

10th Anniversary conference of CESCO

Budapest 25th-26th of april

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**“The Nordic region should be the most
integrated region in the world”**
The Nordic prime ministers vision

The Nordic region

The Nordic Region

The five countries

Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland

The three autonomous territories

The Faroe Islands, Greenland and Åland



The Nordic region

- in numbers



27 million citizens



2,3 million businesses



12,5 million employees



8800 billion
GDP

The Nordic Region

- economy



5. largest
economy in Europe



11. largest economy
in the world

The Nordic Region

- a place to live in



The world's most peaceful region



The world's most democratic region



The world's happiest population

The Nordic Countries

- on a global level



No. 1
in Winter Olympics



No. 2
in Summer Olympics



6 Eurovision victories
since 2000

Labour and movement in the Nordic Region

- 70,000 cross-border commuters
- In 2011 58,000 moved to another Nordic country



The Nordic Council of Ministers

Nordic Council of Ministers

The Nordic Council of Ministers is the official body for Nordic intergovernmental co-operation

The Prime ministers have the overall responsibility, and delegate it to the Ministers of Nordic Cooperation



There are 11 councils, each concentrating on a specific subject



Freedom of Movement Council

The Freedom of Movement Council

Political statement:

“We, the prime ministers of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, the lagmand of the Faroe Islands, the landsstyreformand of Greenland and the lantråd of Åland agree that **the promotion of freedom of movement in order to create jobs and growth in the Nordic countries is one of the key challenges faced by Nordic co-operation.**”

*Declaration by the Nordic prime ministers on the work against border barriers,
29 October 2013 (non-official translation)*



The Freedom of Movement Council 2014–2022

At the initiative of the Nordic prime ministers, the Ministers of Nordic Cooperation established the Freedom of movement Council.

Members:

A unique composition of individuals with firm political, professional and administrative backgrounds.

Eight national members

The Nordic countries, Greenland, the Faroe Islands and Åland
*Each national member **prioritizes** 3–5 barriers*

Two Nordic

Secretary General of the Nordic Council of Ministers
Representative from the Nordic Council

Meetings:

One annual kickoff meeting.
Four operational meetings.



Kickoff-meeting, Snekkersten (DK), 18-19 February 2014

Image credit: Christiaan Dirksen

Mission: Increase mobility between the Nordic countries

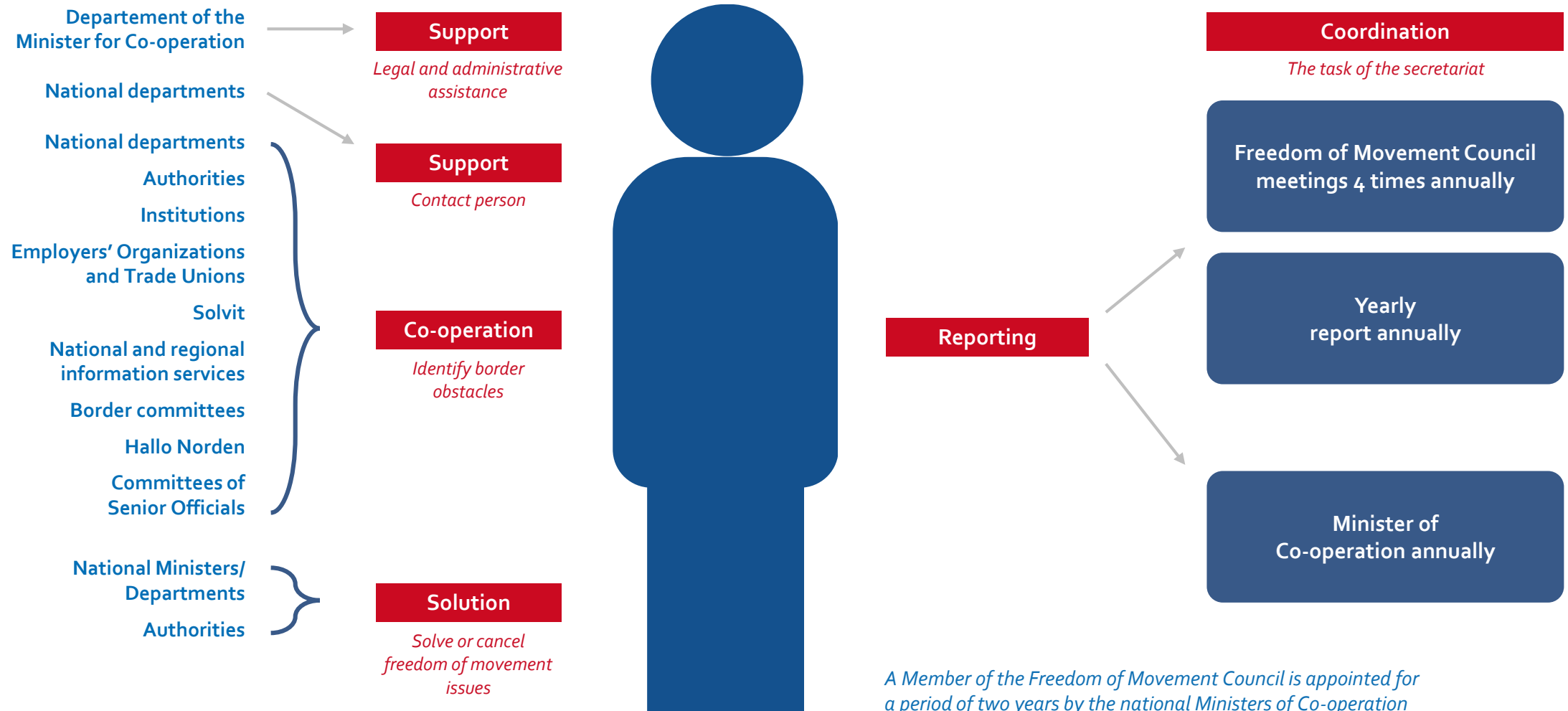
In order to facilitate freedom of movement in the Nordic Region for individuals as well as businesses, The Nordic Council of Ministers is investing in information and elimination of border obstacles.

Focus on three main areas:

- Break down existing border obstacles, resolve 8-12 per year
- Prevent new border obstacles to occur
- Enhance and improve information efforts



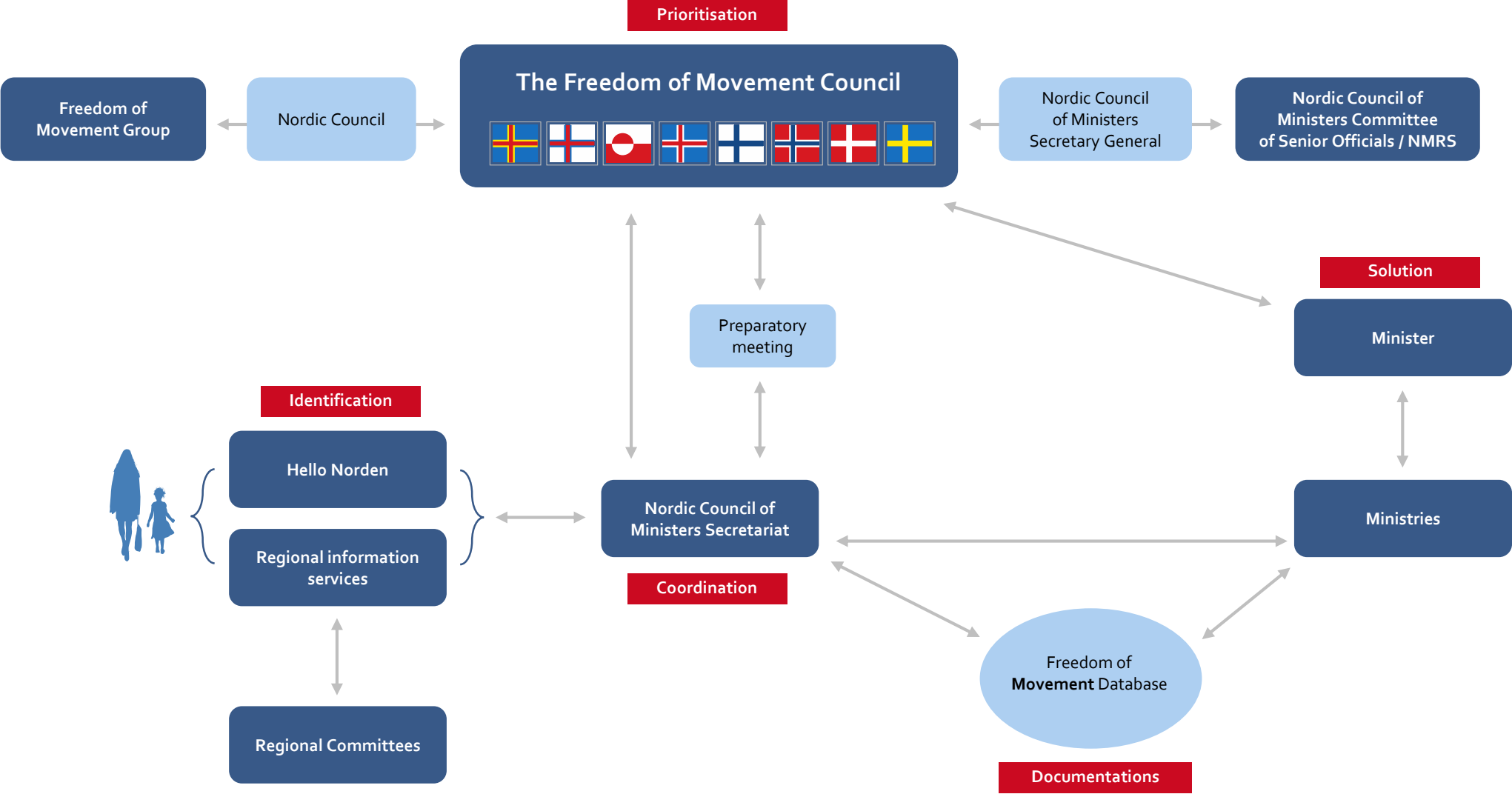
Member of the Freedom of Movement Council



A Member of the Freedom of Movement Council is appointed for a period of two years by the national Ministers of Co-operation



The Freedom of Movement Council



Result

Results since 2014

Prioritized obstacles since 2014	80
Solved obstacles	43
Obstacles that can't be solved	12
Remains	25



Thanks.

