Vellenes Fellesorganisasjon

Lokal beredskap - Verdien av frivillighet

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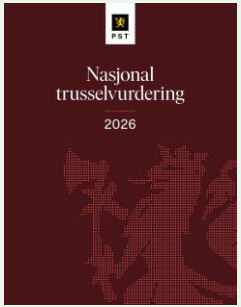
The 2026 threat assessments collected

- The most serious security situation since World War II
- The security situation is persistent and complex
- This is not “one crisis”, but a new normal.



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Norwegian municipalities

- 357 municipalities in Norway
- Democratic arena: local elections
- **Welfare services:** Main provider of welfare services such as primary and secondary schools, kindergartens, health and care.
- **Local services:** Responsibility for local services such as water, sewage, waste management, municipal roads and fire and accident protection.

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The role of municipalities in security policy crisis/war

- Ensure the safety and security of residents
- Maintain basic municipal services

What do municipalities contribute to in crises?

- Fire and Rescue Service
- Medical on-call – primary health care – psychosocial crisis teams – for follow-up of injured persons and relatives
- Evacuation and Evacuation and Relatives Center (EPS)
- Shelter
- Local emergency response organization in all phases of emergency response work
- Communication and cooperation with other agencies and volunteers
- Information to the population
- Effort factors – access to and distribution of supplies
- Infrastructure – water and sewage, roads, communications
- Maintenance
- Clean-up after an incident
- Normalization – reconstruction of community functions, infrastructure, etc.

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Non-profit organizations in Norway

- 100,000 organizations.
- Over 6 out of 10 volunteer every year.
- The value of the effort corresponds to 107 billion kroner (according to Statistics Norway).
- Almost 4 out of 5 citizens are members of an organization, and half of them in two or more.
- High trust in voluntary organizations.

  = A good starting point!

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The value of non-profit organizations

- More than traditional emergency response organizations
  - Red Cross, Norwegian People's Aid – but also rural women's associations, neighborhood associations
- Local knowledge
  - Knowledge about people, resources and places
- Democratic emergency response
  - Volunteering builds trust, dialogue and participation
- Start in a normal situation
  - Relationships, roles and agreements must be established before the crisis

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Municipal emergency response councils

A contingency planning council is a cross-sectoral forum that brings together key stakeholders to coordinate public safety and crisis management, most often at the municipal level. The council coordinates efforts between the police, health, fire services, voluntary organizations and business to prevent and handle unwanted incidents.

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Ringerike municipality

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Collaboration is key