

Festskrift till
Pär Hallström

Volume in Honor of Pär Hallström

MATTIAS DERLÉN & JOHAN LINDHOLM

(RED.)

IUSTUS FÖRLAG

Preface – a Portrait of Pär

MATTIAS DERLÉN & JOHAN LINDHOLM

We are very happy to present this Volume in Honor of Professor Pär Hallström on the occasion of his retirement from Umeå University. We are grateful that so many wanted to contribute and note that the wide variety of topics covered in this Festschrift aptly mirrors the extensive and diverse knowledge and interests of Pär (as we will refer to him here, following Swedish tradition) himself.

We have had the pleasure of working with Pär at the Department of Law at Umeå University for many years, but our primary connection to him is that we both were his doctoral students. Our experiences during these years clearly illustrate Pär's personality. The most obvious aspect is his deep learning, going far beyond the law. Pär is indeed the last of a generation, a true Renaissance man. In a world of details, you can always trust in Pär to provide the big picture, the larger perspective, as evident already in his doctoral dissertation.

What is most remarkable about Pär however is that his extensive knowledge is coupled with humility and curiosity. We are reminded of the story of Nicodemus (Book of John, Chapter 3), who – despite his advanced position – listened to and sought the guidance of a young man, a man whose ideas were rejected by established society. Much like Nicodemus, Pär never takes ideas and knowledge for granted, constantly listening, thinking and reevaluating. And much like Nicodemus – as well as the young man in the story – he has a healthy disregard for convention.

We gratefully dedicate this book to him.

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