

## **To Sweden's "DOUBBLE" CITIZENS !!**

From the Editor's Desk.

*Lund, 25 July, 2002.* Sweden now allows persons with a permanent residence permit (PUT) who have lived here for at least five years to have dual citizenship, no questions asked. Good. Free at last.

### **But...**

Before doing it you should ask some serious questions about the tax laws in both your countries tax laws before taking on that attractive Swedish offer. I'm all for the offer, mind you, but you just might want to check out a few things before making the move.

Speak to people who should know some answers in both countries –lawyers, tax authorities, accountants and others (embassy people usually don't know the answers – right?).

Here are a few questions to think about:

- Would your "old" country automatically withdraw your citizenship once they find out you are also a double citizen?
- Does Sweden and the "old" country have a treaty against double taxation?
- Do you have to pay taxes in both countries (again) on earnings from trust funds, stocks, bonds, inheritance, dividends, real property, royalties and other income?
- How aggressive are your two countries in investigating people they want to tax?
- Could you be the target for a tax-cheat hunt by *both* countries?

Before signing on the dotted line for the extra citizenship, check out the Swedish tax information website which has published tax agreements with many nations in *pdf* format. Your old country just might be one of those without an agreement.

Their address:

**[www.rsv.se](http://www.rsv.se)**.