

The Congress for Jobs 28th – 2nd November 2009

The new party of small businesses

We will go to the polls on a retried, clear and future-oriented job policy, said Sven-Erik Osterberg, the Social Democrats' spokesman on Labour Market Policy

- We have often seen to the needs of business but sometimes forgotten businessman or woman and entrepreneur. We must also affirm the capacity of entrepreneurs, not just in the major companies. In the small and medium-sized businesses, we find many of tomorrow's jobs. It should be easy for entrepreneurs to take on personnel, to grow, to do their paperwork and especially to export.

He also suggested made a pitch for a new future program for the creative industries.

Manufacturing industry is still a pillar of the Swedish business community. But Sweden is no longer a purely industrial country. The service sector is growing rapidly. We will implement new programs for the future and invest more in research resources and services.

Several of the delegates who took part in the debate spoke of the need to make the Social Democrats to an even better party of small businesses. There was wide support for the awareness that the services sector is important for the future, several speakers pointed to the hospitality industry as a sector with great potential to grow in the future.

Sven-Erik Österberg said that every tenth job changes every year and that there is a need for an insurance to cover the move between jobs. But it is not enough simply to have good unemployment insurance, the policy line on work also be a line on education.

The opportunities for professional development must be substantially improved. The time between two jobs should be a time of learning and development, not a period of exclusion. We want to invest in insuring skills training for all.

He also took up the party executive's proposal to remodel parts of the employment services to a system for advice and support on training.

The well- educated do not think that the employment centers are the first place they want to turn to. We Social Democrats want to change that by remodeling parts of the employment centers for advice and support in developing skills. They will serve not only the unemployed but also those who want to change jobs or find a relevant education.

We social democrats will go to the polls in 2010 on a reconsidered, clear and future-oriented policy for jobs. We will have the sharpest job politics said Sven-Erik Österberg.