
SWEDEN'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATS STRUGGLE IN TRADITIONAL BLUE-COLLAR HEARTLANDS

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Like other socialist parties in Europe, Swedens center left has lost ground to the far right. Its hoping to turn that around.

The downward slide of the Social Democrats in the Swedish town of Uddevalla arguably started at 1:19 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 4, 1986.

With a crash, the mighty gantry crane that had long loomed above the towns shipyard came down in a plume of dust as thousands of mournful locals watched on. The shipyard was replaced with a Volvo car plant □ which itself closed in 2013, taking with it what was left of the towns industrial heart.

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