



NORDIC TCA ON RESPONSIBLE INTERNATIONALISATION

25-27 MARCH 2026
HELSINKI

KEYNOTE SESSION

Keynote Session on 26 March at 9:15-10:30, moderated by Ms. Hege Toje, Senior Adviser, Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills.

This first session aims to provide participants with a basic understanding of responsible internationalisation: its theoretical framework and the context and challenges Nordic universities are facing today.

“What world does academia have to deal with going forward?”

Mr. Bård Drange, Senior Adviser, Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills (20 min)

- Discussing growing pressure on academia and academic freedom in the West, and presenting preliminary findings from the case of Norway about consequences for higher education.

“Authoritarian states’ attempts to influence academia – the example of China”

Dr. Erik Mo Welin, analyst, Swedish National China Centre at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (20 min)

- Based on a recently published study of Swedish-Chinese research relations Erik Mo Welin will give an overview of how China's authoritarian political system affects academic relations between China and Western democracies, including relevant examples from the conducted study.

“Education & responsible internationalisation”

Dr. Tommy Shih, Director Forum for Responsible Internationalization and Research Security, KTH Royal Institute of Technology and Associate Professor, Lund University (20 min)

- An introduction to responsible internationalisation as a concept. What it is and how it can be applied in the context of international educational collaboration and in student and staff exchanges.

Audience Q&A with speakers (15 min)