

George Soros on secretive visit to Sweden

Controversial financier meets with royals, cabinet members and Sweden's most influential finance families

George Soros, international financier extra-ordinaire who can both break a country's currency and at other time display a philanthropic side by putting his mighty weight behind whole countries, visited Sweden last month.

Soros confounded Swedish media by being inaccessible and invisible during the visit, although it became known that he met with Sweden's King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia, several ministers in the Swedish government as well as representatives for a couple of Sweden's most influential financier families, Bonnier and Wallenberg.

A meeting of the financial heavy-weights in Sweden at the Stockholm School of Economics proceeded without the announced appearance of Soros.

An advocate for more lenient drug policies

The reason for the secrecy is that Soros is a very controversial person, also in Sweden, wrote Swedish newspapers. In the process of making enormous fortunes by speculating on—and breaking—several vulnerable currencies some years ago, including for instance the British pound and the Italian lira, he

probably also caused the fall of the Swedish krona.

Soros has also in recent times made himself an advocate for more lenient drug policies, since he believes the war against drugs often does more harm than the drugs themselves; Soros agrees with those who want to legalize marijuana as it can



International financier George Soros.

be used as a medicine for certain diseases, for instance. His stand on these issues could have proved troublesome to Queen Silvia, who has taken a public

stand against drugs.

An interesting footnote is also that Soros' wife, Susan Weber Soros, was recently awarded the Swedish Royal Order of the Polar Star, presumably for her work promoting Swedish culture at the Bard Graduate Center in New York, an institute founded and supported by her husband.