

Nordic Geopolitical Shifts, Economic Forecasts, and Innovation Frontiers: A H

Nordic Affairs · Answer Key · 17 Questions

1. As of early 2025, which Nordic country is projected by Oxford Economics to experience a slowdown in economic growth, albeit remaining above potential?

- A) Sweden
- B) Finland
- C) Denmark**
- D) Norway

2. What significant defense cooperation agreement, signed in April 2024, marked a new era for Nordic defense, aiming to enhance deterrence and defense capabilities?

- A) Nordic Security Pact 2030
- B) Vision for Nordic Defence Cooperation 2030**
- C) Arctic Defense Initiative
- D) Northern European Alliance Treaty

3. Which Nordic country is highlighted for its innovations in electric mobility, AI startups, and health technologies in late 2024, with Oslo noted as a trailblazer in electrifying its transportation system?

- A) Sweden
- B) Finland
- C) Iceland
- D) Norway**

4. In January 2025, Nordic Defense Ministers met in Helsinki under the Finnish chairship of NORDEFECO. What key document, signed in April 2024, was central to their discussion regarding a new level of ambition for the cooperation?

- A) The Helsinki Accord
- B) The Vision for Nordic Defence Cooperation 2030**
- C) The Northern European Security Framework
- D) The Arctic Resilience Strategy

5. According to The Nordic Sustainable Development Report 2025, which of the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) do the Nordic countries face significant challenges with, particularly relating to lifestyle choices and production patterns?

- A) SDG 1 (No Poverty)
- B) SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)**
- C) SDG 4 (Quality Education)
- D) SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions)

6. In early 2025, the Nordic countries continued to strengthen their role as global leaders in innovation. Which of the following cities is NOT explicitly mentioned as a thriving hub for entrepreneurs and investors in this context?

- A) Stockholm
- B) Copenhagen
- C) Oslo
- D) Reykjavik**

7. Regarding the Nordic energy sector's transition, which technology is identified as emerging and crucial for aggregating flexible loads like EVs and heat pumps, though not yet widely deployed or scaled in the Nordics?

- A) Advanced geothermal energy
- B) Virtual power plants (VPPs)**
- C) Small modular nuclear reactors
- D) Biofuel synthesis reactors

8. In the context of Arctic security in late 2025, what geopolitical event involving Finland and Sweden is highlighted as exemplifying momentum towards deeper Nordic integration in security domains?

- A) Their joint application for EU membership
- B) Their accession to NATO**
- C) Their signing of a mutual defense treaty
- D) Their participation in a UN peacekeeping mission

9. As of early 2025, what percentage of electricity in the Nordic countries is reported to be fossil-free, positioning them as leaders in sustainable energy?

- A) 75%
- B) 85%
- C) 96%**
- D) 99%

10. Which Nordic country is implementing a 'restrictive approach' towards Chinese activity in the High North, as outlined in its September 2025 strategy, citing concerns about research and infrastructure investments?

- A) Finland
- B) Sweden
- C) Denmark
- D) Norway**

11. The Nordic Sustainable Construction 2025-2027 program aims to make construction greener, more circular, and digital. Which country is coordinating the 'EU focus' aspect of this initiative?

- A) Denmark
- B) Finland
- C) Iceland
- D) Sweden**

12. In March 2024, Denmark announced a collaboration with NVIDIA to create a national center for what type of innovation, aiming to revolutionize its technological landscape?

- A) Quantum computing
- B) Artificial intelligence (AI)**
- C) Biotechnology
- D) Blockchain technology

13. According to SEB's macroeconomic forecast (November 2025), which factor is expected to be a primary driver for Sweden's economic recovery in 2026 and 2027, alongside reduced taxes?

- A) Increased defense spending
- B) Government infrastructure projects
- C) Household consumption**
- D) Export growth to China

14. What is the primary goal of the Nordic Defence Cooperation (NORDEF) established in 2009, especially in light of recent changes to the European security situation?

- A) To create a unified Nordic currency
- B) To collectively manage cyber warfare threats
- C) To increase defense capabilities and enhance joint action in crises**
- D) To establish a common Nordic space program

15. Norway faces the challenge of phasing out its petroleum industry and developing new industries based on sustainable energy sources, with a commitment to becoming climate-neutral by what year?

- A) 2030
- B) 2035
- C) 2040
- D) 2050**

16. Which Nordic country is highlighted for its innovative brain imaging service, Myndspan, that uses non-invasive technology to measure electrical signals between neurons?

- A) Sweden
- B) Denmark
- C) Finland**
- D) Norway

17. The Nordic economies are expected to undergo significant monetary policy easing in 2025, following a period of high interest rates. What is the main reason cited for this easing?

- A) Rising unemployment rates
- B) Decreasing inflation below the 2% target**
- C) A sudden drop in global commodity prices
- D) Increased foreign investment