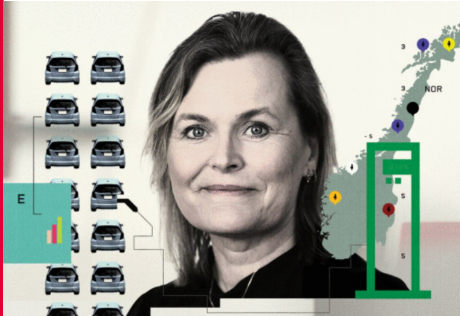




Cecilie Knibe Kroglund: How Norway Successfully Navigated the EV Transition



Cecilie Knibe Kroglund is the state secretary in Norway's Ministry of Transport

More than 97 percent of the new cars Norwegians registered in November 2025 were electric, almost reaching the country's goal of 100 percent. As a result, the government has begun removing some of the many carrots it used to encourage its successful EV transition. Cecilie Knibe Kroglund, state secretary in the country's Ministry of Transport, reveals some of the challenges that come with success.

How did Norway First promote EVs?

Kroglund: Battery-electric vehicles have had exemptions from the 25 percent value-added tax and from the CO2- and weight-based registration tax that apply to combustion-engine vehicles. We used other tax incentives to encourage building charging stations on highways and in rural areas. Cities had the opportunity to exempt zero-emissions cars from toll roads. EV drivers also got reduced ferry fares, free parking, and access to bus lanes in many cities. The technology for the vehicles wasn't that good at the start of the incentives program, but we had the taxes and incentives to make traditional passenger cars more expensive.

How did policymakers overcome adoption barriers?

Kroglund: Early on the technology was challenging. In summertime it was easy to fuel the EV, but in wintertime it's double the use of energy. But the technology has improved a lot in the last five years.

The Norwegian tax exemptions on EVs were introduced before EVs came to market and were decisive in offsetting the early disadvantages of EVs compared to conventional cars, especially regarding comfort, vehicle size, and range. The rapid expansion of charging infrastructure along major corridors has also been important to overcome range anxiety.

How did the private sector respond?

Kroglund: Many Norwegian companies use EVs. The market for charging infrastructure is considered commercially viable and no longer needs financial support. However, we don't see commercial-vehicle adoption going as fast as passenger vehicles, and we had the same goal. So we will have to review the goals, and we'll have to review the incentives.

How did success create new problems?

Kroglund: The success of the passenger-vehicle policies mean EVs are in competition with public transport in the larger cities. Driving an EV remains much cheaper than driving a conventional car even without tax exemptions, and overall car use continues to rise. National, regional, and local governments must find different tools to promote walking, bicycling, and public

transport because each city and region is different.

We are different as countries. The geographies are different, and some countries have even bigger cities than our national population. This is not a policy for L.A., but what we see in Norway is that incentives work. However, tax incentives are only applicable in systems where effective taxation is established.

Published in: [IEEE Spectrum](#) (Volume: 63, Issue: 2, February 2026)

Notice

1) The Torske Klub now has a new dedicated registration phone number that will be monitored by our Recording Secretary, David Hall.

Call **224-377-9160**

to leave your reservation.

2) Please make checks out to "Bruce Carlson". Or use Zelle through your bank phone app and search for torskebruce@gmail.com

Future 2026 Events

Apr 11 Alex Gruener
Hyperliquid Trading

May 9 TBD

May 17 Syttende Mai Parade
Park Ridge



This month we recognize the birthdays of the following members who have contributed their dues money toward the purchase of the Line Aquavit we enjoy so much at our monthly gatherings.

Douglas Conte	Bob Fisk
Carl Graf	Chris Gruener
Richard Nelson	Lars Ohrstrom
Frederick Olk	Karl Pearson

Gratulerer med dagen og Skål !

Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

Boss: Ken Larson
Asst. Boss: Lowell Olberg
Boss Emeritus: Robert Alsaker
Treasurer: Bruce Carlson
Founder, and Advisor: Dr. Ray Newgard
Program Chair: Open
Recording Secretary: David Hall
Corresponding Secretary: Garry Grube
Aquavit Chair: Fred Olk
Raffle Co-chair: Tom Maxson
Raffle Co-chair: John Van Alstin
Board Member: Larry Ekstrom
Board Member: Fred Glure
Board Member: Sam Smith