

25 Years Baltic Sea Parliamentary Cooperation



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25th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference 28-30 August 2016 Riga, Latvia

*“High Quality Education and Labour –
The Future of the Baltic Sea Region”*

Programme

Saturday, 27 August

Arrival of participants and accommodation
Radisson Blu Hotel Latvia, *Elizabetes iela 55, LV-1010, Riga*

18:00 – 20:00 Participant registration and information desk available at hotel

Sunday, 28 August

9:00-20:00 Participant registration and information desk available at hotel

9:30 Departure for the Saeima

10:00-12:00 **Meeting of the BSPC Drafting Committee**
Jēkaba iela 10/12, Room 409

12:00 Coffee break

12:30-14:00 **Meeting of the BSPC Standing Committee**
Jēkaba iela 10/12, Room 409

14:00 Departure for the hotel

16:00 Departure for Pilsrundāle
Rundāles pagasts, Rundāles novads, LV- 3921

17:30 Tour of Rundāle Castle
<http://rundale.net>

19:00-21:30 Reception hosted by **Dr Jānis Vucāns**, President of the BSPC, in honour of the 25th anniversary (Silver Jubilee) of the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference
Rundāle Castle

21:30 Departure for Riga

25 Years Baltic Sea Parliamentary Cooperation

**Monday,
29 August**

9:00-18:30 Participant registration and information desk available
*University of Latvia Academic Centre of Natural Sciences
Jelgavas iela 1, Riga, LV – 1004*

8:40 Departure for the University of Latvia Academic Centre of Natural Sciences

9:30 Cultural introduction – musical performance

OPENING

Chair: Dr Jānis Vucāns, President of the BSPC

Vice-chair: Ms Carola Veit, Vice-president of the BSPC

Introductory remarks: **Dr Jānis Vucāns**, President of the BSPC

Welcome address:

H.E. Mr Raimonds Vējonis, President of the Republic of Latvia
Confirmed

H.E. Ms Ināra Mūrniece, Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
Confirmed

10:00-13:00

FIRST SESSION

Cooperation in the Baltic Sea region

Chair: Dr Jānis Vucāns, President of the BSPC

Vice-chair: Mr Franz Thönnies, MP, Germany

Report by **Dr Jānis Vucāns**, President of the BSPC

Mr Valdis Dombrovskis, Vice-president of the European Commission
Confirmed

Report from the Council of the Baltic States (CBSS)

- **Mr Michał Czyż**, Outgoing CBSS Chair, Committee of Senior Officials, Ambassador of Poland, *Confirmed*
- **Mr Guðmundur Árni Stefánsson**, Committee of Senior Officials, Ambassador of Iceland *Confirmed*

Implementation of the BSPC Resolution

- **Ms Carola Veit**, Vice-president of the BSPC *Confirmed*

Report from HELCOM

- **Ms Monika Stankiewicz**, Executive Secretary of HELCOM
Confirmed

Strategy of socio-economic development of the North-West Federal District

- **Ms Valentina Pivnenko**, MP, Russia, *Confirmed*

11:00

Family Photo

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

25 Years Baltic Sea Parliamentary Cooperation

11:30

CONTINUATION OF THE FIRST SESSION Cooperation in the Baltic Sea region

H.E. Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Latvia *Confirmed*

Report from the Baltic Sea NGO Forum

- **Ms Darja Akhutina**, General Director, *Confirmed*
- **Ms Magda Leszczyna-Rzucidło**, BS NGO Network 2016 Forum Coordinator *Confirmed*

Addresses by the representatives of other Parliamentary Assemblies and international guests

Ms Maja Gojković, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) and Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia *Confirmed*

Discussions

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:30

SECOND SESSION

How to develop competitiveness in the Baltic Sea Region by linking education and the labour market

Chair: Ms Valentina Pivnenko, MP, Russia TBC

Vice-chair: Ms Dorota Arciszewska-Mielewczyk, MP, Poland

- Defining labour market needs, tools for forecasting trends in the labour market; vocational education;
- Cooperation in higher education;
- Corporate social responsibility for systematic and sustainable introduction of work-based learning.

- **Ms Līga Lejiņa**, State Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia
- **Ms Jadwiga Parada**, Director of Vocational and Continuing Education Department from Ministry of National Education, Poland *Confirmed*
- **Mr Poul Nielson**, former EU Commissioner and Danish cabinet minister, Author of the announced strategic review of the Nordic labour market *Confirmed*
- **Mr Jan Guz**, OPZZ President and the Co-president of the Baltic Sea Trade Union Network *Confirmed*
- **Mr Hans Manzke**, Baltic Sea Labour Forum *TBC*

Discussions

15:30 -16:00

Coffee break

25 Years Baltic Sea Parliamentary Cooperation

16:00-17:00 **CEREMONIAL SESSION in honour of the 25th anniversary of the BSPC**
Baltic Sea parliamentary cooperation: yesterday, today, tomorrow

- **Mr Trivimi Velliste**, Former President of the Baltic Assembly, Former member of the Standing Committee of the BSPC, Estonia *Confirmed*
- **Mr Franz Thönnies**, Chairman of the delegation of the German Bundestag to the BSPC *Confirmed*
- **Ms Anna Abrahamsson**, President of the Nordic Youth Council

Discussions

17:00 Departure for the hotel

17:00-18:30 **Meeting of the Drafting Committee** (*if necessary*)

18:30 Departure for the hotel

19:40 Departure for the Saeima

20:00-21:30 Reception at the Saeima hosted by **H.E. Ms Ināra Mūrniece**, Speaker of the Saeima

21:30 Departure for the hotel

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**Tuesday,
30 August**

8:30-14:00 Participant registration and information desk available
*University of Latvia Academic Centre of Natural Sciences
Jelgavas iela 1, Rīga, LV – 1004*

8:15 Departure for the University of Latvia Academic Centre of Natural Sciences

9:00-11:00

THIRD SESSION

Realising employment opportunities – Improving labour mobility and combating youth unemployment

Chair: Mr Per Rune Henriksen, MP, Norway TBC

Vice-chair: Mr Jörgen Petterson, MP, Åland

- Labour mobility, including emigration/immigration aspects, urbanization);
- Trends, causes, solutions of youth unemployment;
- Support mechanisms – the Youth Guarantee (support in the framework of active labour market policies, vocational education opportunities, measures to involve NEETs).

- **Mr Jānis Reirs**, Minister of Welfare, Latvia *Confirmed*
- **Ms Algimanta Pabedinskiene**, Minister of Social Security and Labour, Lithuania *Confirmed*
- **Ms Anette Kramme**, Parliamentary State Secretary of the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry, Germany *Confirmed*
- **Mr Thor Kleppen Sættem**, State Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Norway *Confirmed*
- **Ms Egle Käärats**, Deputy State Secretary General on Labour and Employment Policy, Estonia *Confirmed*

Discussions

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 **Contributions by the BSPC Working Group and Rapporteurs:**

- **Interim report by BSPC Working Group on Sustainable Tourism, Ms Sara Kemetter**, WG Vice-Chairman
- **Report by Ms Sonja Mandt**, BSPC Rapporteur on Cultural Affairs

12:00

CLOSING OF THE 25TH BSPC

Chair: Dr Jānis Vucāns, President of the BSPC

Vice-chair: Ms Carola Veit, Vice-president of the BSPC

- Adoption of the Conference Resolution
- Address by the incoming President of the BSPC 2016-2017
- Presentation by the incoming presidency

12:30 Lunch

Departure of delegations