







**European Regional Development Fund** 



## "Filling the EU-Sápmi knowledge gaps"









FINNMARK FYLKESKOMMUNE FINNMÁRKKU FYLKKAGIELDA

















The 1992 Saami Council Conference declaration stated that the Sámi peoples' position within the European Union must be part of the potential membership by Norway, Sweden and Finland in the EU. Sweden and Finland became EU members in 1995, while Norway declined EU membership in a national referendum in 1994. All Nordic countries have a close relationship with the EU regardless of membership, and EU decisions have a direct and indirect impact on the Sámi way of life. However, there have been few analytical and coordinated approaches to secure Sámi peoples' position within the EU or investigate how Sámi topics better can be included within the EU framework.









In September 2019, the Saami Council in partnership with the Suoma Sámi Nuorat recieved funding from the EU Intereg Nord program for the project *Filling the EU-Sápmi knowledge gaps*. The overall aim of the project is to strengthen the relationship between Sápmi and the EU, through the creation of a knowledge platform on EU-Sámi relevant topis, but also to develop a more strategic approach towards the EU.









- Modul based courses on relevant EU-Sápmi topics
- Trainee program
- Think-tank of Sámi experts
- Sámi Week in Brussels in 2022