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## Sweden – Norway Union 1905

The Union between Sweden and Norway refers to the kingdoms of Sweden and Norway between 1814 and 1905, when they were united under one monarch, following the Convention of Moss, on August 14, and the Norwegian constitutional revision of Nov. 4. On the same day, the Norwegian parliament elected Charles XIII king of Norway.

The Act of Union, which was given royal assent on Aug. 6, 1815, was implemented differently in the two countries. In Norway it was a part of constitutional law known as Rigsakten, and in Sweden it was a set of provisions under regular law and was known as Rikssakten. The Congress of Vienna, which oversaw numerous territorial changes in post Napoleonic Europe, did not object to the union of the Norwegian and Swedish crowns.

Sweden and Norway had previously been united under the same crown on two occasions, from 1319 to 1343, and briefly from 1449 to 1450 in opposition to Christian of Oldenburg, who by the Danes, was elected king of the Kalmar Union.

Following growing dissatisfaction with the union in Norway, parliament unanimously declared its dissolution on June 7, 1905. This unilateral action met with Swedish threats of war. A plebiscite on Aug. 13 confirmed the parliamentary decision by a majority of 368,208 to 184. Negotiations in Karlstad led to an agreement with Sweden Sept. 23, and mutual demobilization. Both parliaments revoked the Act of Union Oct. 16, and the deposed king Oscar II of Sweden renounced his claim to the Norwegian throne and recognized Norway as an independent kingdom on Oct. 26. The Norwegian parliament offered the vacant throne to Prince Carl of Denmark, who accepted after another plebiscite had confirmed the monarchy. He arrived in Norway on Nov. 25, 1905, taking the name Haakon VII.

**HEIMDAL, HNøMS**  
(command ship)  
Norway #1431 (2005)  
7,50kr, #805 (1982) 2,00kr  
**1892 – Norwegian Navy;**  
**Akers Mek. Verksted,**  
**Kristiania (Oslo),**  
**Norway; Displ. 670 tons;**  
**55m x 8,2m x 4,5m; triple**  
**exp. steam engine 625ihk,**  
**12 kn; Armament: 4-**  
**65mm, 2-37mm (4-76mm**  
**, 2-37mm from 1921);**  
**crew 65.**

The **HEIMDAL**  
became a well known name  
in Norway, as she came to  
play an integral part during  
the dissolution of the Swedish-Norwegian Union in 1905.

It was onboard **HEIMDAL** that the commander, Vice Admiral C. Sparre, after taking command of her on May 29, gave the orders to lower the Union flag and raise the Norwegian flag on all Norwegian military ships on June 9, 1905.



To right, **HEIMDAL**, closely followed by **NORGE**,  
**TORDENSKJOLD** and **VALKYRIEN** approaching Kristiania

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It would become **HEIMDAL**'s honor to bring the new Royal family to Kristiania (Oslo), and on Nov. 22, 1905, she departed Horten naval base, bound for Kristiania. Her task was to pick up the Norwegian parliament, and bring the members to meet the new Royal family arriving onboard the Danish Royal yacht **DANNEBROG**.