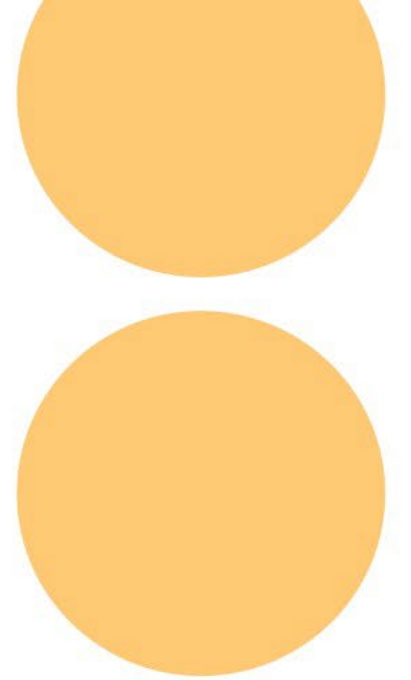




Yhteiskunta-alan
korkeakoulutetut ry

SOCIAL SCIENCE PROFESSIONALS

Simo Pöyhönen
29.3.2022



A BRIEF HISTORY

- Founded 1947 as a Society of Political Science Candidates (Univ. of Helsinki)
- A founding member of AKAVA
- Rapid growth from the start of the 1990s till ~2010, still growing but the rate of growth declining
- Degree-based (but not narrowly) union, probably the only "colleague union" of Samfunnsviterne in the whole world
- About 13000 members (2200 students)





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OUR VISION AND MISSION

Social Science Professionals is a pioneer of trade unions of the new era.

Every social science professional is able to build a meaningful career in their own way and balance work and personal life in a suitable way.

We are our members' partner in their careers, and we support their development, career opportunities and rights so that they can focus on their work.



OUR VALUES

Equity

We know our responsibility as experts on society and promote equity and equality in working life and all of society. We acknowledge our members' different life situations and treasure the trust in the fairness of our work.

Courage

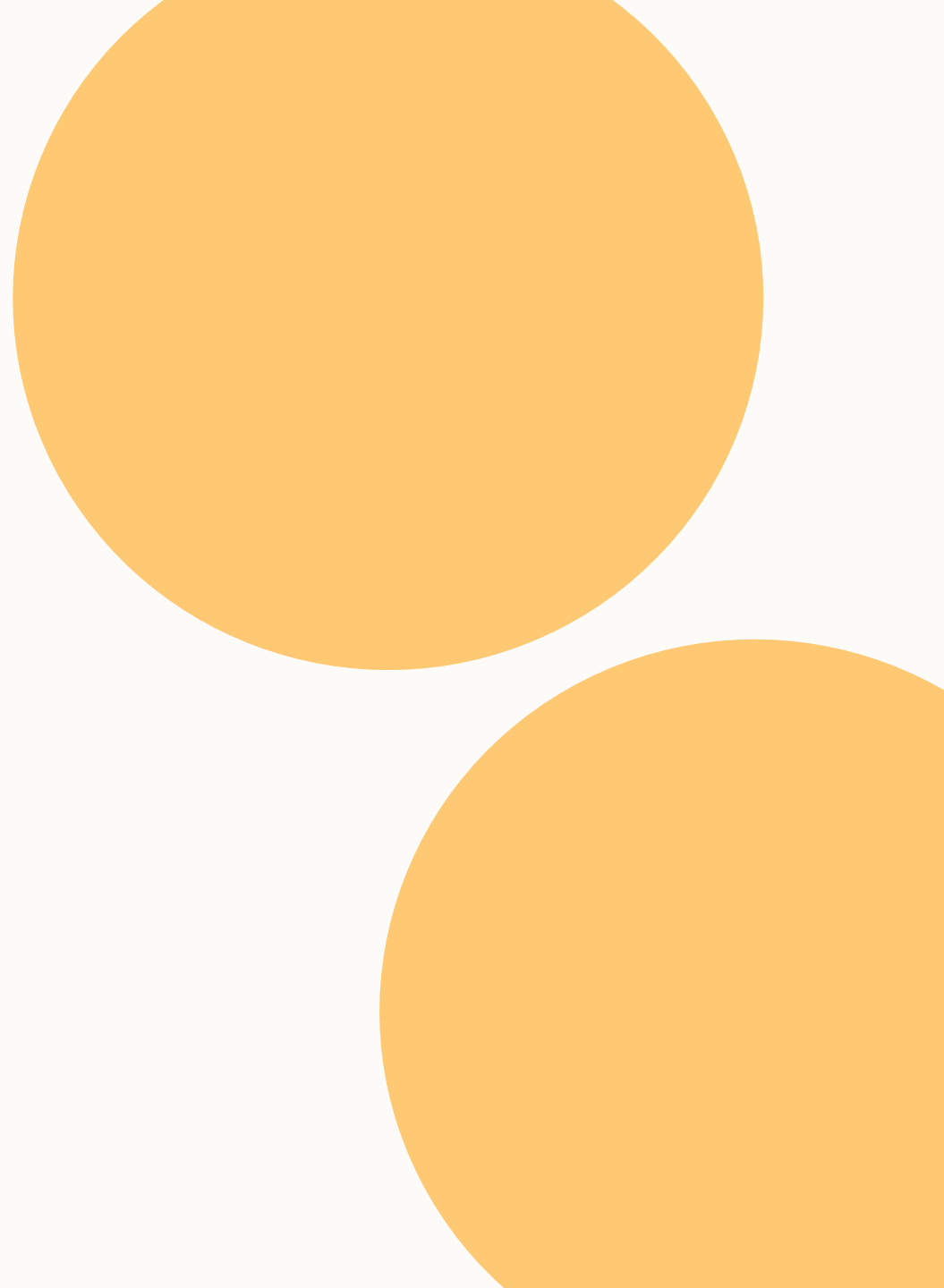
YKA actively participates in social dialogue and influences society. We bring forward new initiatives bravely, we propose different options and we strive for real impact. We take part in developing working life and the social science field with determination. We are at the front end of the trade union movement reform and we are open to new ideas.

Transparency

Our work is open and transparent. The Unions' lobbying and aims are based on facts and research. Our decision making is based on extensive member democracy, and we develop our work based on the feedback we receive from members. We are easy to reach, and everyone is welcome to join our activities.

AS A SERVICE PROVIDER, WE PROMISE TO...

- Be our members' partner in all situations. We offer our services at good times and bad.
- Always offer expert advice quickly. We take our members' questions seriously, look into them properly, and give well-founded answers.

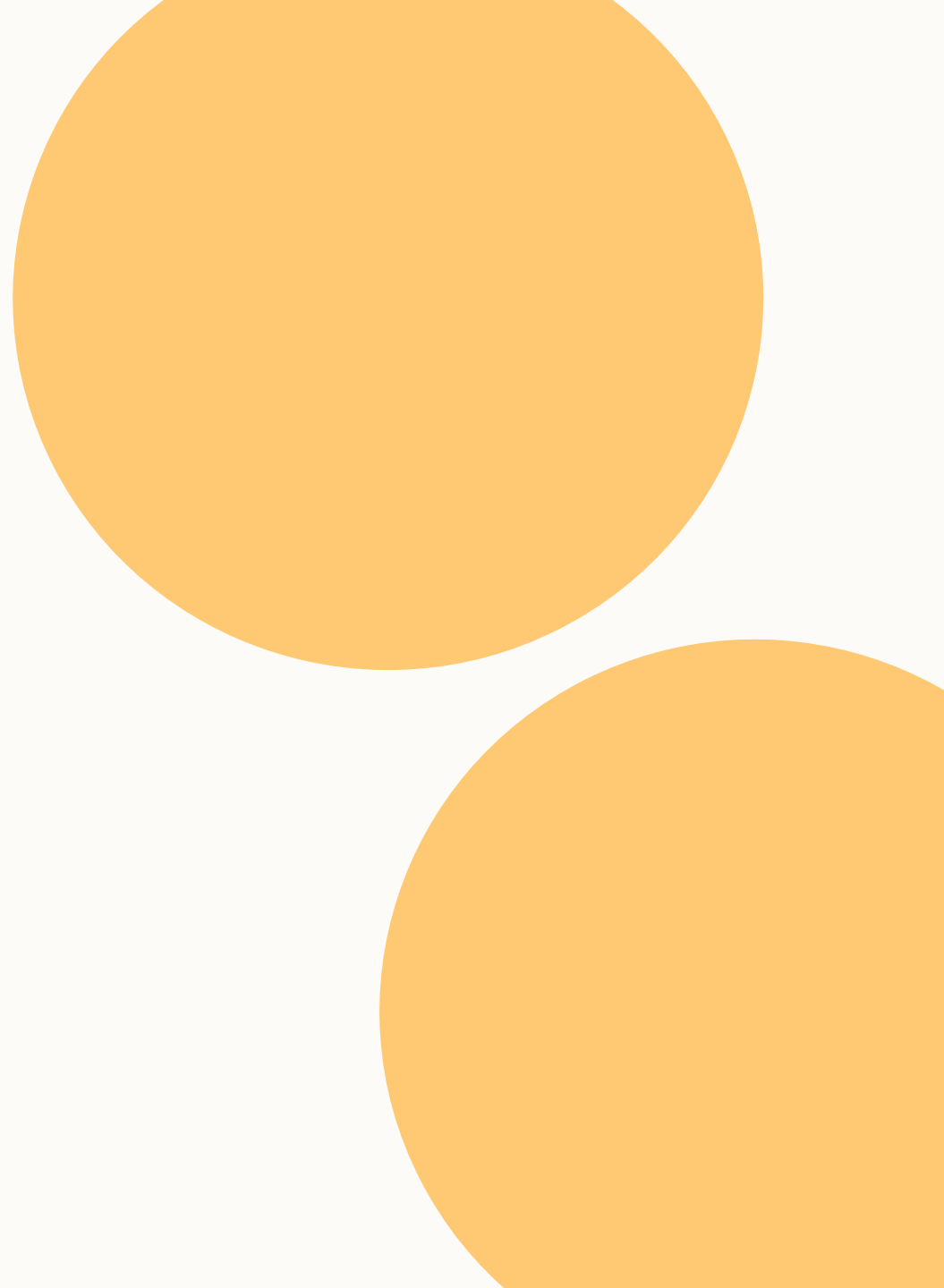


IN PROMOTING MEMBERS' INTERESTS, WE PROMISE TO...

- Strive to give all our members a chance to have a good life
- Actively develop and renew Finnish working life, actively in the Akava community and in the trade union movement as a whole
- We commit to presenting concrete solutions and new initiatives – always striving for a solution. We are.
- Actively follow the changes taking place in working life and be at the forefront of developing new practices.
- Promote equity and equality in working life. Understand the importance that the wider interests of society have to our members.
- Encourage our members to participate in the Union's activities and the local lobbying activities at their place of work.

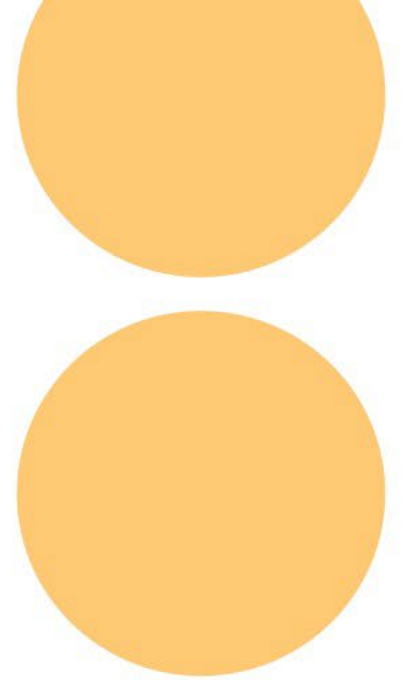
WHEN DEVELOPING OUR ACTIONS, WE PROMISE TO...

- Acknowledge feedback from members and develop our activities in line with the feedback.
- We assess our activities and services regularly and systematically.
- Know our members and be prepared to develop our activities in line with our members' requirements.
- Look after our staff members' skills in order to be able to offer our members a good service.
- Strengthen our members' community spirit and pride for their field. Make social scientists' skills more visible on all available channels and forums.



OUR STEREOTYPIC MEMBER

- A typical training background for members a university degree in political or social science, administration, humanities or pedagogics
- 70 % of our members are women
- Median age 40 years
- About 31 % employed by the state, 20 % by municipalities, 19 % by companies, 15 % societies and foundations, 12 % universities
- The share of fixed-term contracts about 22 %
- 60 % live and/or work in the greater Helsinki area
- Avg of 39 working hours per week
- Median wage 4300 €
- Unemployment rate ~3,5 %





SOME CHALLENGES

- Demands-demands-demands of services
- Right now: Strike warnings at municipal sector – not only a fight between employers and employees, also a huge debate between unions
- Disruption of working life
- Declining membership rate
- The future of tripartitism and CBA's?



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