



Candidate for

**Director – Development**

**Freddy Tønnesen**

Mensa Sweden

## Campaign statement

As a candidate for the position of International Director-Development for Mensa International, I, Freddy Tønnesen, envision creating a global platform for Mensans to thrive in their professional endeavors. Inspired by the dream of establishing an international network akin to a worldwide job board, my focus is on fostering connections that go beyond organizational growth. I am committed to providing Mensa members with opportunities to collaborate, innovate, and excel in their respective fields on a global scale.

## Biography

Freddy Tønnesen, a Swedish engineer with a master's in Science (Engineering), is vying for the role of International Director-Development for Mensa International. Notably, I have been honored with the Kronan Scholarship for my outstanding thesis work. With a diverse professional background encompassing military systems maintenance and leadership in the food tech industry, I am poised to bring a unique skill set and perspective to this role.

## Answers to IBD questions

### 1. What do you see as the most important aspect of the role for which you are standing?

The paramount aspect of the International Director-Development role lies in cultivating widespread relationships with organizations and companies. Establishing a broad network is crucial for Mensa International's growth in both membership and influence. Moreover, I am dedicated to creating a global platform that connects Mensans professionally, fostering collaboration and innovation.

### 2. Why have you volunteered for this role, and what in particular qualifies you for it?

I am volunteering for the International Director-Development position driven by a passion to elevate Mensa International's global presence. My experience in engineering, entrepreneurship, and leadership uniquely positions me to forge connections and drive organizational growth. Furthermore, my vision includes the creation of an international platform for Mensans to collaborate and excel in their professional pursuits.

### 3. What do you see as the most important issues facing international Mensa at the present time and in the next few years?

The looming challenge for Mensa International is the potential misuse of AI in IQ testing, posing a threat to the organization's integrity. Vigilance in monitoring technological advancements, especially in smart devices, is crucial to safeguarding the credibility of Mensa's testing processes.

Simultaneously, I aim to address the need for an international platform that connects Mensans professionally, fostering a global community of collaboration and innovation.

### 4. What do you wish to achieve during your term of office?

During my term, I aspire to solidify Mensa International's relationships with organizations and companies globally. I aim to not only increase membership but also enhance our influence in the face of emerging challenges, such as the ethical use of AI in intelligence testing.

Additionally, I am dedicated to realizing the vision of a global platform for Mensans, providing opportunities for professional growth, collaboration, and innovation on an international scale. By leveraging the Mensa contact network, my goal is to fortify the organization's position on the international stage and empower members in their professional journeys.