have continued to ease as a result of the downturn.

## A new tax: The Greens wants an EU-tax

The Greens are advocating for the EU to have the ability to levy taxes, which would allow it to become more financially independent and have more resources to address pressing issues. They want the EU to have more power and autonomy compared to the member states

## The summer pedestrian

## street in Vaasa opened again in this year

The summer pedestrian street, which has been organised in previous years, has received positive feedback from entrepreneurs and customers. As a result, the summer pedestrian street will also be opened this summer. The location is the same as the previous Hovioikeudenpuistikko section of the street between Kirkkopuistikko and Raastuvankatu.

The summer pedestrian street will open on Monday 29.4 and will be open until 16.9. The closure of the street area will begin on Thursday 25 April, and the terraces of the pedestrian street will be built during the weekend of 27–28 April. (vaasa.fi)

## VAMK recognised as an Elite Athlete Friendly University

The Finnish Olympic Committee has awarded Vaasa University of Applied Sciences with the quality mark of an elite athlete friendly university, as evidence of comprehensive consideration of athletes' needs during their studies. The recognition also highlights the longstanding collaboration with the Vaasa Region Sports Academy. VAMK is one of the five Finnish universities of applied sciences that have received this recognition.

## New Traffic Insurance Law Makes Many New Vehicles Mandatory to Insure

The reform of the Traffic Insurance Act comes into effect on June 1st, 2024, bringing several changes. Under the new law, many previously uninsured vehicles will require insurance. Operating these vehicles without insurance will be illegal.

The new mandatory insurance applies to, among others, electric scooters, senior scooters, and all rental electric kick scooters. These vehicles must be insured if they weigh over 25 kg (55 lbs) or can travel faster than 25 km/h (15.5 mph).

**Electric Bicycles are an Exception**  
Electric bicycles are exempt from the 25 kg and 25 km/h limits. The insurance requirement doesn't apply to electric bicycles that:

**Require pedaling to operate**  
Have motor assistance that cuts off at 25 km/h  
Have a motor with a maximum power of 250 W



Other electric bicycles follow the same insurance requirement as other electric vehicles.

**Driving Uninsured is Prohibited**

Unregistered vehicles must have valid traffic insurance whenever they are in use. Vehicles in storage do not require traffic insurance. If a vehicle is not insured, it is illegal to operate. Driving uninsured poses a significant risk, as a driver who neglects insurance will be entirely without compensation in case of an accident. Additionally, a penalty fee must be paid for driving without insurance.

**Traffic Insurance Offers Broader Coverage in Finland**

Finnish traffic insurance provides a wider range of compensation compared to many other countries. Antti Tuulensuu, Head of Claims at the Finnish Motor Insurers' Centre, reminds us that mandatory traffic insurance in many other countries doesn't cover the driver's own injuries.

Traffic insurance can be purchased from any insurance company that sells it. Since the insurance content is defined by law, traffic insurance is the same across all insurance companies.

**More Information:**

Finnish Motor Insurers' Centre: <https://www.lvki.fi/>

**Kela Proposes a General Practitioner - Nurse Collaborative Model**

The History of healthcare reimbursements in Finland dates back to 1967, when Kela began reimbursing the costs of private specialist visits, aiming to facilitate access to specialist care. As of the beginning of 2024, Kela reimbursements have been decided to be increased. The goal of the new Kela reimbursement model is to improve access to primary care and the continuity of care. There are currently no detailed plans regarding the continuation of Kela reimbursements for current specialist visits.

The benefits of continuity in patient-physician relationships were also recognized in the late 1980s in the Kela-funded general practitioner model as part of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health's general practitioner trials. Two other general practitioner

trials were carried out by reorganizing the activities of health centers to operate on a population responsibility basis and by making physicians' working hours flexible. In all three general practitioner trials, the activities were compared to conventional health center operations.

In Kela's general practitioner pilot project from 1985 to 1993, private practitioners committed to seeing patients within 3 weekdays. Kela paid reimbursements to general practitioners based on the population size, age structure, and physician's experience. Specialist visits and laboratory and radiology costs were covered by Kela to medical centers. General practitioner services as well as laboratory and imaging tests were free of charge to patients. Continuity of patient-physician relationships improved most for individuals without occupational health care. In addition, through specialist consultations in hospital sectors, the use of emergency services was reduced, and referral practices to hospital clinics were modified.

The new Kela reimbursement model could be based on a general practitioner - nurse collaborative model. Any resident of the welfare area could choose, if desired, a general practitioner who operates in the private sector as their primary healthcare service provider, along with a nurse as their collaborator, instead of a welfare area health center. This would lighten the workload of the welfare area, and overlapping activities would not be supported by Kela reimbursements. Other professionals (such as physiotherapists, mental health nurses, psychologists, or social workers) from either the private sector or the welfare area could support the team as needed.

A general practitioner - nurse collaborative pair operating under the new Kela reimbursement model would follow regionally agreed-upon care escalation and care pathways. Diagnostic services would be provided by the welfare area or equivalent service providers at the same cost.

**Gemini advanced is an improvement but it costs**

The new version of Gemini, also referred to as Gemini Ultra or Gemini Advanced, shows significant improvements over the earlier versions (likely what you experienced as Bard). Here's a breakdown of the advancements:

Surpassing GPT-4 in Benchmarks: Benchmarks suggest that Gemini Ultra performs marginally better than GPT-4, the current leader from OpenAI. This is especially true

for tasks that require reasoning and factual accuracy.

Improved Image Generation: While still under development, Gemini Ultra shows initial capabilities for generating images based on text descriptions. This is a new feature not present in earlier versions.

Enhanced Reasoning Abilities: When compared to earlier versions, Gemini Ultra demonstrates a clearer ability to understand and respond to prompts that require logical reasoning and background knowledge.

**Here are some things to keep in mind:**

Limited Public Availability: As of April 2024, Gemini Ultra is part of a paid tier and not widely available for free use yet.

Focus on Specific Tasks: The current strengths of Gemini Ultra seem to lie in factual language tasks, reasoning, and potentially image generation. It might not always outperform earlier versions in creative writing or informal conversation.

Overall, Gemini Ultra appears to be a substantial upgrade, especially for tasks that require reasoning and factual accuracy.

**QUOTE of the WEEK**

**The new E-library content is missing**

Antti Majander, Helsingin Sanomat, 19.5. 11:58

Due to its vagueness, the bad news of the week can be called the shared e-library of libraries. The purpose of the National Library's long-running service is to gather digital materials from public libraries behind a single web door.

In other words, almost everything for everyone, and for free, as the cry of the times goes.

But the publishers got involved in the project very poorly. Which is quite understandable if you happen to own, for example, a BookBeat streaming service, such as the Bonnier Group, which in Finland includes WSOY and Tammi, among others. That would mean sawing off your own branch.

I would very much like to comment on this project in a completely different way. But what do you do? We got the framework, and both the ministry and the municipalities have burned euros, but there is no substance.

**EU-ELECTION**





# EU-ELECTION

## European Parliament Election 2024 - All Candidates

2 Ahtola, Eero, yrittäjä, Vantaa  
 3 Haapalehto, Jaakko, yhdistelmäajoneuvonkuljettaja, Kankaanpää  
 4 Karhunen, Marko Eerikki, tuotepäällikkö, Kerava  
 5 Kivinen, Lassi, avainasiakaspäällikkö, Helsinki  
 6 Kivirinta, Aki, IT-konsultti, Oulu  
 7 Korhonen-Low, Mira, kauppatieteiden maisteri, asiantuntija, Helsinki  
 8 Lampinen, Kimmo, sähköasentaja, Jyväskylä  
 9 Lehtisalo, Tiia, sairaanhoitaja (AMK), Riihimäki  
 10 Leinonen, Arne, tuoteomistaja, palvelumuotoilija, Helsinki  
 11 Lähteenmäki, Laura, projektipäällikkö, IT-insinööri, Lahti  
 12 Mertala, Tomi, opiskelija, Joensuu  
 13 Mutenia, Sami, huoltomies, Rovaniemi  
 14 Mäkipelto, Jussi, diplomi-insinööri, Kaus-tinen  
 15 Paasonen, Juha, linja-autonkuljettaja, Turku  
 16 Peltola, Jarmo, projektipäällikkö, Leppä-virta  
 17 Peltola, Juha-Matti, kirvesmies, Tampere  
 18 Pihkola, Miika, opiskelija, Lappeenranta  
 19 Pollari, Visa, ohjelmistokehittäjä, yrittäjä, Espoo  
 20 Sneitz, Nina, tutkija, filosofian tohtori, Helsingfors  
 21 Vihervaara, Tommi, johtava asiantuntija, Akaa

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 22 Korhola, Eija-Riitta, filosofian tohtori, tietokirjailija, Helsinki  
 23 Heikkinen, Matti, insinööri, tiimipäällikkö, Oulainen  
 24 Hiippavuori, Katriina, valtiotieteiden maisteri, eduskunta-avustaja, Masku  
 25 Mönttinen, Ari, terveyskeskuslääkäri, Lohja  
 26 Pettersson, David, jordbrukare, teologie magister, maanviljelijä, teologian maiste-ri, Pedersöre  
 27 Puolimatka, Tapio, professori emeritus, Jyväskylä  
 28 Ruotsala, Aki, yrityspalvelujohtaja, ekono-mi, Seinäjoki  
 29 Terä, Tommi, toiminnanjohtaja, tradeno-mi, Turku  
 30 Turunen, Ann-Niina, koulunkäynninohjaa-ja, perhehoitaja, Lappeenranta  
 31 Visakorpi-Kemppainen, Marika, aluesyytt-äjä, varatuomari, Jyväskylä  
 32 Liike Nyt r.p., Rörelse.nu r.p.  
 33 Lahto, Christa, yritysjohtaja, yrittäjä, Pori  
 34 Korhonen, Toni, toimitusjohtaja, yrittäjä, Vaasa  
 35 Luomala, Mikko, väitöskirjatutkija, Espoo  
 36 Redsvén, Petteri, yrittäjä, toimitusjohtaja, Lahti  
 37 Leponiemi, Johanna, opettaja, muusikko, Oulu  
 38 Kolhinoja, Inka, merkonomi, urheilija, Vantaa  
 39 Nummela, Nina, yrittäjä, Vantaa  
 40 Jaari, Heidi, lentoemäntä, avustustyöntekijä, Helsinki

40 Ilmarinen, Iina, eduskuntaryhmän pääsih-teeri, Master of Laws, Helsinki  
 41 Taavitsainen, Satu, toiminnanjohtaja, hallintotieteiden maisteri, Mikkeli  
 42 Perussuomalaiset r.p., Sannfinländarna r.p.  
 43 Antikainen, Sanna, sairaanhoitaja, kan-sanedustaja, Outokumpu  
 44 Ekman, Johanna, vastuullisuusneuvonan-taja, yrittäjä, Orimattila  
 45 Garedeu, Kaisa, kansanedustaja, Jyväskylä  
 46 Grönroos, Simo, filosofian tohtori, toimin-nanjohtaja, Espoo  
 47 Heltimoinen, Ilpo, tuotantotekniikan mekaanikko, Lappeenranta  
 48 Junnila, Vilhelm, kansanedustaja, Naantali  
 49 Juvonen, Arja, kansanedustaja, geronomi (YAMK), Espoo  
 50 Kiviranta, Joonas, tekniikan lisensiaatti, Tampere  
 51 Koponen, Ari, kansanedustaja, Ypäjä  
 52 Laitinen, Lauri, Perussuomalaisen nuori-son puheenjohtaja, ensihoitajaopiskelija, Lappeenranta  
 53 Luukkanen, Arto, yliopistolehtori, Järven-pää  
 54 Makkonen, Teija, valtiosihtööri, sotatieteiden maisteri, Helsinki  
 55 Niikko, Mika, yrittäjä, Vantaa  
 56 Peltokangas, Mauri, kansanedustaja, Kokkola  
 57 Polvinen, Mikko, kansanedustaja, insi-nööri (YAMK), Kuhmo  
 58 Ruohonen-Lerner, Pirkko, Euroopan parla-mentin jäsen, Helsinki



Seppänen, Sara, kansanedustaja, kasva-tustieteiden maisteri, Rovaniemi  
 59 Tynkkynen, Sebastian, kansanedustaja, Oulu  
 60 Vallin, Veikko, yrittäjä, Tampere  
 61 Väätäinen, Nanna, lähihoitaja, ensihoita-jaopiskelija, Kuopio  
 62 Vasemmistoliitto r.p., Vänsterförbundet r.p.  
 63 Aaltonen, Mikko, hallintotieteiden mais-teri, Euroopan unionin alueiden komitean jäsen, Tampere  
 64 Andersson, Li, kansanedustaja, puolueen puheenjohtaja, riksdagsledamot, parti-ordförande, Turku  
 65 Bibani, Gashaw, projektipäällikkö, projekt-chef, Vantaa  
 66 Diop, Paco, varhaiskasvatuksen opettaja, Turku  
 67 Jokelainen, Jessi, filosofian maisteri, copywriter, Oulu  
 68 Jussinniemi, Jouni, pääluottamusmies, puolueen 2. varapuheenjohtaja, Pyhäjärvi

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 69 Kuivalainen, Maija, ympäristöpolitiikan opiskelija, Joensuu  
 70 Kyllönen, Merja, kansanedustaja, bioana-lyyttikko, Suomussalmi  
 71 Käppi, Matleena, opiskelija, luonnontie-ten kandidaatti, Jyväskylä  
 72 Lindén, Lauri, opiskelija, Tampere  
 73 Majok, Ajak, taiteilija, Helsinki  
 74 Mielonen, Joona, elokuvatyöntekijä, apu-laisohjaaja, Kotka  
 75 Minkkinen, Minna, puolueen 3. va-rapuheenjohtaja, sosiaalityöntekijä, Tampere  
 76 Nieminen, Riku, näyttelijä, yrittäjä, Hels-inki  
 77 Pikkariainen, Harri, ylilääkäri, överläkare, Lahti  
 78 Saramo, Jussi, kansanedustaja, Vantaa  
 79 Säynevirta, Sami, järjestöpäällikkö, metsätalousinsinööri (AMK), Helsinki  
 80

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 81 Vuorinen, Pinja, Vasemmistonuorten puheenjohtaja, Helsinki  
 82 Totuuspuolue r.p.  
 83 Alanen, Outi, näyttelijä, ensihoitaja (AMK), Helsinki  
 84 Svenska folkpartiet i Finland r.p., Suomen ruotsalainen kansanpuolue r.p.  
 85 Biaudet, Eva, riksdagsledamot, kansane-dustaja, Helsingfors  
 86 Borg, Johanna, sjukskötare, sairaanhoitaja, Närpes  
 87 Broman, Samuel, företagare, jurist, yritt-äjä, juristi, Korsholm  
 88 Byman, Oscar, specialmedarbetare, eko-nomie magister, erityisavustaja, kauppa-tieteiden maisteri, Kimitoön  
 89 Bäck, Mira, sjukskötarstuderande, saira-anhoitajaopiskelija, Vasa  
 90 Cederlöf, Dan, elevhandledare, studeran-de, opinto-ohjaaja, opiskelija, Helsingfors  
 91 Hagman, Oona, företagare, yrittäjä, Hel-singfors  
 92 Henriksson, Anna-Maja, undervisningsmi-nister, riksdagsledamot, opetusministeri, kansanedustaja, Jakobstad  
 93 Hertzberg, Magnus, journalist, pensionär, toimittaja, eläkeläinen, Helsingfors  
 94 Jern, Mikael, agronom, jordbrukare, agro-nomi, maanviljelijä, Esbo  
 95 Meinander, Henrik, professor, professori, Helsingfors  
 96 Möller, Ingrid, studerande, opiskelija, Pargas  
 97 von Nandelstadh, Wilhelm, företagare, yrittäjä, Sastamala  
 98 Nilsson, Anton, ministerråd, ministerineu-vos, Mariehamn  
 99 Pusa, Kalle, IT-konsult, jurist, IT-konsultti, juristi, Helsingfors

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109	140 Perholehto, Pinja, kansanedustaja, Hyvin- kää
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## ILMAJOKI MUSIC FESTIVAL

ARMI-opera  
7.6 - 16.6.24



Solist: Lilli Paasikivi  
[www.musiikkijuhlat.fi](http://www.musiikkijuhlat.fi)

PRIDE-WEEK in Vaasa and Kors-  
holm

10-16.6.24

<https://www.regnbagsallians.fi/>

## VAASA AIR SHOW 15.-16.6.

Finland's biggest air show in 2024! The main air show of the Finn-ish Aeronautical Association The air show is organized by a team of Vaasa Flight Club professionals. Our organization is ready to make your participation successful. The annual main air show of the Finnish Aviation Association (SIL) is also the main air show of the Finnish Air Force, the Army and the Finnish Border Guard. The air show will be organised together with Finland's most experienced air show organisers, who have experience in organising 20 international air shows in Finland, Europe and Asia.

<https://vaasaairshow.fi/fi/etusivu>

Lisää Löylyä Rockfestival - 2  
dagat 14-15.6

Lisää Löylyä Rockfestival 14.6 - 15.6 2024 in Vaskiluoto, on the former Wasalandia area.

<https://lisaaloylya.fi/>

KALEVAN COMPETITIONS in Vaasa  
27-30 June 2024

The Athletics Championship, or the Kaleva Games, will be held in Vaasa on June 27-30, 2024. It is one of the most significant national sports events of the year in Finland

<https://kk2024.fi/>

## VAASA FOOTBALL CUP

5.-7.7-2024

<https://www.wasafootballcup.com/>

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.

## TANGOMARKKINAT 40 Years!

10-14.7.2024

Seinäjäki  
<https://www.tangomarkkinat.fi/>

LOHTAJA CHURCH MUSIC FESTI-  
VAL

23-28.7.2024

[www.kirkkomusiikkijuhlat.fi](http://www.kirkkomusiikkijuhlat.fi)

## KORSHOLM MUSIC FESTIVAL

Tjuvstart-Varaslähtö-Early Start

23.7.24 kl 19.30

Vaasa City Church

"POHJALAISIA"-silent movie, Jimi Järvinen organ

[www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi](http://www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi)

KORSHOLM MUSIC FESTIVAL  
2024

24.7-31.7.2024

[www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi](http://www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi)

## TOVE TEUVALLA-OPERA

Östermark kyrka .Teuvan kirkko

3.8.24 - 11. 8.2024

<https://www.korsholmmusicfes->

[tival.fi/tove-teuvalla/operan-tove-teuvalla](https://www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi/tove-teuvalla/operan-tove-teuvalla)

## VAASA FESTIVAL

1-3.8.2024

<https://vaasafestival.fi/>

## 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 event can be followed on Wasa Future Festival YouTube channel.

Wasa Innovation Center  
Gerbyntie 18

65230 Vaasa

<https://wasafuturefestival.fi/>

## NIGHT OF THE ARTS

In Vaasa

15.8.2024

## VAASAN MARSSI

9.-11.8.2024

Vaasan Kävelyklubi ry/rf

[www.vaasanmarssi.fi](http://www.vaasanmarssi.fi)

## TIKANOJA



THE ART EVENT OF THE YEAR!  
Eero Järnefelts exhibition  
opens on Nov 23, 2024

## PRESIDENT OF FINLAND



## President Stubb visits Pakkalanrinne day-care centre in Vantaa

On Tuesday 21 May 2024, President of the Republic of Finland Alexander Stubb visited the Pakkalanrinne day-care centre, Pakkalanrinteen päiväkoti, in Vantaa.

© Tasavallan presidentin kanslia, kuvaaja: Matti Porrre



# ROAD CHURCHES

## Finding Refuge on the Road

### Finding Refuge on the Road: A Look at Europe's Road Churches

For centuries, churches have served as places of solace and spiritual renewal for communities. But in modern Europe, a unique concept has emerged: road churches. These are churches specifically designed or adapted to welcome travelers, offering a haven for prayer, reflection, or simply a peaceful break from the journey.

### Germany: The Pioneering Nation

Germany is credited with birthing the road church concept. The first one is believed to have opened decades ago in Baden-Baden, offering a pit-top for weary travelers on the Autobahn. These Autobahn chapels, as they're sometimes called, often boast distinctive architecture, creating a visually striking landmark alongside the highway.

### Finland's Extensive Network

Finland has embraced the road church concept with remarkable enthusiasm. Boasting over 200 road churches scattered across the country, they provide a haven for travelers, particularly during the summer months. While some close during the winter, a dedicated few remain open year-round, offering a warm and welcoming space for all.

### Beyond Borders: The Spread of Road Churches

While Germany and Finland have the most well-established networks, the concept of road churches is gradually gaining traction in other European countries. Austria, Hungary, and the Netherlands are just a few examples where you can find these traveler-friendly places of worship. Are There Road Churches in the USA? Currently, the concept of dedicated road churches isn't as widespread in



the United States. However, there are examples of churches along major highways that offer similar hospitality to travelers. Some have designated rest areas or open their doors for prayer and contemplation. Additionally, truck stops often have chapels or designated quiet spaces that cater to travelers on the road.

### A Beacon for the Modern Traveler

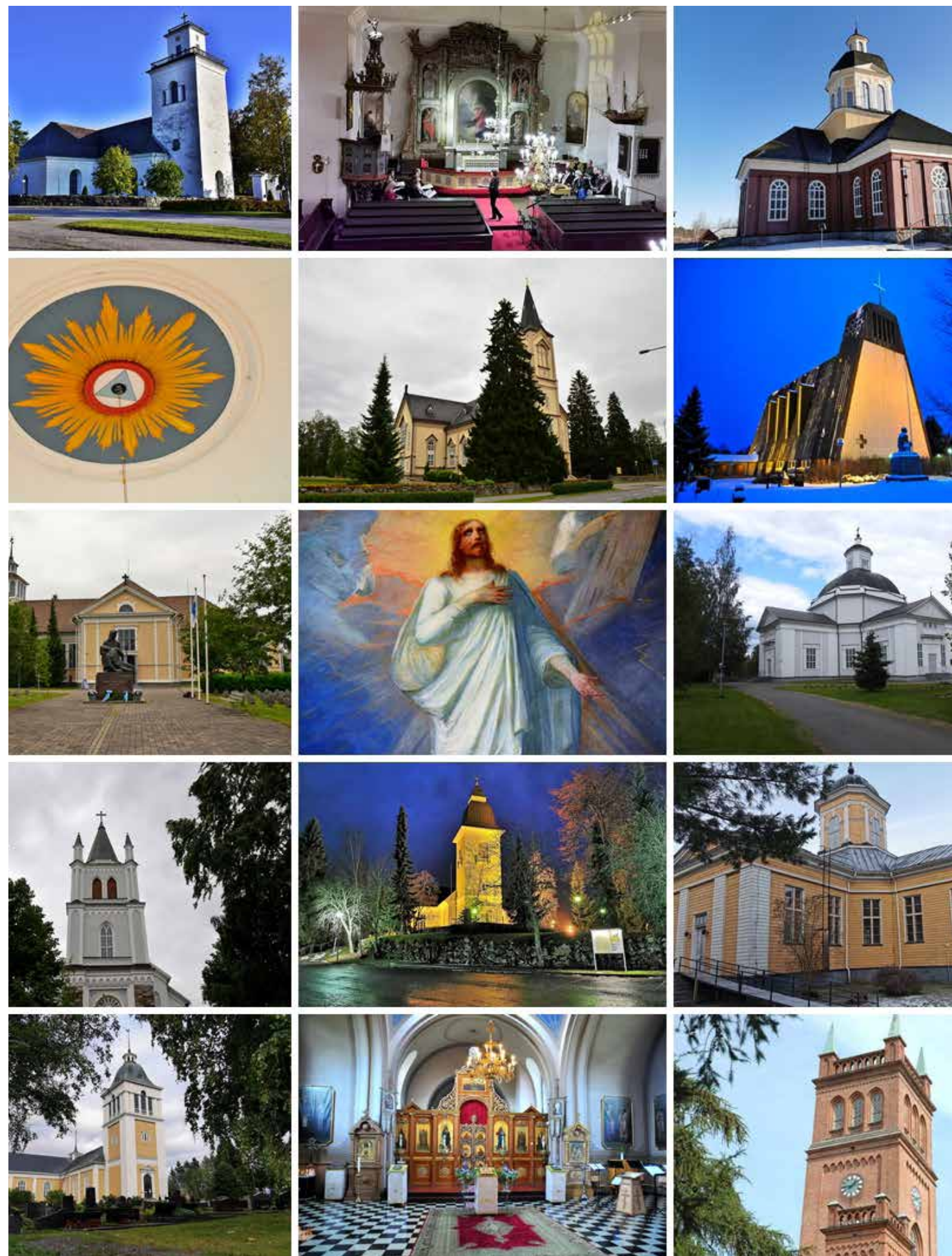
In an age of fast-paced travel, road churches offer a valuable service. They provide a place for weary travelers to find a moment of peace, re-connect with their faith, or simply appreciate a beautiful space. The unique architecture and welcoming atmosphere make them more than just rest stops; they're cultural landmarks and testaments to the enduring power of spiritual connection.

### Here's how to find the Road Church!

In Finland, more than 260 Road Churches open their doors to visitors in the summer. Many of these churches are easily accessible by following the white Road Church signs along the road-side. Before your trip, however, you should take a look at the Tiekirkot.

fi website, where you can find detailed information about road churches.

- You can search for Road Churches using the map search and selecting your own summer vacation route to see which churches fall along the way.
- You can also browse the list of Road Churches and search for churches by location or church type (wooden, concrete and stone churches). Church opening hours vary, so always check our website on the church's own page. Most churches are open from 5.6.–20.8. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., but some Road Churches serve visitors all year round. Churches may offer worship services as well as other events such as concerts and meditation. Finland's first Road Churches opened in the early 1990s, initially in a few churches in Northern Finland. The idea of open-door churches, which originated in Germany, has since become widespread. Both Evangelical Lutheran and Orthodox churches are involved, and new churches join every year. In addition, you can find information about Road Churches on Facebook and Instagram on account @tiekirkot. Follow Road Churches on social media and admire people's church spotting with the hashtag #tiekirkko. A road church awaits you along the way – stop and enjoy a different resting place.



Lähialueemme tiekirkkoja



# ART



## Mysterious moss giants take over Lasipalatsi Square

A green moss giant with skis and poles has arrived at Amos Rex's domes, ready to explore unfamiliar terrain. Wanderer sees the world as being best explored by travelling, but also with the sense of touch – especially the touch of the hand. That may be why the giant is moving two fingers across the palm of his other hand, forming the sign that means to walk or to wander.

Wanderer is one of four bright-green, giant-like figures who have temporarily set up camp in the courtyard at Lasipalatsi Square and on the terrace of Bio Rex. Kim Simonsson's (b. 1974) are about four metres high and communicate with each other through Finnish sign language. They have been acquired for Konstnämnden, which has one of Finland's most extensive private art collections.

**The moss giants' long journey home passes through the centre of Helsinki**  
The giants – Wanderer, Collector,

Friendship and Bringer of Light – are on their way home to the forest. During the summer, they will take a break at Lasipalatsi Square, after which they will gradually continue to their final destination: a leafy forest glade at Amos Anderson's summer residence, Söderlångvik manor on Kimito Island. There they will stay permanently, gradually becoming part of the forest ecosystem.

"I had a vision of a large moss figure in the forest, so people would accidentally meet a friendly giant in the woods. That dream will now become a reality, with the four giants moving to a forest glade at Söderlångvik," Simonsson says.

**The moss giants will be discoverable in the forest at Söderlångvik from spring 2025 onwards.**

Simonsson describes his giants as utopian moss children. He has given each individual in the group their own specific task, with each task being equally important. One carries tools, while another has skis on his back. It is also worth paying attention to the moss giants' hands, which play an important role: they communicate with each other, and with the outside world in sign language.

Sculptor Kim Simonsson lives and works in the artists' village of Fiskars in Western Uusimaa. He has been working with ceramic moss figures for almost a decade – the moss giants are his most large-scale works so far.

The Moss Giants will be at Lasipalatsi Square 29 April–20 October 2024. The exhibition is curated by Kai Kartio.

### Sign language is for everyone

Sign language is a visual language used by deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing people. It consists of various signs, combining facial expressions, hand body and mouth movements. Two different sign languages are used in Finland: Finland-Swedish and Finnish Sign Language, which is also used by Kim Simonsson's Moss Giants.

### Spring exhibitions

Amos Rex's Spring exhibitions offer experiences for our emotions and all of our senses – the first-ever collections exhibition I feel, for now and Josefiina Nelimarkka's studio exhibition The Cloud of Un/knowing. The exhibitions are open 27 March – 8 Sept 2024. (Source: Amos Rex)





# CLIMATE CHANGE

## The Heat Will Kill You First: A Gripping Look at Our Scorching Future

Jeff Goodell's "The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and Death on a Scorched Planet" is a stark and unsettling exploration of the escalating threat of extreme heat. Goodell, a veteran environmental journalist, meticulously weaves together scientific evidence, historical anecdotes, and personal narratives to paint a vivid picture of a future increasingly dominated by heatwaves.

The book opens with a gripping account of the deadly 2003 European heatwave, highlighting how unprepared cities are for such extreme temperatures. Goodell then delves deeper into the science, explaining how human activity, particularly greenhouse gas emissions, is pushing our planet towards a tipping point. He explores the complex feedback loops that exacerbate heat, such as the melting of polar ice caps and the desertification of land, leading to even more extreme weather events.

Goodell doesn't shy away from the human cost of rising temperatures. He details the devastating impact on agriculture, with crop failures threatening global food security. He explores the rise of heatstroke and heat-related illnesses, particularly among vulnerable populations. One particularly poignant chapter chronicles the struggles of a Phoenix community facing increasingly unbearable summers.

The book isn't all doom

and gloom. Goodell dedicates sections to potential solutions, exploring innovative adaptation strategies and technological advancements like heat-resistant crops and reflective surfaces for cities. He profiles individuals and communities actively working towards a more sustainable future. However, Goodell emphasizes the urgency of action, arguing that a large-scale global shift is necessary to avoid the worst-case scenarios.

Overall, "The Heat Will Kill You First" serves as a powerful wake-up call.

### Rescension:

"The Heat Will Kill You First" is a well-researched and engaging read. Goodell's prose is clear and concise, effectively conveying complex scientific concepts to a general audience. The use of personal stories from individuals impacted by heatwaves adds a powerful emotional dimension to the narrative. The book is well-paced, with a mix of historical context, current trends, and potential solutions.

However, the sheer volume of information presented can feel overwhelming at times. While Goodell offers some hope with potential solutions, the overall tone remains predominantly cautionary. Readers seeking a more optimistic



Jeff Goodell. Foto: Lrvelasquez Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.

outlook may find the book emotionally draining.

### Comments:

One of the book's strengths is its emphasis on the interconnectedness of the climate crisis. Goodell demonstrates how extreme heat is not an isolated issue but rather a symptom of a larger environmental imbalance. The book effectively challenges the reader to consider the ripple effects of a warming planet, highlighting the far-reaching consequences for health, food security, and social stability.

Another noteworthy aspect is Goodell's exploration of societal inequalities in the face of climate change. He demonstrates how low-income communi-

ties and developing countries are often disproportionately impacted by extreme heat, lacking the resources to adapt. This raises important questions about environmental justice and the need for global cooperation.

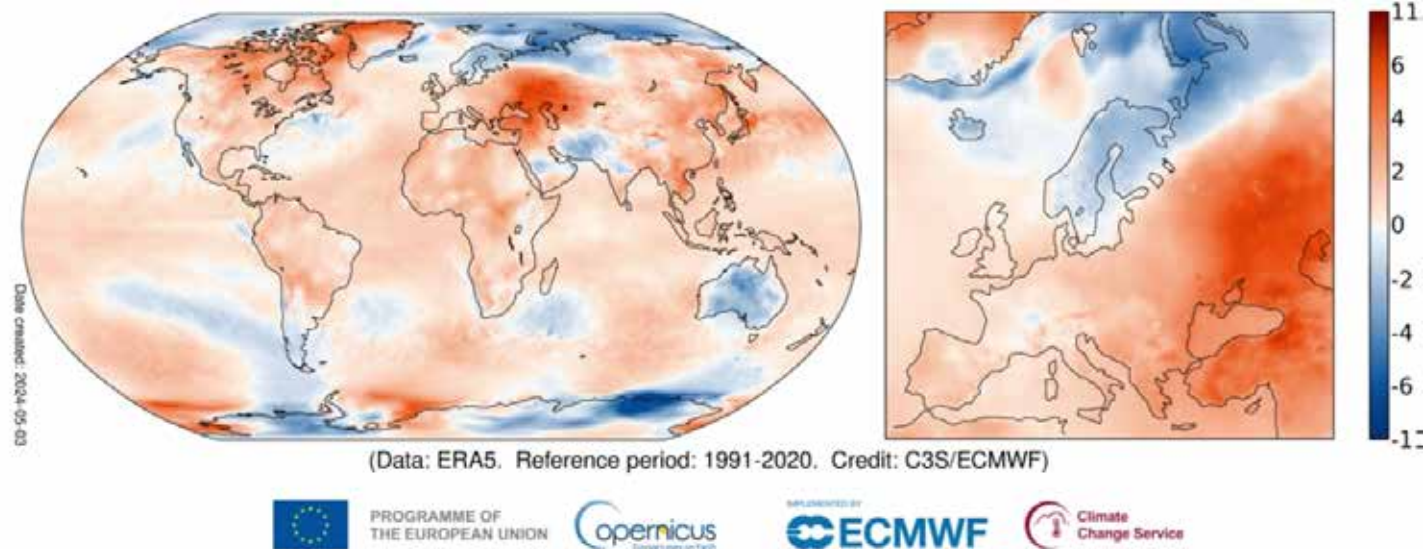
Overall, "The Heat Will Kill You First" serves as a powerful wake-up call. It compels readers to confront the urgency of the climate crisis and the potentially devastating consequences of inaction. While not an easy read, Goodell's work is a crucial contribution to the conversation about our planet's future, prompting a reevaluation of our relationship with the environment and the choices we make today that will shape the world of tomorrow.





# CLIMATE CHANGE

## April 2024 Marks Record Global Temperatures



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

In an alarming trend, April 2024 has been recorded as the warmest April globally in the data record, surpassing all previous records. According to data from the ERA5 surface air temperature, the average global temperature for April reached 15.03°C. This marks a significant increase of 0.67°C above the 1991-2020 average for April and 0.14°C above the previous record set in April 2016. Notably, this is the eleventh consecutive month to claim the title of the warmest in the ERA5 data record for its respective month.

Comparing to the pre-industrial reference period (1850-1900), April 2024 was a staggering 1.58°C warmer, highlighting the rapid pace of global warming. Over the past twelve months (May 2023 – April 2024), the global-average temperature has been the highest on record, exceeding the 1991-2020 average by 0.73°C and the pre-industrial average by 1.61°C.

European temperatures for April 2024 were also notably above average, with an average temperature of 1.49°C higher than the 1991-2020 average, making it the second warmest April on record for the continent. Eastern European regions experienced the most significant deviations from average temperatures, while Fennoscandia and Iceland saw below-average temperatures.

Outside of Europe, regions experiencing temperatures well above average included northern and northeastern North America, Greenland, eastern Asia, the northwest Middle East, parts of South America, and most of Africa. The weakening El Niño in the eastern equatorial Pacific did little to mitigate marine air temperatures, which remained unusually high.

The global sea surface temperature (SST) for April 2024 over 60°S–60°N set a new record at 21.04°C, slightly below the March 2024 record of 21.07°C. This marks the thirteenth consecutive month where the SST has been the warmest in the ERA5 data record for its respective month of the year.

Temperature anomalies were evi-

dent across Europe, with western Russia, eastern Ukraine, and Türkiye experiencing particularly warm anomalies. Conversely, below-average temperatures prevailed over most of Fennoscandia.

Internationally, northern and northeastern North America, Greenland, and parts of Asia saw temperatures significantly above average, with some areas experiencing heatwaves. South America and Africa also recorded above-average temperatures, with extreme heat conditions in the Sahel region early in the month.

In contrast, Australia experienced below-average temperatures, as did parts of the Middle East, Iran, and Pakistan. Northern Siberia and southern South America also saw below-average temperatures.

The continued rise in marine air temperatures, despite the weakening El Niño, is cause for concern, with record-high SSTs persisting over much of the tropics and other ocean basins. This warming trend underscores the urgent need for global climate action to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

(Source: C3S)

## The Impact of Climate Change on Public Health: Understanding Emerging Risks

As the global climate undergoes a dramatic transformation, the consequences reach far beyond the headlines of melting glaciers and extreme weather events. A concerning reality is emerging - climate change is profoundly impacting public health, raising serious anxieties about the rise and intensification of various diseases and health conditions.

The time for action is now. By implementing a comprehensive strategy that combines mitigation, adaptation, public education, and international collaboration, we can safeguard the health and well-being of present and future generations in the face of a rapidly changing climate.

One of the most immediate threats lies in the increased prevalence and severity of certain illnesses. Rising temperatures and shifting rainfall patterns create ideal breeding grounds for disease-carrying insects like mosquitoes and ticks. This translates to a potential expansion of vector-borne diseases like malaria, dengue fever, Zika virus, and Lyme disease. Regions previously spared from these threats may now face heightened risks, placing a significant strain on healthcare systems and the communities they serve.

The impact extends beyond infectious diseases. Changes in temperature and precipitation can significantly alter the distribution and abundance of allergenic pollen and mold spores. This translates to a

worsening of respiratory conditions like asthma and allergic rhinitis for many individuals. Additionally, heatwaves, a growing consequence of climate change, directly threaten human health. These increasingly frequent and intense heat episodes can cause heat-related illnesses such as heatstroke and dehydration, with vulnerable populations like the elderly, children, and those with pre-existing health conditions facing the greatest risks.

The link between climate change and air quality is also concerning. Higher temperatures contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone and particulate matter. Exposure to these pollutants is directly linked to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart attacks, and strokes. Wildfires, becoming more frequent and severe in many parts of the world, further exacerbate air quality issues by releasing harmful pollutants and particulate matter into the atmosphere.

Climate change also poses a growing threat to waterborne diseases. Rising temperatures can lead to the contamination of water sources and the proliferation of waterborne pathogens, increasing the incidence of diarrheal diseases like cholera and cryptosporidiosis. Extreme weather events like hurricanes and floods can disrupt water and sanitation infrastructure, further heightening the risk of waterborne disease outbreaks.

The path forward requires a multi-pronged approach. We must prioritize mitigation efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow

down the pace of climate change. At the same time, adaptation strategies must be implemented to address the current and projected impacts. Strengthening healthcare systems and public health infrastructure is crucial to effectively respond to emerging health threats.

However, the solution goes beyond technical measures. We must actively promote awareness and education about the interconnectedness of climate change and public health. Empowering individuals and communities with this knowledge is essential for taking proactive steps to protect their health. Recognizing the inseparable link between environmental and human health is the foundation for building a more sustainable and resilient future for all.

Furthermore, fostering international cooperation is critical. Climate change is a global challenge, and no single nation can tackle it alone. Collaborative efforts in research, resource sharing, and technology development are essential for effectively mitigating the health impacts of climate change on a global scale. By working together, we can build a more robust and coordinated response to this looming public health crisis.

The time for action is now. By implementing a comprehensive strategy that combines mitigation, adaptation, public education, and international collaboration, we can safeguard the health and well-being of present and future generations in the face of a rapidly changing climate.



## HEALTH

# Melanosis Coli: A Benign Colonic Pigmentation Disorder

Melanosis coli, also known as pseudomelanosis coli, is a frequent finding during colonoscopy, characterized by brown or black mucosal pigmentation of the colon. This article reviews the etiology, often linked to laxative abuse, particularly anthraquinones, as well as the pigment composition (lipofuscin) and differentiation from melanin. We discuss the asymptomatic nature, typical endoscopic appearance, and the absence of established treatment or significant complications. The article concludes by addressing the inconclusive evidence regarding a potential association with colorectal cancer.

Melanosis coli is a benign disorder characterized by the deposition of pigment within the colonic mucosa. Despite its name, the pigment responsible is not melanin, but rather lipofuscin, a byproduct of cellular wear and tear. This article delves into the etiology, clinical presentation, endoscopic features, management, and the ongoing debate regarding its association with colorectal cancer.

### Etiology:

The most common risk factor for melanosis coli is the long-

term use of certain laxatives, particularly those containing anthraquinones. Examples include senna, cascara sagrada, rhubarb, aloe vera, and frangula. Anthraquinones are believed to stimulate melanogenesis, a process that mistakenly leads to lipofuscin deposition in macrophages within the colonic lamina propria. Other proposed causes include chronic inflammatory bowel disease and heavy metal exposure, but evidence is limited.

### Symptoms:

Melanosis coli is typically asymptomatic. It is often incidentally discovered during colonoscopy performed for unrelated reasons.

### Endoscopic Findings:

Colonoscopy reveals characteristic brown or black mucosal pigmentation, usually in a patchy or marbled pattern, predominantly affecting the right colon. The pigment does not cause any structural changes to the colonic wall.

### Treatment:

Melanosis coli itself does not require specific treatment. The primary approach involves identifying and addressing the underlying cause, such as discontinuing anthraquinone-containing

laxatives. Alternative laxatives like fiber supplements or osmotic agents can be considered.

### Complications:

Melanosis coli is not associated with any significant complications. It does not cause inflammation, bleeding, or obstruction.

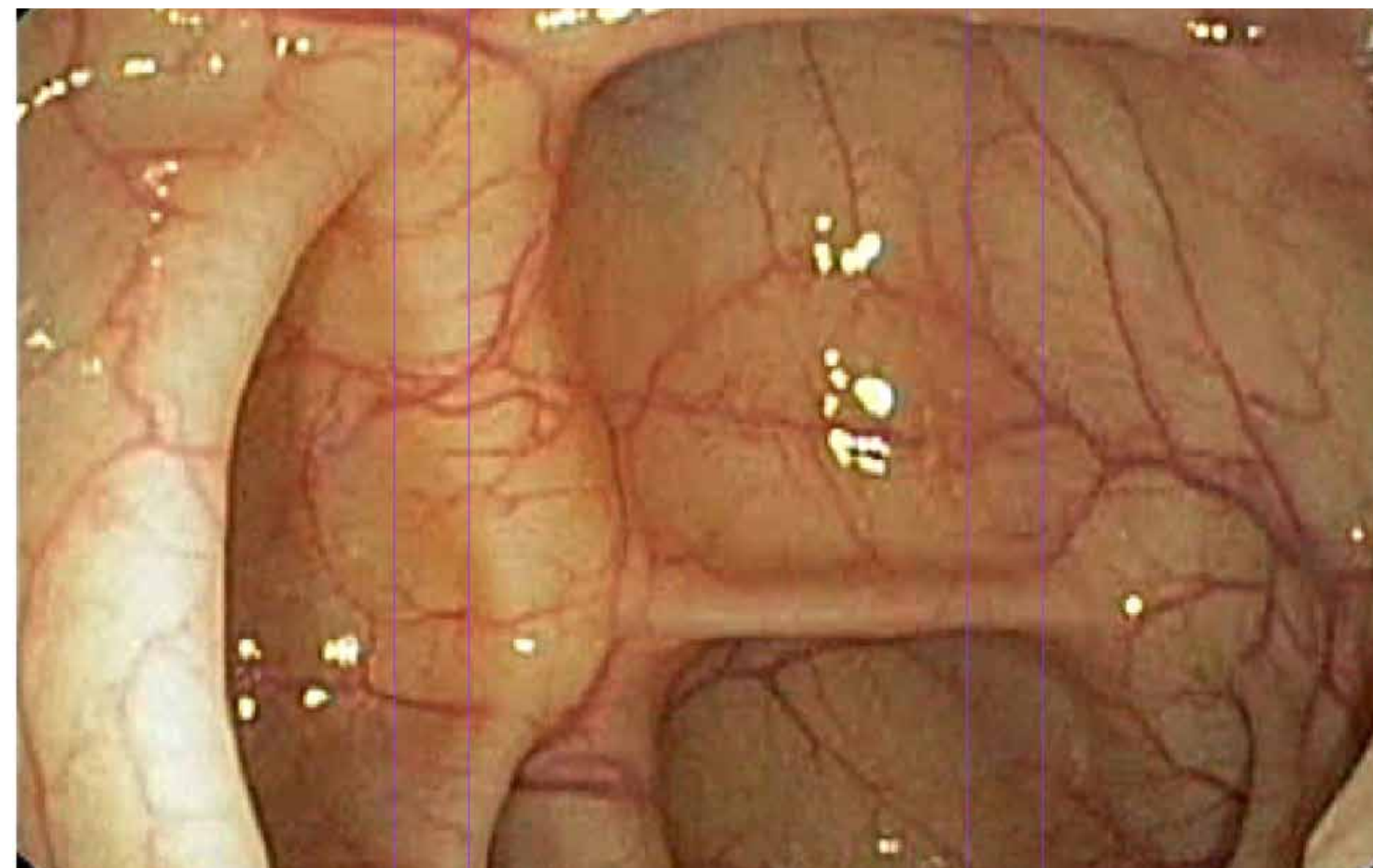
### Association with Cancer:

The potential link between melanosis coli and colorectal cancer remains a subject of debate. While some studies suggest a higher prevalence of melanosis in patients with colorectal polyps or cancer, others haven't found a clear association. More research is needed to determine if melanosis coli is a risk factor or merely an incidental finding in these patients.

### Conclusion:

Melanosis coli is a benign colonic pigmentation disorder most commonly linked to anthraquinone laxative use. It is asymptomatic and diagnosed on colonoscopy. Management focuses on addressing the underlying cause, and the condition carries no significant complications. The potential association with colorectal cancer requires further investigation.

Note: This article is intended for informational purposes only and should not be construed as medical advice.



*Normal colon mucosa*



*The quite remarkable changes in colonic mucosa in Melanosis Coli*



# TRAFFIC



## New Kaisantunneli tunnel opened for cyclists and pedestrians in Helsinki

The new Kaisantunneli tunnel in the heart of Helsinki opened its doors to cyclists and pedestrians on Sunday 4 May 2024, just in time for the start of National Cycling Week. The approximately 220-metre-long tunnel runs under the railway yard of Helsinki railway station and connects Kaisaniemi Park with Oodi and Kansalaistori square. In the old days, the cycling distance between these points south of the railway station was 600 metres. And at several traffic lights we had to wait.

The tunnel has been designed especially with the needs of cyclists in

mind, but it is also possible to walk through it. It has its own bike lane, a bike lift and a parking space for about a thousand bikes called the Bike Garage. However, this is not yet open. In the future, a bicycle repair shop will also be located in Pyörätalli.

For pedestrians, the tunnel offers an unobstructed and easy access to Kaisaniemi Park and Oodi. Stairs have been built at the Oodi end of the tunnel to access the train platforms. 40 bike frame locking racks have also been built on the Kaisaniemi park side.

The construction of the Kaisantunneli has taken three years and its costs have risen from the original EUR 25 million to EUR 32 million. However, the project has gone according to plan and there have been no disruptions in traffic.

The new Kaisantunneli tunnel is a significant improvement to the traffic system in the heart of Helsinki, and it will certainly make it easier for cyclists and pedestrians to move around.

Map: © OpenStreetMap kartoittajat





# AI-RADIO

## Nordic's First Fully AI-Produced Radio Channel Launched in Finland

Finland's AI Radio began its operations as a web radio channel on Wednesday, November 29, 2023. Bauer Media takes a significant step in the audio market by launching the Nordic's first radio channel whose content is entirely produced using artificial intelligence. This innovation combines technology and entertainment and strengthens Bauer's position as a pioneer in the audio industry.

"We are excited and proud to introduce the Nordic's first AI Radio to the market. This is an exciting milestone in the radio industry and a testament to our commitment to delivering new and innovative content to our listeners in the future," says Sami Tenkanen, CEO of Bauer Media.

In the initial phase, AI Radio's content consists of the following features:

Audio productions produced with the assistance of artificial intelligence

Nationally significant traffic announcements produced by AI

National weather warnings for inclement weather, produced by AI  
Entertainment news read by AI from the entertainment portal Voice.fi.

New features for AI Radio are planned continuously to keep it interesting and relevant to its listeners. Advertisers are also considered through innovative audio advertising solutions.



An image made by AI showing what an AI radio looks like

"This launch represents Bauer's commitment to innovation and leveraging the latest technology to develop the radio business. We will continue to actively work on development even after the launch to offer listeners even more personalized and tailored experiences in the radio industry," says Sini Kervinen, Head of Innovation.

AI Radio is also expanding to FM frequencies. In Helsinki, the channel can be heard on frequency 102.0 MHz and in Kangasala on frequency 101.6 MHz until April 8. The channel can also be listened to online on <https://radioplay.fi/tekoalradio/>

# BIOGRAPHICAL LIBRARY



A story about the opera singer Irma Rewell is to be found in the library

## Women's Voice ("Naisten Ääni") project: Stories of a thousand women added to the biographical library

Women's Voice project: Stories of a thousand women added to the biographical library  
At least 50 stories related to Vaasa!

The history of Finnish society and culture has largely been built on people's actions and influence, but the role of women in this story has often been neglected. The actions, influences and life experiences of women have been surprisingly little recorded in the collective memory. To change this, the Women's Voice project has been born, which aims to make women's stories and influence part of the Finnish historical narrative.

The Women's Voice online publication, launched in 2017 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Finland's independence, is part of the effort launched by the Finnish Women's League to produce extensive material on the lives of Finnish women and their impact on society. At the heart of the project is the desire to produce and disseminate

information about what women have done, how they have contributed to the development of society, how they have lived and how they have overcome life's challenges.

In spring 2024, the thousandth biography was published, and many more have been added since then. At least fifty stories tell about women from Vaasa or women whose lives are connected to our city.

Mention should be made of a few well-known Vaasa residents whose biography can be found in the Women's Voice library: Irma Rewell, Ritva Hyöky, Eeva Kauppi, Alexandra Frosterus-Sältin, Rosina Heikel,

Diverse participation in the online publication is welcome, and national, local and family women are welcome to participate. The aim is to highlight different stories and experiences: everyday heroines, those who have toiled in organisational work, visible and invisible, loud and silent. We want to compile material that reflects the diverse contribution of Finnish women to society and culture.

You can write new biographical articles for the Women's Voice online publication or copy previously published articles in the journals of women's organisations, as long as the original publisher has permission to republish. In addition, we challenge organisations and individual citizens to participate in collecting and documenting women's stories in their own communities. The aim is to make the Women's Voice project a show of women's strength and at the same time create a unique set of data on the lives of Finnish women.

The Join us page contains more thoughts and ideas on how each of us can participate in the Women's Voice project and make the stories of Finnish women more visible and meaningful. Join us and help us tell the unforgettable stories of Finnish women! The Women's Voice library is online permanently and will also serve researchers for decades to come – or centuries!

Here you can find the Women's Voice biographical library:  
<https://www.naistenaani.fi/>



# LIBRARIES

## New national E-library: Expectations and reality far apart

The long-awaited nationwide E-library has finally opened, but it does not live up to expectations at all. The selection of books is very limited and many languages are completely missing. Logging in is difficult and apparently requires online banking credentials every time. The service does not yet correspond at all to the possibilities offered by ordinary libraries.

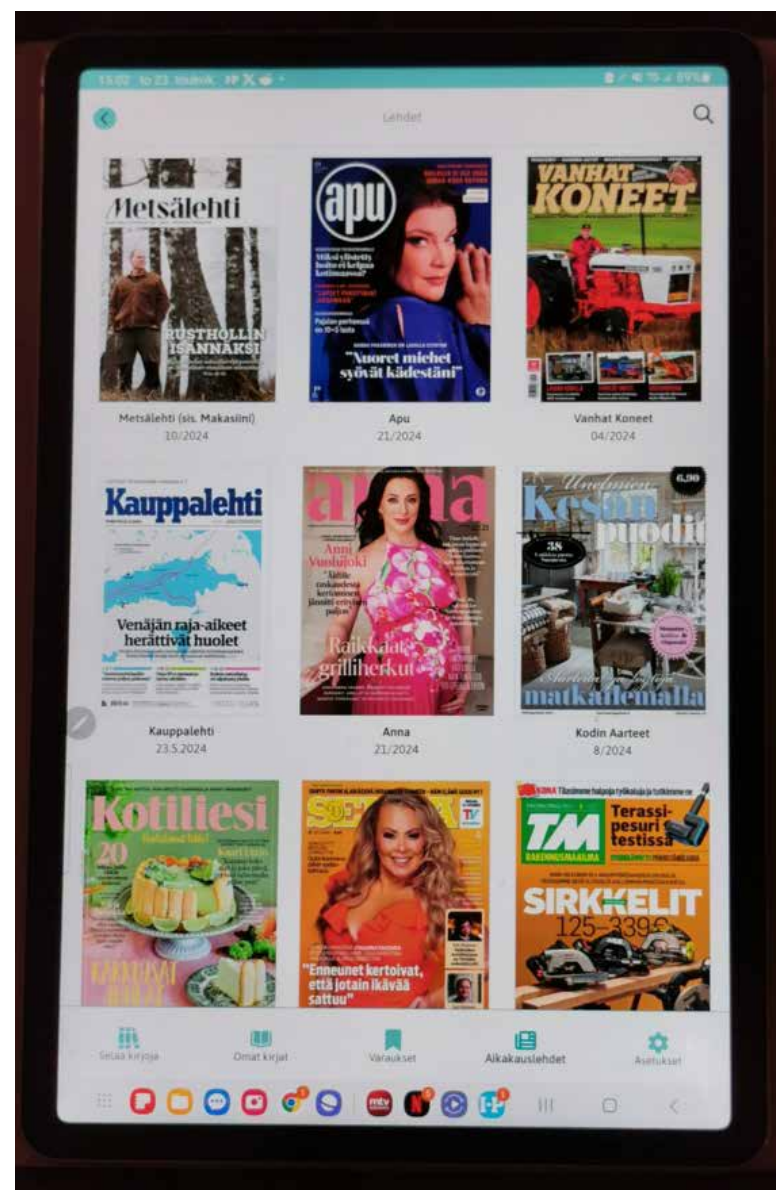
### Lack of books and limited selection

There are only hundreds of books in the library, which corresponds to only a small part of the shelves of a real library. The selection of books is also very limited, and there are only a few dozen books in Swedish. It is understandable that many Swedish-speaking municipalities are not involved in the project, but that does not make the service nationwide.

### Usage problems and limited availability

Logging in to the e-library is difficult and requires bank codes or something similar every time. A better option would be to have one-time credentials, after which the user would receive automatic access. The only function that succeeds smoothly is the press side. There are several magazines and daily newspapers available, such as Apu Anna, Seura and many hobby magazines, such as TM and MikroBitti. The daily press is published in Kauppalehti and The future of rural areas. The range is nowhere near the level of Press-reader.

About 15% of Finns cannot access the e-library even by paying. This is shameful when talking about nationwide service. Of course, the service is free of charge for everyone else.



*Finnish magazines in the new e-library*

### Lack of additional features

The e-library does not have many of the features that regular libraries offer. For example, there will be no notification of the end of the loan period, and the number of reservations is limited. It can also be difficult to find your favorite books, as not all books are available.

The loan period is 2 weeks. Should we try the Archive.org method in Finland that the loan period is one hour, i.e. you can read the book when you have time, and then borrow it once when it's time? With a short loan period, books would suffice even with a

limited number of books.

The nationwide e-library is disappointing. It does not live up to expectations and is usable only within certain limits. Hopefully, the service will develop in the future and better meet the needs of Finns. The impression is that this has been opened completely unfinished,

The driving force behind the e-library is the National Library of Finland in cooperation with public libraries.

By the way, the other services of the National Library of Finland are world-class. Hardly any other country has such comprehensively digitised historical newspapers and books as Finland,



*The National Library of Finland is one of Finland's most important institutions. The monumental building of the National Library of Finland is located opposite Helsinki Cathedral. And we can be sure that the National Library of Finland will get a working version of the E-library for us.*







## Siida utsågs till Årets museum 2024!

Museibelaningarna 2024 delades ut på Museum-galan i Jyväskylä den 23.5.2024.

Samiska museet och Norra Lapplands naturcentrum Siida i Ivalo har vunnit det prestigefyllda priset Årets museum 2024! Juryn berömmar Siida för att hon betonar etiska frågor och gemenskap samt för sitt banbrytande arbete för att återuppliva den samiska kulturen.

Siida är norra Lapplands pärla och lockar besökare med sin unika kombination av mu-

seum och naturum. Ett nära samarbete med Sametinget och turismaktörer i regionen har gjort Siida till en betydande debattör och samhällspåverkare, vilket också är en förebild i grannländerna.

Museets nya byggnad erbjuder moderna lokaler för utställningar och samlingar, men det har skett en verklig revolution i Siidas verksamhet. Ett omfattande samarbete med lokalbefolkningen har gjort det möjligt att bevara den samiska kulturens tradition och livskraft.

Siida är en föregångare inom repatrieringsprojekt, tack vare vilka

samiska föremål har återvänt hem från inhemska och utländska museer. Denna unika process har stärkt samernas egen kulturella identitet och förståelse för sin historia.

Den nya basutställningen lyfter fram det nära samspelet mellan natur och kultur i Sápmi. Samernas röster och berättelser står äntligen i centrum och de kan uppleva Siida som sitt eget museum.

Siidas seger är ett erkännande av hela det samiska samhället och deras outtröttliga arbete för att bevara sin kultur. Det är också ett inspirerande exempel för alla museer som strävar efter att främja samhällsdebatten och stärka gemenskapen.





# HEALTH

## Soil Products, Compost Soil and Legionella Bacteria: Warnings and Tips



### Home gardeners, be careful!

Handling soil and compost products may pose a health risk as they may contain legionella bacteria. This is not a new concern – in 2023, soil was identified as a source of infection in five cases of legionellosis, out of a total of 54 cases. This begs the question: What should we know about legionella bacteria, their history and treatment?

Legionella bacteria are named after an American legionnaire meeting held in 1976. Many participants fell ill with pneumonia. After the epidemic, bacteria of the genus Legionella were found in the hotel's water system. Legionella bacteria are common in natural waters and soil and can cause serious illness to humans, especially in water systems such as showers,

whirlpools and cooling systems.

Legionella bacteria are spread through the respiratory tract through an inhaled aerosol. They can cause severe pneumonia, especially in older people and people with weakened immunity. Symptoms of pneumonia may include fever, cough, shortness of breath, and chest pains. If legionella-induced pneumonia is suspected, it is important to seek medical attention immediately.

Pneumonia caused by legionella is usually treated with antibiotics such as azithromycin or levofloxacin. The effectiveness of treatment is influenced by the general condition of the patient and possible other diseases. In addition, it is important to minimize exposure to legionella bacteria through preventive measures.

When handling soil and compost products, special care should be taken. Avoid blowing them into the air, protect wounds on the hands and wear protective gloves. Wash hands thoroughly after handling and store soil bags away from sunlight. Compliance with preventive measures is key to minimizing the risks posed by legionella bacteria.

**Here are the guidelines published by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare this spring:**

Avoid blowing soil and compost into the air you breathe.

Protect wounds on hands and broken skin.

Wear protective gloves and wash your hands thoroughly at the end.

Open the soil bag with the opening facing away from your face.

Moisten mulch or compost with low water pressure, such as a water jug, if necessary.

Wash from soil or compost material utensils with low water pressure.

Store soil bags out of the sun, as the internal temperature of the bag stored in the sun is between 20°C and 40°C ideal for legionella bacteria to multiply.

If dusting cannot be reduced otherwise, FFP-2 and FFP-3 level protectors protect against exposure. Remember to place the protector snugly on your face. (Source thl.fi)



## HEALTH

# Don't Juice Up Your Weight Gain: Daily Fruit Juice May Not Be Your Friend



For many, reaching for a glass of 100% fruit juice seems like a healthy choice. However, a new study suggests that daily consumption of fruit juice might be linked to weight gain in both children and adults.

Researchers reviewed dozens of existing studies on fruit juice and body weight. While the results weren't entirely conclusive, some trends emerged.

**Children and Weight Gain:** The study found a clear link between daily fruit juice intake and increasing Body Mass Index (BMI) in children. Each additional serving of juice per day was associated with a slightly higher BMI gain.

**Adults and Weight Gain:** The picture for adults was less clear-cut. Studies that didn't account for overall calorie intake showed a connection between daily juice and weight gain. However, studies that considered total calorie consumption did not find a significant association. This suggests that the potential weight gain may be due to the extra calories in juice, not the juice itself.

**The Takeaway:** While more research is needed, this study adds to growing evidence that suggests limiting sugary drinks, including 100% fruit juice, could be beneficial for weight management.

Here's Why Juice Might Not Be the Best Choice:

- **High in Sugar:** Even though it's natural sugar, fruit juice can be quite concentrated. This means a single serving can contain a significant amount of calories, which can contribute to weight gain.

- **Missing Fiber:** Unlike whole fruit, juice lacks the filling fiber that helps you feel satisfied. This can lead to over-consumption of calories throughout the day.

So, what should you do?

- **Focus on Whole Fruits:** Choose whole fruits instead of juice whenever possible. Whole fruits provide essential vitamins, minerals, and fiber, keeping you feeling fuller for longer.

- **Limit Juice Intake:** If you do enjoy juice, make it an occasional treat, not a daily habit. Consider diluting it with water to reduce the sugar content.

- **Be Mindful of Portion Sizes:** Even with whole fruit, be mindful of portion sizes.

Remember: Water is always the best beverage choice for hydration and overall health.

Source: JAMA Pediatr 2024 Mar 1;178(3):237-246. Consumption of 100% Fruit Juice and Body Weight in Children and Adults: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Michelle Nguyen et al.

## ART EXHIBITION

# New Exhibition Opening at Kuntsi Museum for Modern Art: "Bodies and Moments – Three Perspectives on the Kuntsi Collection"



KAUKO LEHTINEN: Summer clouds, 1967. Acrylic on canvas. Photo: Mikko Lehtimäki.

On May 5, 2024, Kuntsi Museum for Modern Art will unveil its latest exhibition, "Bodies and Moments – Three Perspectives on the Kuntsi Collection." This exhibition offers a diverse overview of the foundation's collection from the viewpoints of three curators. Featuring nearly 200 works, the exhibition occupies the entire museum space and includes pieces loaned from sources outside the foundation's collection.

Every three years, Kuntsi Foundation, established in 1970, presents an exhibition based on its collection at its eponymous museum. The current exhibition, "Bodies and Moments – Three Perspectives on the Kuntsi Collection," is curated by the foundation's board members: Dr. Leevi Haapala, Dean of the Academy of Fine Arts; Teemu Mäki, Chairman of the Artists' Guild in Finland; and Anne-Maj Salin, the Foundation's representative and museum director emerita.

A Surrealist Continuum from Classics to Contemporary Art

Leevi Haapala's section of the exhibition explores the transition from surrealism to contemporary art. Highlighting surrealism within the Kuntsi collection, Haapala traces its influence on contemporary works and subsequent art trends. The exhibition begins with European surrealism classics and progresses to contemporary art, featuring artists exploring urban life, constructivism, and pop art.

In addition to collection pieces, Haapala has selected works by Helsinki-based contemporary artist Antti Ruuhela to engage in dialogue with the collection.

**A Multidimensional Perspective**  
Teemu Mäki's section is divided into four themes, addressing the celebration of everyday life, the grotesque body, societal statements in art, and the outer essence of humanity. Mäki's curation spans sections titled "An Ode to Everyday Life – Paradise Is Here and Now," "A Grotesque Body (is a Living Body)," "Art as a Hammer – Beyond Human," and "More Than Human."

Mäki's section features works from the Artists' Guild in Finland's collections and pieces loaned by artist Eeva Honkanen, as well as a work by the curator himself. The loans aim to enrich the section and demonstrate the relevance of the foundation's collection to contemporary art.

### Central Works Narrating Moments and Encounters

Anne-Maj Salin has selected a collection of iconic works for the exhibition, focusing on moments, situations, and atmospheres depicted in the artwork. Salin emphasizes how familiar pieces can evoke new experiences and thoughts in different contexts, underscoring the enduring relevance of quality artwork.

Approximately two hundred works will be on display at the exhibition, showcasing both Finnish contemporary art and rarely exhibited pieces by international artists from the foundation's collection. The exhibition runs from May 5 to October 6, 2024, at Kuntsi Museum for Modern Art. (VAASA.FI)



## SPORT

# Kaleva Games in Vaasa 27-30.6

**Vaasa prepares for the Kaleva Games: Karlsplan is being prepared for competition**

**T**he Finnish Athletics Championships, Kalevan, will take place in Vaasa on 27–30 June 2024, according to a press release from the city. It is one of Finland's leading national sports events, and the City of Vaasa has been preparing for the event for several years.

The Kaleva Games are expected to attract about 20,000 visitors to Vaasa.

The implementation of the event requires significant cooperation from the sports clubs in the region. The main organizer is Vaa-

sa Sports Society in cooperation with Palosaaren Urheiluseura, Vaasan Toverit, Vaasan Vasama, Vähänkyrön Viesti and IF Femman.

Mika Lehtonen, Head of Sports Activities, says that the City of Vaasa has started preparing for the event already several years ago.

One of the most visible improvements is the installation of a new scoreboard at Karlsplan, which replaced the old one last year.

"The new digital scoreboard is a 14.7 x 5.8 metre LED screen, where we can show, in addition to results, live broadcasts from the pitch and replays in slow motion. The old painting was mechanical," says Lehtonen.

"It's quite cold in the main stand because it's in the shade. The glass walls will reduce the draught and wind, Lehtonen explains.



*Kaleva Competition 2018 - 3000 m, Jyväskylä*

*From left to right:: Sandra Eriksson, Camilla Richardsson, Astrid Snäll, Linnea Harala, Lotta Mäkinen, Emma Hakala, Hilikka Kontro, Pihla Hokkanen, Amanda Virtanen, Oona-Mari Hakulinen, Mona Af Forselles, Janna Hautala.*

*Image Tuomas Vitikainen. Wikimedia Commons.*

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The running tracks on the pitch will be washed and the lines will be repainted. In addition, minor repairs will be carried out across the entire plan, and old power and data cables will be replaced with new ones.

The equipment and equipment on the pitch must also be in good condition for the competition.

"We update equipment such as javelins, bullets, crossbars and scaffolding. After the Kaleva Games, everyone who uses the pitch will be able to benefit from the new equipment, Lehtonen says.

The event will have a significant impact on traffic, and temporary traffic arrangements and parking areas have already been planned for a long time. More information on this will be provided closer to the event.

The Kaleva Games also extend beyond Karlsplan.

"The women's and men's walking competitions will take place on the new pedestrian and cycling track in the beautiful seaside environment of Onkilahti," says Lehtonen.

The Kaleva Games will feature both top national athletes and promising young talents. The competition takes place between the European Championships and the Olympic Games, so it is possible that we will also see Finnish medalists from the European Athletics Championships in Rome at Karlsplan.

"We hope that the people of Vaasa will mark the Kaleva Games on their calendars and gather in large numbers to follow the competitions," says Lehtonen.



## RUSSIA'S UNPROVOKED ATTACK ON UKRAINE

# President Zelensky on May 24, 2024

### Putin Not Only Wants to Disrupt the Peace Summit, but He Is Also Afraid of What the Summit Can Bring – Address by the President

24 May 2024 - 21:00



I held a security meeting in Kharkiv with reports from the military, heads of special services, regional and city authorities. Now our warriors have managed to take combat control of the border area, where the Russian occupiers have entered. And I am grateful to each unit that ensures the necessary results of destroying the occupier. Today we also discussed our next tasks, taking into account the information from the intelligence. Putin not only wants to disrupt the Peace Summit, and tries to do a lot for this purpose, but he is also afraid of what the Summit can bring. The world is capable of forcing Russia into peace and into compliance with international security norms. Russia has nothing to oppose the world majority: despite all of Putin's lies, he depends on his environment – in the broad sense of this word. He also depends on the international environment. No one in the world is interested in

this war, except the aggressor, and everyone is actually aware of this. The Peace Summit is a format that will not allow Putin to lie anymore. And without his lies, he is absolutely nothing. And I thank everyone in the world who is helping us organize the Summit and who is showing their leadership to bring real peace closer.

Today I spoke with the President of Côte d'Ivoire and invited him to the Peace Summit, and I am grateful for his willingness to participate. I also met today with the Marshal of the Senate of Poland – I thanked her for the support, told her about the situation in Ukraine and, of course, we discussed our preparations for the Summit. I am grateful to everyone who supports Ukraine and a real honest peace!

I thank everyone who fights and works for our country and people!

Glory to Ukraine!

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## RUSSIA

### Russia threatens to attack England

This is an official text from the Russian Foreign Ministry

Press release on the summons to the UK Foreign Office On May 6, the British ambassador to Russia, Nigel Casey, was summoned to the Foreign Office to make a strong protest against the latest statement by British Foreign Secretary David Cameron in an interview with the Reuters news agency about Ukraine's right to strike Russian territory with British weapons. The ministry firmly pointed out to Ambassador Casey that Cameron's hostile outburst directly contradicts the British side's previous assurances during the transfer of long-range cruise missiles to the Kiev regi-

me that they would under no circumstances be used to strike Russian territory. The head of the State Department thus distanced himself from this position and acknowledged that his country was de facto a party to the conflict. The ambassador was told that the Russian side regarded Cameron's words as evidence of a serious escalation and confirmation of London's growing involvement in hostilities on the Kiev side. Nigel Casey was warned that all British military installations and equipment on Ukrainian territory and beyond could be hit in response to Ukrainian attacks on Russian territory with British weapons. The ambassador was invited to consider the inevitable catastrophic consequences of such hostile actions on the part of London and to reject in the strongest and most unequivocal manner the belligerent, provocative statements of the head of the Foreign Office.

### Medvedev adds: England can be attacked with missiles without conventional explosives

Here is a Cameron who calls for a fight against Putin to the bitter end. OH... I remember this guy quite well. I worked with him when he became prime minister. An ordinary muddly Brit. At the time, he was cheerfully stupid and looked like a young devil enjoying an unexpected position. By the way, he wasn't even a patented Rus-sophobia. So on average, not anymore... And now? "Ukrainians, you can fire our missiles wherever you want." And we, the British, fear nothing, not even a nuclear conflict. Steep! In vain, uncle. After all, Storm Shadow/SCALP-EG is not run by idiots in embroidered shirts, but by Brits and French. Under certain circumstances, the answer to this will not only be flying to Kyiv. And not only with conventional explosives, but also with special ammunition. And practicing how to respond to such attacks is the goal of the planned exercises. And even His Royal Majesty's fully educated Moroni should not understand this. And about the fight against Putin. In other words, the fight against Russia. I have no sensible answer, except for one. David, be careful. You can and .

## RUSSIA'S STRANGE DIPLOMATIC LANGUAGE

# The Kremlin mocks its opponents

When tensions between the two countries increase – as in recent years between Russia and Ukraine – it is common for the aggressor to ridicule its counterpart. We have seen examples of this. Russian state television is doing its best to spoil Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and the Ukrainian leadership. According to the Kremlin, Zelensky is a Nazi, a drug addict, a clown, a liar, a traitor, a criminal, a psychopath .

It is important to note that these attacks are false and unjustified. Zelenskyy is a democratically elected leader who has shown great courage and determination in the face of Russian aggression. He is overwhelmingly supported by the Ukrainian people and widely respected by world leaders. That he is a Nazi is not of this world, Zelensky is Jewish and one of the pillars of Nazism is hatred of Jews. But Russia thinks anyone who opposes Russia's aggression is a Nazi.

The Kremlin's use of derogatory adjectives against Zelensky is a sign of despair and weakness. They cannot defeat Ze-

lenskyy on the battlefield, so they resort to personal attacks in an attempt to discredit him. However, these attacks only hook and further strengthen Zelenskyy's determination and the unity of the Ukrainian people.

Then there is reason enough to say that the President of Ukraine is not the only one exposed to derogatory and mocking adjectives. The German leader is a "sausage maker" and the leader of the USA is a senile dementia elderly.

This is not a new phenomenon. In particular, the word clown seems to be popular in the Kremlin when someone dares to oppose plans to conquer Russia. On 26.11.1939, a few days before the start of the Winter War, Pravda published the following sensational article about Finnish Prime Minister Aimo Kaarlo Cajander:

"Finland's government fears appearing before the country's parliament. Instead, Prime Minister Cajander, on November 23, happily performed at a concert. The music played, the prime minister gave a speech. Finland's citizens must be entertained in their current sad situation. Cajander tried



Aimo Kaarlo Cajander

to entertain the audience as best he could. He displayed clownish talent. Cajander turned the concert venue into a simple circus arena. Like Pelle Jöns, he somersaulted, spoke non-sense, stood on his head, walked around the arena on his hands.

First, he dragged out several portraits of Russian tsars onto the arena and bowed down to these images. These humble bows he performed with the ingrained subservience of a born servant. He spoke of 'the policy beneficial to Finland, followed by Alexander I and Alex-

ander II and approved by all the people of Finland.' Then Pelle Jöns stood on his head and threatened the Soviet Union with one of his feet because Moscow was thinking of threatening Finland's independence. It was truly a majestic attitude!

It is known that the Russian tsars, whether named Alexander or Nikolai, suppressed all attempts by the Finnish people to gain independence in every way. The tsarist policy, which aimed to oppress, subjugate, and paralyze the people, was only accepted by the reactionary-minded,



corrupt Finnish bourgeoisie. Cajander et consortes served the Russian tsars as faithful lackeys and court jesters. When tsarism was overthrown by the people's fatal blow, the temporary go-vernment refused to grant Finland independence. For this independence, the Bolsheviks Lenin and Stalin fought in cooperation with the Finnish people. From the Soviet government, the Finnish people have received their independence, which Finland's bourgeoisie always displays and still sells as a commodity on the market of imperialism. Such are the facts.

Cajander believes that when he makes his somersaults, the world goes off the rails. A ridiculous illusion! Pelle Jöns makes his somersaults, but the facts stand unyieldingly where they stand. This whole pathetic comedy is played out only to avoid answering the Finnish people's question to its ridiculous, intrigue-ridden government: why have Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania concluded treaties with the Soviet government guaranteeing their independence, peace, and secure work, while the Finnish government has interrupted negotiations and caused anxiety and worry for the Finnish people? Here one cannot avoid the issue by just dodging. Cajander makes somersaults, crows like a rooster, suddenly bursts into tears. He cries, moans, tears his clothes to pieces, strikes around with the words of a circus clown, scatters ashes.

Not on his own head, but on the heads of the ministers of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Through tears, Cajander cries out: '...These three vigorous Baltic states,



Hufvudstadsbladet den 27.11.1939

which had a brilliant future ahead of them, have suddenly been transformed from independent states into realms more or less dependent on the Soviet Union. D

This has made a crushing impression on us Finns." Cajander weeps for the political leaders of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. They have turned out, you see, to be very shortsighted. But Pelle Jöns in the role of prime minister, behold, he is farsighted. He is a politician who has been schooled by the far-sighted Beck, by the clear-sighted Moscicki. May he experience how they feel, these Polish Pelle Jöns, who have forever lost their commitment. Soon enough, Cajander may have the opportunity to realize that it is not the Finnish government's puppets who are foresighted, but Estonia's, Latvia's, and Lithuania's current leaders, who have concluded agreements with the Soviet Union guaranteeing the independence of these states.

But Cajander and his cronies cannot avoid giving the Finnish people the answer they increasingly demand.

Why have you, gentlemen Cajander and your associates, interrupted the negotiations? The people have not demanded this of you. Who has demanded that the negotiations be interrupted? Finland's prime minister wriggles like an eel, he cries and snivels and wipes the tears from his dirty face: "As much as we have tried to find a common basis for our negotiations, they have nevertheless been temporarily interrupted.

This must be regretted all the more as Finland sincerely wishes to maintain good relations with all its neighbors." Cajander "regrets"! Cajander "has temporarily" interrupted the negotiations! Cajander sheds crocodile tears. Crocodile tears are said to be the most deceitful, the most vile, the most disgusting in the whole world. But even more repulsive, even more vile, even more deceitful are the tears shed by Pelle Jöns as he imitates the crocodile. It is a perversion of a reptile that lacks sharp teeth, that lacks strength, but is full of the cunning and voracity of a little predator.

And yet Cajander and his henchmen will not escape answering the question that the Finnish people increasingly threateningly pose to them, as they see the country being drawn into a shameful and dangerous game by provocateurs. Why have you, Cajander and your gang, interrupted the negotiations? You are "independent" (?) only of the Finnish people, who in fact seek the friendship of the Soviet people. Who, then, are you dependent on? Whose will do you fulfill, whose instructions do you follow? And Pelle Jöns in the prime minister's office runs anxiously,

cowardly around, letting his faded eyes wander in all directions and swearing to God: "Finland has not been in need and has not received instructions from other states. By God, it has not received any!" A clown's oath, invoking God!

The receipt for "foreign states' instructions" having been fulfilled has been published. It is found in the English imperialist press's approval of Cajander's speech. The Daily Herald pats its Finnish Pelle Jöns friendly on the shoulder: "you have done well, dear brother".

Can one then be surprised that Cajander and his entourage have not found "a common basis" with the Soviet government? Pelle Jöns performs his somersaults on the warlike imperialism's "general platform," lets the jazz orchestra clang, lets the saxophone jam, lets the circus director's whip whistle.

Will this political circus continue for a long time? We must hope: not too long. We must hope that the Finnish people will not allow puppets like Cajander and his associates to steer Finland's ship of state further towards the brink of destruction, where Beck and Moscicki have suffered shipwreck."

This text's Swedish translation was published in Hufvudstadsbladet on November 27, 1939. In Pravda, it was published on November 26, incidentally the same day as the shots in Mänttilä were fired, evidently by the Russian side.

# Those who know a little more are those who read Wasa Daily





## Bertel Gripenberg, 1927

The Far-away house.

Far away, far away from the worlds foul fray  
in the wood, in the wild, wide wood  
far away, far away once my homested lay,  
my lonely house once stood.

In silence and night, in sunshine and light,  
in the days with the golden feet,  
in darkness and frighl, in sorrow and plighl  
this house was my home, my retreat.

And all my löst years, all the days I hal are gone,  
still hover about thal lone house,  
my far-away home, thal dreams still alone,  
whcre the echos my löst years arouse.

Far away, far away now my footsteps may stray  
but my thoughts and dreams linger there,  
far from struggle and fray all my soul slill will slay  
in that lost, that enchanted sphere.

### Bertel Gripenberg: A Traditionalist Poet with a Controversial Legacy

Bertel Gripenberg (1878-1947) was a prominent Finnish-Swedish poet during the early 20th century. While renowned for his formal and technical skills, he held traditional and re-actionary views on poetry and society, making him a controversial figure even in his own time.

Gripenberg's early work, exemplified by collections like "Vida vägar" (1904) and "Galler-grinden" (1905), consisted of passionate love poetry, considered daring for its time. His sub-sequent period, often regarded as his strongest, saw a shift towards ethical themes, evident in works like "Aftnar i Tavastland" (1911).

The Finnish Civil War of 1918 profoundly impacted Gripenberg, inspiring works like "Un-der fanan" (1918), which glorified the war and demonized the Red opponents. This, coupled with his anti-democratic and anti-populist stance, solidified his position as a controversial figure.

Gripenberg continued to publish poetry collections throughout his career, including "Sista ronden" (1941). In 1925, he released "Den hemliga glöden" (under the pseudonym Åke Erik-son), a parody of modernist poetry that inadvertently revealed new facets of his own work.





# HUMOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

## LUMP COLLECTOR

The rag collector: "Have you any rags to sell 1 day?"  
The Lord: "No, my wife has gone to the country."  
~Then maybe there are some tomb bottles to buy?"

## PELLES' PHILOSOPHY

Pelle (who was hit by his mother);  
"Think, father, how we would have had a good time and been allowed to do as we pleased, if you had not married mother!"

## PUTTE WANTS MEDICINE FROM GRANDMA

MODERN: "But, Putte dä, why do you only want medicine from grandma and not from me?"  
PUTTE: "Well, you know, mom, grandma's hand shakes so!"

## NEWS

A; "You must have written in your newspaper that I am a fake gambler and a fraud! B: .Impossible! My magazine only contains news!"

## BORN TO DANCE

"Don't you think, captain, that one must be born to dance?"  
"Sure. . . I have never seen an unborn dance".

## THE MORE YOU GET, THE MORE YOU WANT

"It's quite peculiar, the more you get, the more you want!" "Listen, tell me one thing! Have you ever had twins?"

## WITH A MAN ON THE BEACH

Him: A week ago you had no idea that you would now be sitting on the beach with a man you didn't know at all.  
Her: Well, I probably did.  
Him: But dear little friend, you didn't know me then.  
She: No, but I knew myself

## WOMEN'S CLOTHING

Nothing dresses a woman better than nothing.

## NERVOUS LADY

An anxious, nervous woman, accompanied by her husband, approached the station inspector at a small outlying railway station and asked: "Has the quarter-past train leaving already?"

»Yes, ten minutes ago,« was the reply.  
"When does the four-and-twenty train come?"  
»It takes quite a while.«  
»And before doos there are no trains at all?«  
"No."  
»And not any passenger trains?«  
"No."  
»Some freight train then?«  
»No, no trains at all.« "Is it absolutely safe?"  
»Yes, absolutely sure!«  
"Then, John, can we cross the track."

## Mrs. BROWN

The pastor's wife is visiting Mrs. Brown and tells, among other things:  
- I just received a letter that my son received a scholarship.  
- I am really very happy. I understand your feelings so well. I used to feel exactly the same way, when our pig won first prize at the farm meeting.

## IN SCHOOL

- Was it you, Hans, who wrote on the board: "The teacher is a donkey".  
- Yes it was.  
- Well, it pleases me in any case that you stick to the truth.

## TWO ANECDOTES ABOUT KANT

Two anecdotes about Kant, which prove his great presence of mind, are

reported by Otto Schöndörffer in the "Philosophischer Almanach" dedicated to Kant's memory. Kant once followed his habit of equanimity and strolled on the so-called Philosopberdamm near Pregel, lost in deep thought. Then suddenly a man rushed up to him with a large butcher's knife in his hand and shouted: I must butcher you!  
Kant saw at once that he was dealing with an insane butcher's flock. He therefore calmly and firmly said to him: "You are mistaken, dear friend!" Today is not slaughter day. It's Wednesday, because slaughter day is on Friday. Namely, there were specific days of the week established for butchers to slaughter on. The madman started and laughed confusedly; You're right.  
He let the already menacingly raised arm drop and slowly withdrew.  
Another time the philosopher was walking through a narrow and crooked street in the old Königsberg, when suddenly two galloping horses rushed towards him. Kant did not have time to turn away, which was otherwise impossible on the narrow street. Now he had once read that horses never touched people who were lying on the ground, but that even during the fastest race they did not touch them. He therefore threw himself hastily down on the ground, and indeed the two horses dashed away over him without injuring him in the least.

## What house is this?



Last weeks house:  
A magazine next to the power plant

PhotoScetch

## This weeks astronomical picture:



Massive Beauty (Jupiter) by NASA.jpg

NASA's Juno mission captured this look at the southern hemisphere of Jupiter on Feb. 17, 2020, during the spacecraft's most recent close approach to the giant planet.  
Not only is Jupiter the largest planet orbiting the Sun, it contains more than twice the amount of material of all other objects in the solar system combined — including all the planets, moons, asteroids and comets. In composition, Jupiter resembles a star, and scientists estimate that if it had been at least 80 times more massive at its formation, it could have become a type of star called a red dwarf rather than a planet.

NASA/JPL-Caltech/SwRI/MSSS  
Public domain

## Next week:



## 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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