

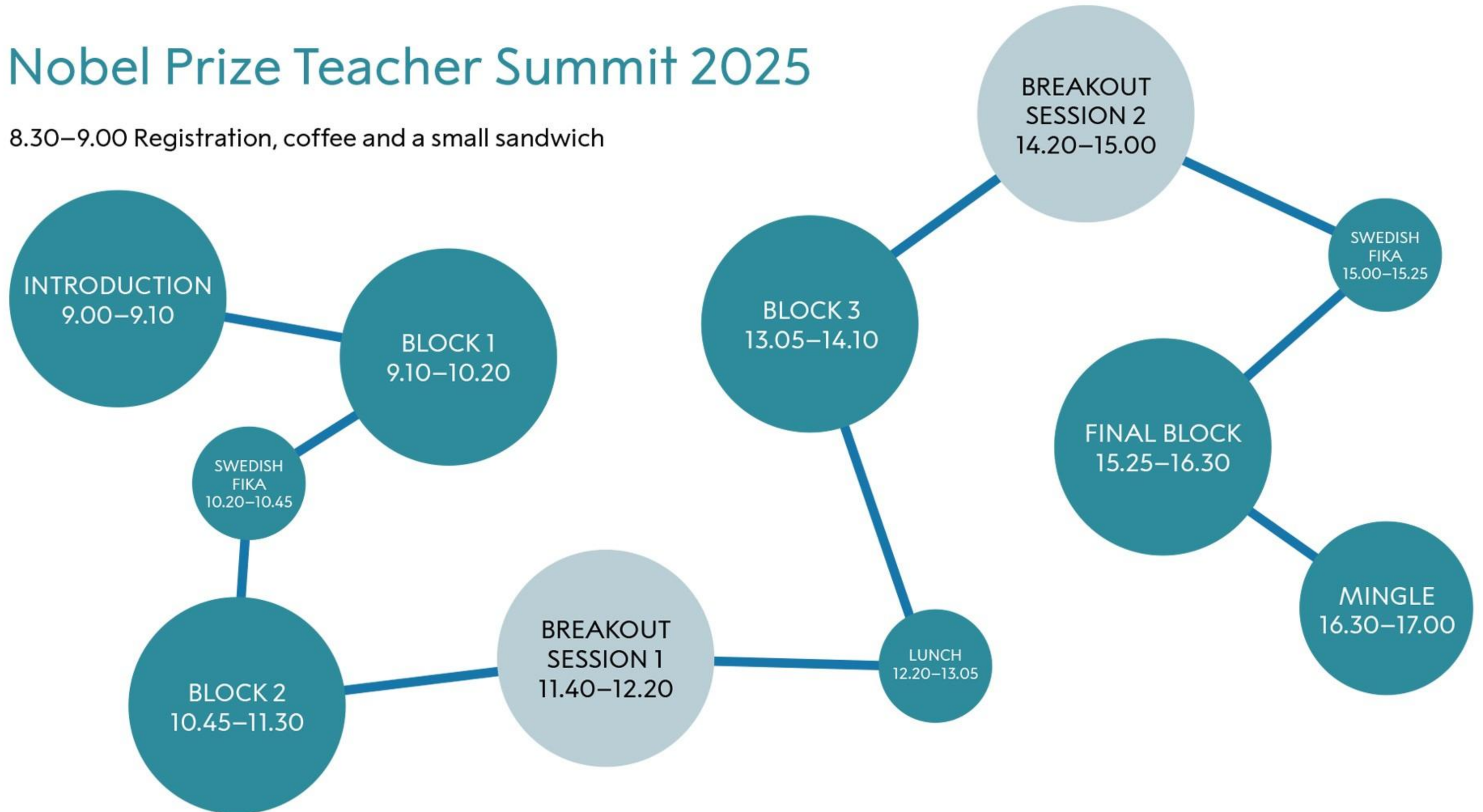
THE  
NOBEL  
PRIZE

# NOBEL PRIZE TEACHER SUMMIT 2025

Summarising presentation

# Nobel Prize Teacher Summit 2025

8.30–9.00 Registration, coffee and a small sandwich





# Nobel Prize Teacher Summit 2025

Welcome!

Hanna Stjärne, Executive Director of the Nobel Foundation, welcomed us to the Summit.



Photo: Clément Morin

# The Future of Democracy

The Nobel Prize Museum team presented the programme and the theme for the day.

**Gustav Källstrand**  
Chief Program Editor

**Sara Engkvist**  
Museum Educator

**Carin Klaesson**  
Content Manager of Public Programs

**Pontus Thunblad**  
Deputy Director of Education



Photo: Clément Morin





Almost 350 teachers from  
35 different countries engaged  
in discussions.



# Safeguarding Journalism

In 2021 Maria Ressa received the Nobel Peace Prize for safeguarding freedom of expression.

Her prize citation stated that this is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace.

In this interview, with Carin Klaesson, she talks about the importance of journalism and of searching for the truth.



Photo: Clément Morin

# How Autocratisation is Threatening Our World

What do the data say about the trends for democracy and autocracy in the world today?

Professor Staffan Lindberg, Director of the V-Dem Institute, presented his team's latest analyses based on over 31 million datapoints on democracy and human rights across the world and where we are heading.



Photo: Clément Morin



# Awarding Democracy

The Nobel Peace Prize has always led to discussions. And sometimes to diplomatic consequences.

A hero to some is an enemy to others.

Berit Reiss-Andersen, former Chair of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee, talked with Carin Klaesson about why it can be so provocative to award the prize to people who work for democracy.



Photo: Clément Morin



# AI: Responsibility in a Changing World

Who is responsible for making sure that AI benefits everyone?

Artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming the way we work, learn and connect.

Virginia Dignum, Professor of Responsible AI at Umeå University, talked about how we can shape AI to serve society – not just corporations or technology experts.



Photo: Clément Morin



# Democracy and Knowledge

Democracy depends on knowledgeable citizens. This is why education lies at the foundation of a democratic society.

In her talk, Åsa Wikforss outlined the central threats to knowledge in the new information landscape and the challenges it raises for democracy.

Åsa Wikforss is a Professor of Theoretical Philosophy at Stockholm University and the author of books on democracy and the post-truth condition.



Photo: Clément Morin





Sara Engkvist moderated questions from the teachers in the audience.



# Breakout sessions 1



## Guiding Responsible AI

**VIRGINIA DIGNUM**

The future of AI isn't just about smarter machines; it's about the decisions we make today to create a better, fairer future for everyone.

This breakout session investigated what guidelines we need to keep AI safe, fair and aligned with human values. Rather than seeing rules as a limitation, they can help build trust, encourage positive progress and ensure AI works for the benefit of all.



## Drivers of Autocratisation and Forces of Democratic Resilience

**STAFFAN LINDBERG**

There is a wave of autocratisation sweeping across the world. Professor Staffan Lindberg presented what research shows about the drivers of autocratisation and forces of democratic resilience. The participants were then invited to discuss these issues and contribute to a joint concluding appraisal.



## Teaching about Democracy with International IDEA

**ALEXANDER HUDSON**

International IDEA's Democracy Tracker is a unique resource for democracy education. This workshop discussed the development of the tool and how it can be useful in educational settings. The participants were invited to share their needs and expectations for resources that support teaching about democracy.

Alexander Hudson, Senior Adviser at International IDEA was our guide.



## Learning for Democracy

**PONTUS WALLIN AND HUGO WESTER**

In times of democratic challenges, quality democracy education is more important than ever. Pontus Wallin from the Swedish Institute for Educational Research and Hugo Wester from the Swedish National Agency for Education presented some key insights from the study Learning Democracy – Teaching Practices in Focus.

They also introduced a model for systematic, whole-school democracy work.



# Why Democratic Nations Succeed

Wealth doesn't lead to democracy – democracy leads to wealth. At least according to Economic sciences laureate Daron Acemoglu and his colleagues.

Professor John Hassler, member of the committee that selects the laureates in Economic Sciences, talks to moderator Gustav Källstrand about how the laureates reached their conclusions and why we should believe them.





# Strengthening Democratic Culture by Building Democratic Competences

How can education help build a democratic culture, starting in the classroom?

Democracy is more than political structures and procedures – in order to be sustainable and robust, it requires active participation. In her lecture, Claudia Lenz, Professor of Social Science, introduced the basis and elements of the Council of Europe Reference Framework: Competence for Democratic Culture.



Photo: Clément Morin



## Ideology and Reality – Making Visions Come True

Sustainability is a straightforward goal, but the path to achieving it is not simple.

Maria Wetterstrand – former leader of the Swedish Green Party and now a consultant in sustainable development shared her insights on the intersection of politics, science and decision-making in an interview with Gustav Källstrand.



Photo: Clément Morin



# Breakout sessions 2



## Working with the Reference Framework Competences for Democratic Culture

CLAUDIA LENZ

In this breakout session, participants had the opportunity to further explore the CDC competence model and its uses. The session focused on the planning and evaluation of teaching and learning processes, as well as teachers' professional development.



## Open the Classroom to the World

MATHIAS DEMETRIADES

How can we teach in a way that equips our students with knowledge and the competence to take action in uncertain times?

This workshop introduced interactive methods which you can apply in your own classroom. Mathias Demetriades, Project Leader at Sida, was our guide



## Education for Peace, Human Rights and Sustainable Development

CHRISTOPHER CASTLE

In this session, we explored key principles, discussed new guidance and shared ideas on how to bring peace education to life – building resilience against hateful rhetoric and supporting post-conflict reconciliation.

Christopher Castle, Director of the Division of Peace and Sustainable Development at UNESCO, guided us.



## Controversial Topics in Education: A Pluralistic Approach

KARIN ÅRMAN

Karin Årman, Ph.D in educational work and Project Manager at the Living History Forum, guided us through the challenges and opportunities of pluralistic education today. We explored techniques for creating safe, yet challenging learning spaces and discussed strategies to prepare students for engaging with complex issues.



# Leisure as a Way to Societal Commitment

How can art, leisure and social responsibility intersect to promote democracy?

Adam Taal and Pontus Thunblad discussed how creative pursuits can serve as platforms for empowerment and community engagement, and how personal passions can evolve into initiatives with broader societal impact.

After the interview, Adam performed one of his songs.



Photo: Clément Morin



# Changing the World

How do you fight violent factions to stop a civil war?

In 2011, Leymah Gbowee received the Nobel Peace Prize for her “...*non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women’s rights to full participation in peace-building work.*”

In their interview, Leymah Gbowee told Carin Klaesson about how a group of women changed the world.



Photo: Clément Morin









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Watch all segments from the  
main stage here!