



THE NATION'S GAMBIT

When the Prime Minister is kidnapped and placed in a glass cage outside the Parliament with a bomb around his neck, Norway is turned upside down. A game of chess is the only way to save him, but for each piece lost, a real person will pay with their life.

The terrorist makes the first move, and the clock starts counting down from 24 hours.

Game on.



"With The Nation's Gambit, I aim to create a high-intensity thriller - a film so gripping and relentless that the audience won't be able to take their eyes off the screen. The Nation's Gambit is packed with nerve-wracking intensity. A bomb could blow the Prime Minister to pieces at any moment, while government officials are being tortured and killed from all sides.

This is a cinematic experience that will fully utilize every filmmaking tool available - a score that pulls you in and sends shivers down your spine. The setting is bold, audacious, and massive: this is not a mystery to be solved; it is a bloody game to be won."

Jens Lien started his directing career with two Palme d'Or-nominated short films and went on to compete at the Berlinale with his feature film debut "Jonny Vang".

His acclaimed second feature "The Bothersome Man" premiered in 2006 to fantastic reviews and was selected for the Toronto International Film Festival.

Jens is a sought-after director with a distinctive style and a keen eye for compelling characters.

His latest major production - HBO's first Norwegian and highly acclaimed TV series, *Beforeigners* - is a great example of this.



Developed over years, *The Nation's Gambit* took an electrifying turn when Pål Sverre Hagen and Penda Faal were cast as our leads, Anton and Björk. Their presence didn't just elevate the project - it transformed it.

Their chemistry sparked something truly special. Penda's Björk boldly challenges Anton's authority, refusing to be intimidated, while Pål Sverre's Anton is forced to step up, sharpen his edge, and adapt to her relentless energy.

What unfolded was gripping, unexpectedly humorous, and undeniably real. This dynamic has completely redefined our script, injecting it with a fresh intensity and emotional depth that will keep audiences on the edge of their seats.

This isn't just a thriller - it's an experience.



The Nation's Gambit is a grand, spectacular, and pulse-pounding action thriller designed to captivate a wide, entertainment-driven audience. With relentless pacing and a plot packed with unexpected twists, it thrusts us into a whirlwind of dilemmas as a meticulously orchestrated terrorist attack pushes society to the brink of collapse.

When we launched the project at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival, the response was nothing short of electrifying. Buyers were beyond thrilled, and sales agent REinvent received overwhelming interest from key territories. The film has already been sold to the CIS region and Germany at record-breaking prices.

The last time a Norwegian film generated this level of excitement was with *The Wave*, directed by Roar Uthaug, and *Headhunters*, directed by Morten Tyldum.

Now, *The Nation's Gambit* is set to take the world by storm.



The Nation's Gambit has not only exceeded expectations for a debut novel, but it has also set a new benchmark for success in the Norwegian book market. What started as a buzz quickly transformed into a phenomenon, capturing the attention of readers everywhere.

With a thrilling trilogy in the works, the anticipation for the next book, slated for release in 2025, is nothing short of sky-high. Fans are eager to see how the story will evolve and whether the sequel can live up to the hype — or take it even further.



Genre

Director

Written by

Producer

Co-producer

Theatrical distribution Nordics

International sales

Duration

Budget

Production start

Nordic release

Action thriller

Jens Lien

Christopher Grøndahl

Stig og Stein Studio

Film i Väst and ZDF

Scanbox Entertainment

REinvent

110 minutes

6.000.000 USD

2025

late 2026

