





## Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs

The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs was established in 1982, at which time it was called the Ministry of Culture and Scientific Affairs. The Ministry has had various titles and areas of responsibility over the years. Since 1 January 2002, it has been responsible for matters relating to culture, church affairs, the media, sport, gaming and lotteries.



The Minister's office, Akersgaten 59, fifth floor

Edvard Munch "På verandaen. Regnveir", Per Inge Bjørlo "Heads from Balance"

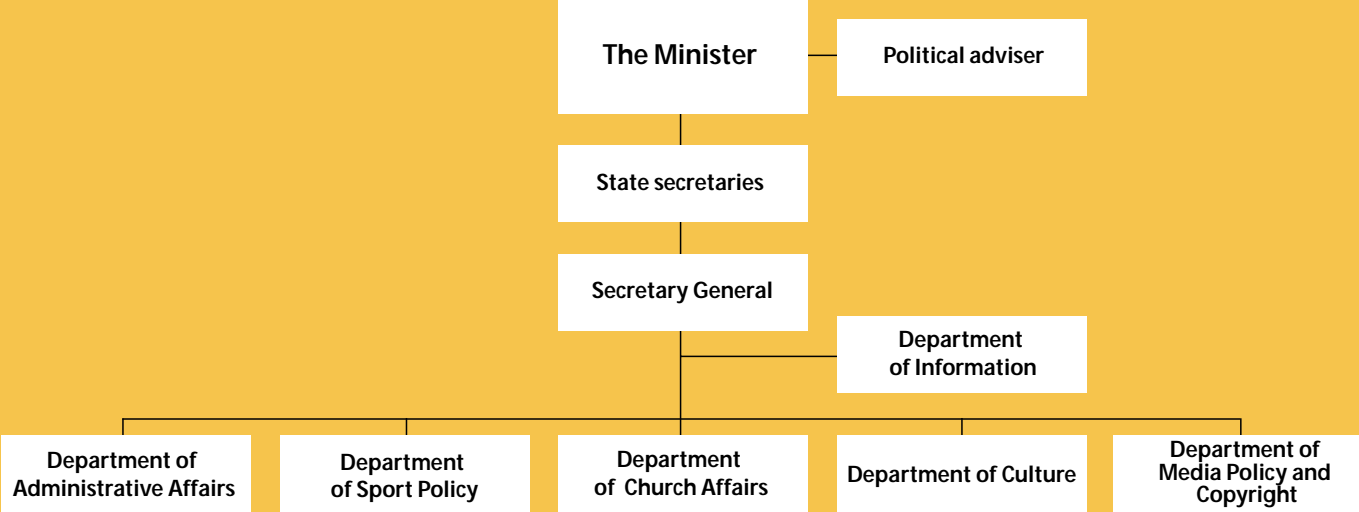
### **ADMINISTRATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MINISTRY**

The Minister of Culture and Church Affairs heads the Ministry. The Minister has two state secretaries and a political adviser to assist in political activities. The Secretary General is responsible for the administration of the Ministry. The Ministry consists of four specialized departments, a Department of Administrative Affairs, an Archive and a Department of Information (2003).

The Ministry is the secretariat for the Minister of Culture and Church Affairs and prepares documents for the Storting and background material for the Minister. The Ministry implements political resolutions and supervises the activities of subordinate enterprises.



**ORGANISATION CHART**



## **BUDGET**

The Ministry's most important instruments for achieving political goals are allocations from the state budget, legislation and regulations.

The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs is responsible for a total budget of approximately NOK 5 billion. The Ministry also administers gaming profits from Norsk Tipping AS, which are allocated for cultural and sports purposes. The Ministry presents annual proposals for the amount of the licence fee paid to the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK). Licence revenues amount to some NOK 3.5 billion a year and are the NRK's main source of income.

While the municipal authorities have the main responsibility for financing the operating costs of churches, the state allocates funds for the clergy. Consequently, approximately one third of the operating costs of the Church of Norway are allocated from the Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs' budget.





The Minister's conference room

Solrunn Rones "I mykt lys"; Eirik Gjødrem "Korpus"





The Minister's secretariat

### **SUPERVISION OF AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SUBORDINATE ENTERPRISES**

The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs has a number of subordinate agencies and enterprises to implement political resolutions. The subordinate agencies are largely supervised by the Ministry's specialized departments.

Financial support for subordinate agencies and enterprises is provided in various ways. Some institutions are state-owned and all their operating costs are covered directly from the state budget. Other institutions are grant-based and the state is responsible for all or parts of their official funding. For node institutions and regional institutions, the state covers either 60 or 70 per cent of the ordinary official operating grant, while the region covers the rest. There is also a state grant scheme for museums which is administered by the county authorities. In the area of culture and the media, there are also a number of grant schemes that are largely administered by subordinate enterprises.



The State Secretary's office

Painting by Kai Fjell "Frieren"



Ervin Löffler "Delt form"



The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs, Akersgaten 59



Ervin Löffler "Cellospiller"



Kjersti Wexelsen Goksøy "Enhet"

## **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Most of the Ministry's areas of responsibility entail extensive activity at the international level. As a result of the EEA Agreement, legislation that applies to the EU internal market has consequences in Norway, particularly in relation to the media and copyright law. The Ministry participates in EU programmes to support culture and film production.

The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs has important tasks in the field of international cultural cooperation and is responsible for promoting foreign culture in Norway, while the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for presenting Norwegian art and culture outside Norway. Cultural cooperation between the Nordic countries takes place under the auspices of the Nordic Council of Ministers.





From the Department of Sport Policy

Per Palle Storm "Rolf Hofmo"



From the Department of Administrative Affairs

Hanne May Scheen "Gule fjell"



Reception

Johan-Fredrik Arntzen "Båt og bølger i genene", Tone Thiis Schjetne "Etter badet"



The Department of Sport Policy conference room





From the Department of Administrative Affairs



From the Department of Media Policy and Copyright



From the Department of Church Affairs



Meeting at the Department of Culture

## DEPARTMENTS:

The main task of the *Department of Culture* is to develop and implement national cultural policy and administer and govern national cultural institutions. Another important task is to maintain and further develop knowledge of cultural life in Norway.

The Department is responsible for general cultural issues, policy relating to artists, music, theatre and opera, pictorial art, applied art and design, language and literature, and archives, libraries and museums.

The Department is engaged in major planning, construction and development projects, including the new national opera house project. It is responsible for many national institutions, such as the Nor. Council for Cultural Affairs, the Nor. Archive, Library and Museum Authority, the Natl. Archives, the Natl. Library, the Natl. Gallery, the Natl. Museum of Contemporary Art, the Nat. Touring Exhibitions, the Natl. Foundation for Art in Public Buildings, the Nor. Concert Institute, the National Touring Theatre, the Nor. Library of Talking Books and Braille, the Nor. Language Council. The Department also administers state grants for a large number of theatres, orchestras and museums.

*The Department of Media Policy and Copyright* is responsible for media policy issues, broadcasting, newspapers, films and copyright. The goal of media policy is to ensure freedom of expression as a prerequisite for active popular government. The instruments used to regulate the media are legislation, regulations and grant schemes. The Department is responsible for the Broadcasting Act and associated regulations, and the Act relating to supervision of the acquisition of newspaper and broadcasting enterprises (the Media Ownership Act) and the Act relating to films and videograms.

The Department of Media Policy and Copyright is also responsible for regulations and international agreements relating to copyright. The regulations in this area are intended to promote the production and dissemination of intellectual property by safeguarding the interests of rights-owners in a digital age. Press subsidies, in the form of official grants, are intended to help maintain a diversified newspaper market. To ensure good, all-round, Nor. audio-visual media, grants are also provided for the development and production of films, television drama and project development in new media. The Department is also responsible for the Nor. Broadcasting Corporation, and is engaged in far-reaching international cooperation.

*The Department of Administrative Affairs* is responsible for managing the Ministry. It deals with matters relating to gaming and lotteries, personnel, pay and working conditions, information technology, accounting and budgetary affairs for the entire Ministry. It also coordinates consultations, international affairs and work on the annual budget proposition. The Department has overarching responsibility for the state lotteries run by Norsk Tipping AS and for regulating gaming and lotteries run by private organizations. The Nor. Gaming administers the Lottery Act. The Department is also responsible for grant schemes for religious and belief communities.

*The Department of Sport Policy:* The aim of all the activities of The Department of Sport Policy is to ensure that as many people as possible have the opportunity to engage in sport and physical activity. Children and young people are important target groups. Disabled persons must also be given the opportunity to participate in physical activity in their local community. The Department contributes towards the planning, prioritizing, construction and rehabilitation of facilities for sport and outdoor activities.

The Department administers the part of the profit from Norsk Tipping AS that is allocated for sport. Most of these funds are allocated for municipal sports facilities and to the Norwegian Olympic Committee and Confederation of Sports (NIF).

The Department follows up the International Anti-Doping Arrangement (IADA). Norway has also acceded to the Council of Europe's Anti-Doping Convention.

*The work of the Department of Church Affairs* is related to the Ministry's responsibility and authority arising from the fact the Norway has a state church. It includes providing an organizational and financial framework in which the Church of Norway can exist and act as a confessional, serving, missionary and open folk church. The Department is responsible for the administration of comprehensive church legislation and regulations, including the Church Act, the Funeral Act, the Act relating to the Church Property Fund and the Act relating to public holidays. The Department also has administrative responsibility for the clergy, bishops, diocesan councils, the Church of Norway National Council, the Restoration of Nidaros Cathedral, the Seminary for Practical Theology and the Church Property Fund. The Department is also responsible for foreign war graves in Norway and for Norwegian war graves abroad.



Reception at the Department of Sport Policy, Grubbegata 1, first floor

Anita Tjensland "London", Ingebjørg Une Hagen "Renn"



From the Department of Sport Policy

Nils Aas "Hjalmar Andersen - Hjallis"



The Department of Sport Policy, Grubbegata 1



From the Department of Sport Policy

Per Ung "Sonja Henie"



From the Department of Sport Policy

Nils Aas "Grete Waitz"





From the Department of Church Affairs



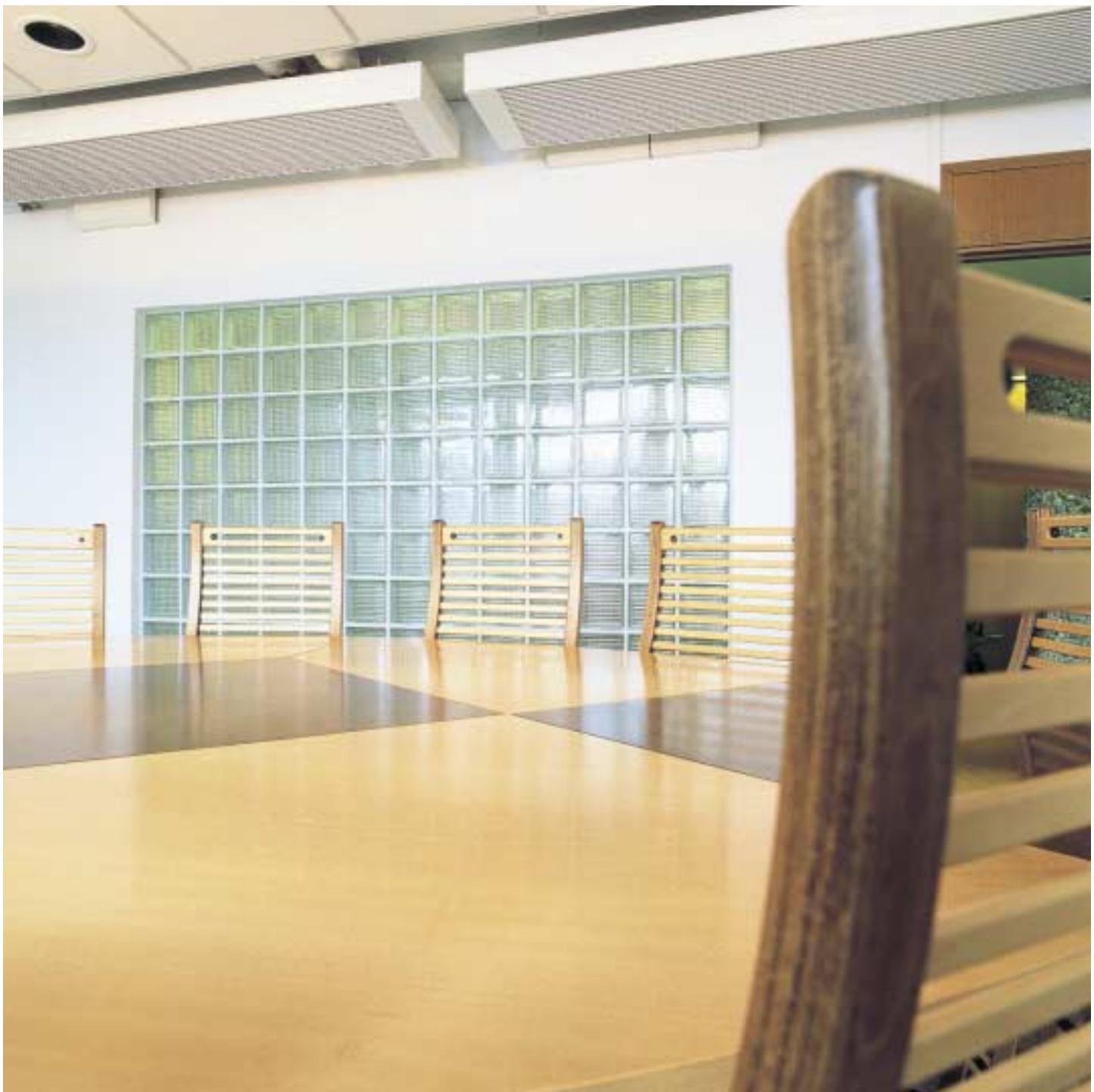
Corridor in the Department of Church Affairs



The Department of Church Affairs, Akersgaten 44



The Department of Church Affairs archives



The Department of Church Affairs conference room



## MAJOR PROJECTS AND AREAS OF FOCUS

**NEW OPERA HOUSE:** In spring 1999 the Storting adopted a resolution to build a new opera house at Bjørvika, Oslo. The construction of a new national opera is currently the largest single cultural project in Norway. The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs has the main cultural policy responsibility for implementation of the project, while the Directorate of Public Construction and Property is responsible for construction. The open international architectural competition that took place in autumn 1999 – spring 2000 was won by a Norwegian firm of architects, Snøhetta. The budget for the project was adopted in spring 2002 and construction began in winter 2003. The opera house is scheduled to be completed in time for the inaugural performance and ordinary operations in autumn 2008. It will be located on the waterfront at Bjørvika, a central site in the Port of Oslo. It is designed as an independent project but will, in the longer term, be a leading architectural element in the urban development of this area.

When the Storting adopted the resolution to build a new opera house at Bjørvika, it also adopted a resolution to develop a model for production and promotion of opera and dance in Norway. The Norwegian National Opera will be a driving force in the nationwide development of these art forms.

**NORGE 2005 AS:** Norway will be celebrating its first centenary as an independent nation in 2005. Norge 2005 AS, a subordinate company for which the Ministry is responsible, will develop and implement the official programme in connection with the centenary celebrations. It will also monitor, and as far as is appropriate, coordinate other official and private initiatives that are taken prior to the 2005 celebrations.

**ARCHIVES, LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS:** The Ministry is responsible for following up the Report to the Storting relating to archives, libraries and museums, which outlines a number of principles and measures to upgrade and further develop this sector. State allocations to cover operating costs will be increased over a five-year period. A joint development and coordinating body, the Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority, was established on 1 January 2003. Important elements in the follow-up process include safeguarding the nation's common heritage in the electronic age. Through digital communication, access to both archive-based source materials and generally available information resources will become easier. The National Archives and the National

Library are key institutions in this process.

Over a five-year period, a nationwide reform aims to change the fragmented museum landscape. The goal is to achieve strong regional institutions with a high level of professional expertise. In the longer term, all museums will be linked in a national network. The Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority has the main responsibility for implementing the reform, which is otherwise taking place on the basis of discussions with county authorities, the museums themselves and the municipalities in which they are located.

In December 2002, the Storting adopted a resolution to establish a National Museum of Art. The National Museum will initially comprise the activities of the National Gallery, the National Museum of Contemporary Art, the Museum of Applied Art in Oslo and the Norwegian Museum of Architecture.

There are plans to incorporate the National Touring Exhibitions, Norway, and the Henie-Onstad Kunstsenter into the institution at a later date. The National Museum will have its main base in the Tullinløkka area. The planned development of the site, including a new building, will take place in stages until it is finally completed in time for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of modern Norway in 2014.

**KULTURNETT NORGE** is the official Internet portal for information about Norwegian cultural life. Responsibility for the operation and further development of Norway's cultural website has been assigned to the newly-established Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority from 1 January 2003. Further information may be found at: [www.kulturnett.no](http://www.kulturnett.no).

**THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR ARTS AND EDUCATION** is a joint project between the Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Research. The aim of the programme is give pupils in primary and lower secondary schools the opportunity to become acquainted with and develop a positive relationship to artistic and cultural expression. Art and culture will be included in the objectives of the educational system. From 2005 onwards, approx. NOK 180 million will be allocated annually for this purpose. More information may be found at: [www.denkulturelleskolesekken.no](http://www.denkulturelleskolesekken.no).

**PUBLIC SPACES, ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN:** Our physical surroundings, from the natural environment to buildings and public spaces in towns and cities, help to form our cultural

identity. The state is responsible for a considerable amount of construction and therefore has an important role to play as a model for and promoter of the development of high quality physical surroundings and products. Public spaces, architecture and design constitute a long-term priority area. These activities are coordinated by Norsk Form, the Norwegian Museum of Architecture and the National Foundation for Art in Public Buildings.

**DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL NETWORK:** The development of a digital terrestrial television network is one of the more complex projects. In future, a digital network will provide opportunities for broadband services in rural areas. Digital radio broadcasting is also a demanding area where many issues still have to be investigated and clarified.

**PROGRAMME FOR SPORTS FACILITIES:** The Ministry intends to implement several short-term programmes in addition to those covered by the ordinary channels for gaming funds. These programmes will comprise: innovation and development of sports facilities, increased provision of sports facilities in densely populated areas, coordinated development of certain large, costly facilities, and the possibility of allocating grants from gaming funds for specific types of equipment.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** In autumn 2002, the Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs submitted a Report to the Storting relating to reform of the Catechumenical Programme of the Church of Norway. This reform will entail systematic development of religious education in the Church of Norway to cover all persons who have been christened. The recommended course will comprise 315 hours of tuition from the time a child is christened until it reaches the age of 18, including 45 hours of preparation for confirmation. It is proposed that the reform be implemented over a period of 5-10 years and have a budget of approximately NOK 250 million.

**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHURCH AND STATE:** In the budget proposition for 2003, the Government gave notice that an official committee would be established to consider the relationship between the church and the state. The study will provide a basis for making a decision about whether Norway's state church arrangement will be maintained, reformed or abolished. The committee will submit its report by the end of 2005.



## **ART AT THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND CHURCH AFFAIRS**

The Ministry has emphasized the importance of decorating its premises with works of art. When it moved into the new government building in 1996, it purchased works by pictorial and applied artists. The Ministry has also borrowed works from the National Gallery, the National Museum of Contemporary Art and Galleri Format – the Norwegian Association for Arts and Crafts. An agreement with the Association of Norwegian Sculptors and the Association of Norwegian Printmakers, under which the Ministry leases sculptures and prints, also gives staff and visitors the opportunity to enjoy art every day. The leased pictures are changed every eighteen months.

## **OFFICES AND PERSONNEL**

The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs has offices at three addresses.

The Minister, the Department of Culture, the Department of Media Policy and Copyright and the Department of Administrative Affairs have offices in Akersgaten 59.

The Department of Sport Policy has offices in Grubbegata 1.

The Department of Church Affairs has offices in Akersgaten 44 (the Y block).

The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs has just over 140 employees (2003).

Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs  
P. O. Box 8030 Dep.  
0030 Oslo  
Norway

**MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND CHURCH AFFAIRS WEBSITE:**  
[odin.dep.no/kkd](http://odin.dep.no/kkd)

Further information that may be found on the Odin website:

History of the Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs  
<http://odin.dep.no/kkd/engelsk/ministry/>

List of subordinate enterprises:  
<http://odin.dep.no/kkd/norsk/dep/lenker/043031-990015/>

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Per Inge Bjørlo (Museum for Samtidskunst), Tone Thils Schjetne, Kai Fjell (Nasjonalgalleriet), Kjersti Wexelsen Goksøyr,  
Per Palle Storm, Hanne May Scheen, Johan-Fredrik Arntzen, Ingebjørg Une Hagen, Nils Aas, Nico Widerberg / BONO 2003

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Erling Saatvedt  
Solrunn Rones, Museum for Samtidskunst  
Eirik Gjedrem  
Ervin Løffler  
Anita Tjensland  
Per Ung



AKERSGATEN 59

REGJERINGSKVARTALET

Arbeids- og administrasjonsdepartementet  
Barne- og familiedepartementet  
Kommunal- og regionaldepartementet  
Kultur- og kirkedepartementet  
Landbruksdepartementet  
Samferdselsdepartementet



**KULTUR- OG KIRKEDEPARTEMENTET**

*Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs*