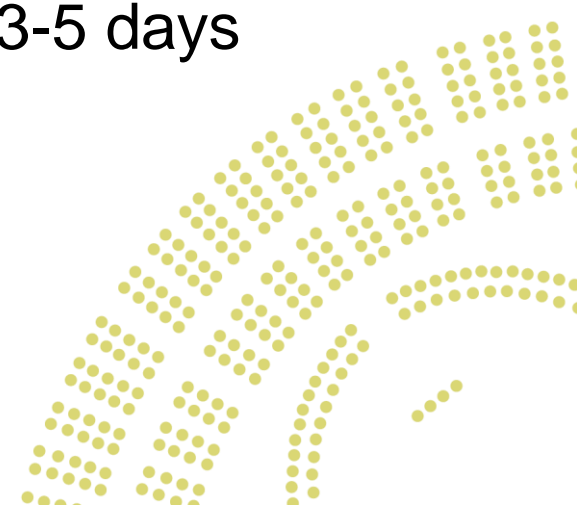


The Riksdag



Some numerical basics...

- Service founded in 1955
- 2 000 research assignments annually
- 37 staff, approx 30 researchers
- Time from start to finish approx 2-3 weeks
- Research takes place effectively over 3-5 days



Section for economic analysis

- Budget estimates
- International economics
- Trade and industry
- Energy
- Communication
- Growth

Section for welfare issues

- Health and medical care
- Pensions and social protection systems
- Migration and Integration
- Educational issues
- Cultural issues
- Labour market policy

Research Service

Section for law and politics

- Justice
- Taxation legislation
- International issues (the EU etc)
- Defence
- Environment and agriculture



Clients

- The Members of Parliament
- Party secretariats
- Committees
- Other parliaments
- The Riksdag Administration



Types of needs that we meet

- Client wants to know (neutral)
- Client wants support for a political idea
- Client does not know what to “think”
- Client wants to test political proposal



What the assignments are used for

- Debates (oral, written)
- Formulation of policies
- Launching political initiatives
- Questions and interpellations
- Shadow budgets
- Writing of private members' motions

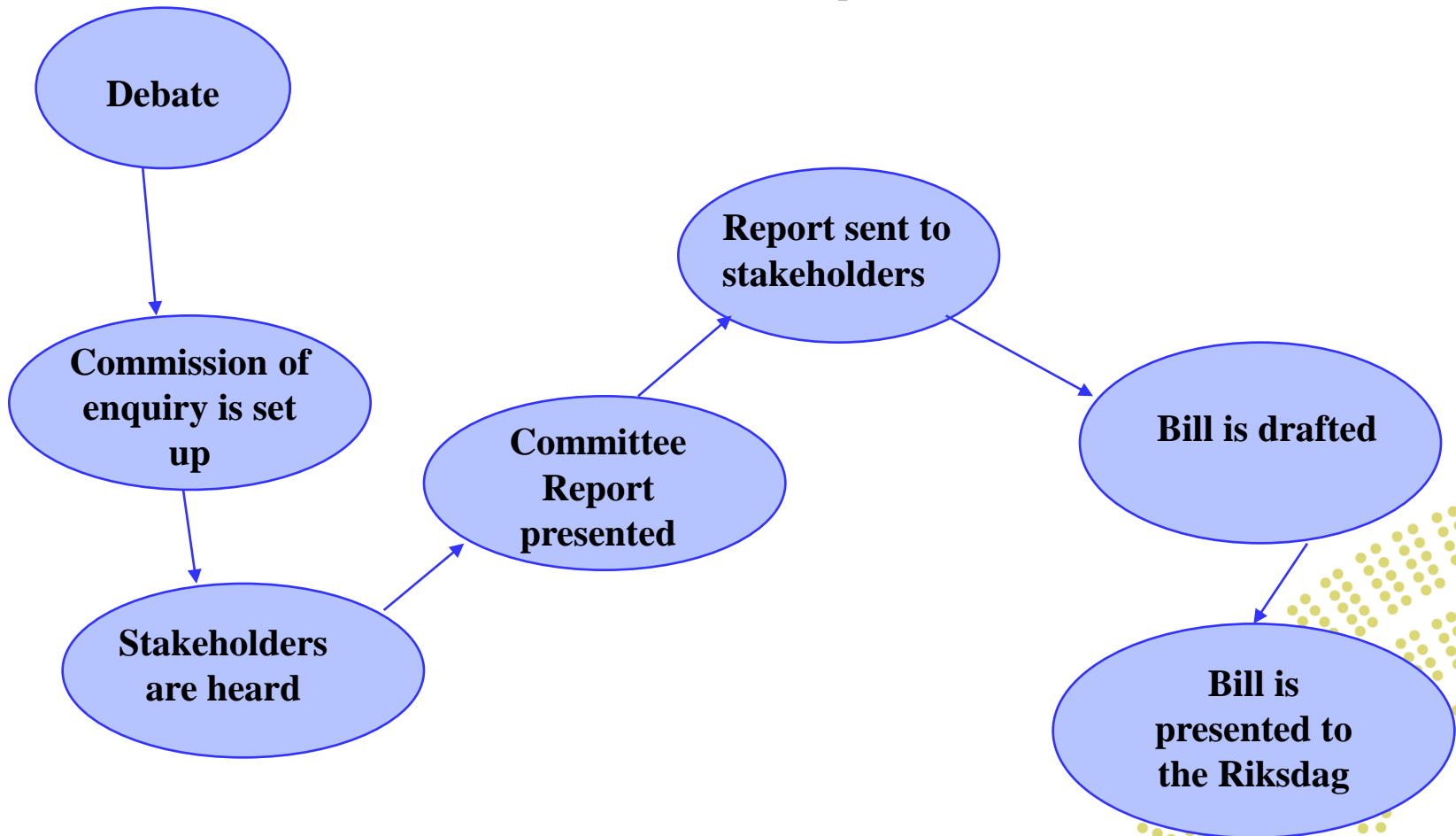


Major factors that have influenced the Research Service

- Complexity of modern society
- EU and globalization
- Ideology < facts
- Politics and the media
- The information revolution



When do we enter the equation?



Main objectives

- Impartial (non-partisan)
- Objective (scientific ideals)
- Reliable
- Service but...
- with strong integrity



Characteristic for the Research Service:

- Competent and qualified staff
- Specialists and generalists
- Flexible and intelligent
- Skilled and experienced



Characteristic for the state apparatus...

- Pyramid with few people in the top
- Ministries are comparatively small
- **Independent** agencies are very strong in size and resources
- Strong ethical code among civil service



The budget – a special process

- Regulated by separate law - installed after economic crisis
- Expenditure ceiling upper limit for the expenditure of government.



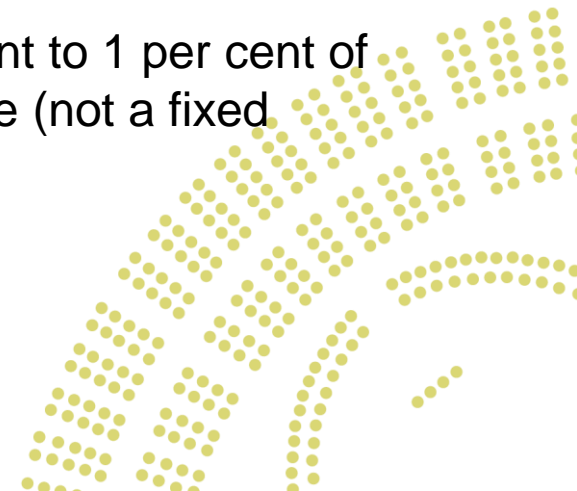
- Prohibits that taxes are raised so as to finance expenditures (which are then difficult to cut).



The surplus target...



The general government sector's net saving is to amount to 1 per cent of GDP on average over the course of a business cycle (not a fixed concept).



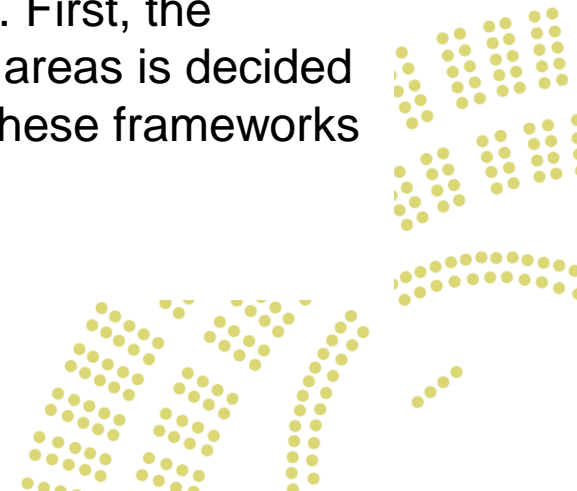
The budget is in fact two budgets...




In the spring the Riksdag adopts a position on the long-term orientation of economic and budget policy (the Spring Fiscal Policy Bill)



In the autumn the Riksdag takes a decision on the central government budget for the coming year. First, the frameworks for the various expenditure areas is decided and, second, the appropriations within these frameworks are determined (the Budget Bill)



The political side...

- The governments budget proposal meets coherent opposition proposals (i.e. majority adopts all or nothing)
 - Appropriations within an expenditure area can be changed, but total has to be constant
 - Budget discipline is kept even in times of austerity
 - Research service has the same model for calculating budgetary effects
- 

The Swedish budget process...



Research Service register - RutUpp

2013:748	Index till årsboken	2013-10-01	F
2013:747	[ECPRD] New request #2295 "Ban on begging "	2013-05-27	F
2013:746	Utility (and indirectly the impact) of ECPRD compara	2013-07-31	F
2013:745	Reformer universitet, högskola och forskning	2013-05-20	V
2013:744	Protokollsföring i olika europeiska parlament	2013-08-15	F
2013:743	Undantag lärarlegitimation	2013-05-15	V
2013:742	Årtiondet för utbildning för hållbar utveckling	2013-05-22	F
2013:741	Internationella mätningar	2013-05-22	V
2013:740	Föräldraförsäkringsregler i olika länder	2013-05-21	V
2013:739	Företagens sjuklöneansvar	2013-05-21	EA
2013:738	[ECPRD] New request #2293 "Linguistic requirement	2013-05-16	F
2013:737	Miljökrav och upphandlingar	2013-05-27	F
2013:736	Tredjelandsstudenter	2013-05-20	V
2013:735	Förskolan	2013-05-23	V
2013:734	Subvention på tandvård	2013-05-21	EA
2013:733	Internationaliseringen av skolan	2013-05-22	V
2013:732	Utvecklingen av skolans innehåll	2013-05-22	V
2013:731	Skolan och hållbar utveckling	2013-05-22	V
2013:730	Förändrat ROT avdrag	2013-05-15	EA
2013:729	Tidningar i Kronoberg	2013-05-28	F
2013:728	Arbetsmarknaden	2013-05-20	V

Thanks
!

