

Welcome to the 18th BSSSC Annual Conference!



Tallinn, Estonia

Qualifying the Region for the Future – Implementing the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



12-14 October 2010, Tallinn, Estonia

Invitation

The Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation (BSSSC), the Association of Municipalities of Estonia (AME) and the Association of Estonian Cities (AEC) have the pleasure to invite you to the 18th BSSSC Annual Conference.

The Annual Conference will take place in **Tallinn, Estonia on 12-14 October 2010**. For practical information and registration please visit the conference website at www.bsssc.eu. Please note the early bird offers till 31 August 2010.

The event will offer you the opportunity to learn and discuss about the chances, challenges and changes of the Baltic Sea Region towards a knowledge-based society. We expect to welcome more than 300 participants from all regions around the Baltic Sea as well as representatives of Ministries, pan-Baltic organizations and the European Commission to get together for a series of informative workshops and presentations of projects and best practice.

The Baltic Sea region needs to move faster towards a knowledge society if it wishes to ensure the continued wellbeing of its people in the light of the challenges posed by demographic trends and increasing globalization. The action plan of the EU's Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region reflects these common endeavours.

We are delighted about the European Commission's decision to organize the **Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region** back-to-back with the BSSSC Annual Conference in Tallinn **on 14-15 October**.

For further information and registration for this second part of our combined conference please visit ec.europa.eu/regional_policy.

The BSSSC Annual Conference is also enriched by two interesting side events – **the BSSSC Youth Event on 12-13 October** with 50 young people from all around the Baltic Sea and the **Project Idea Café** organized by the Baltic Sea Region Programme.

The Project Idea Café is a creative meeting place for sharing project ideas and finding project partners. There will be presentations of European Territorial Cooperation programmes and partner search sessions.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Tallinn!

**Carsten-Ludwig
Lüdemann
BSSSC Chairman**

**Taavi Aas
Chairman of AEC,
Vice-Mayor
of Tallinn**

**Jüri Landberg
Chairman
of AME**

The Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation (BSSSC) is a political network of subregions in the Baltic Sea region founded in Stavanger, Norway in 1993. BSSSC acts as a political network organisation with the aim to strengthen regional co-operation and to promote the interests of subregions to national governments and institutions of the

European Union. It co-operates closely with other key organisations and institutions in the Baltic Sea region and Europe. BSSSC is open to all subregions (regional authorities) below the level of central government. As representatives from all Baltic Sea states are involved in the work of BSSSC the network represents about 170 regions.



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12-14 October 2010, Meriton Hotel, Tallinn, Estonia

Tuesday, 12 October 2010

- 14.00-17.00 **BSSSC Board Meeting**
- 17.30-18.30 **National Delegations Meeting**
- 19.00-22.00 **Get-together Dinner**

Wednesday, 13 October 2010

- 09.00-10.30 **Session 1 : Official Opening**
Mr Carsten-Ludwig Lüdemann, BSSSC Chairman
Mr Urmas Paet, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Estonia
Mr Jüri Landberg, Chairman of the Association of Municipalities of Estonia
Mr Taavi Aas, Chairman of the Board of The Association of Estonian Cities
Mr Uno Aldegren, Committee of the Regions (tbc)
Ms Susanne Scherrer, Director of the Joint Technical Secretariat, Baltic Sea Region Programme
- 10.30 Coffee Break
- 11.00-12.30 **Session 2 : Regional, National and EU Activities in the Field of Qualification –
The Challenge of Cooperation**
Ms Tina Nedergaard, Danish Minister of Education (tbc)
Ms Androulla Vassiliou, EU Commissioner for Education (tbc)
Mr Gerd Tarand, BSSSC Youth Representative, Estonia
Mr Esko Lotvonen, Mayor of Lapland Region, Finland
Mr Jonas Gahr Støre, Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Representative of CBSS (tbc)
• Questions by Audience
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30-15.00 **Parallel Workshops**
• Workshop 1 Education (focused on school education and cooperation)
• Workshop 2 Lifelong Learning and Knowledge Society
• Workshop 3 Mobility of the Work Force
- 15.00 Coffee break
- 15.30-17.00 **Parallel Workshops**
• Workshop 4 Demographic Change and Migration
• Workshop 5 Cooperation in the Field of Universities
• Workshop 6 Youth and Labour
- 17.15-18.45 **Session 3 : Summarizing the Workshops**
• Interview Style with Questions of the Moderator to the Workshop Chairpersons
• Questions by Audience
- 18.30-18.00 **Parallel Session: Project Idea Café
by the Baltic Sea Region Programme**
- 20.00-23.00 **Official Dinner**

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Thursday, 14 October 2010

- 10.00-13.00 **Parallel Session : Project Idea Café
by the Baltic Sea Region Programme**
- 10.00-12.00 **Session 4 : EU Politics and Programmes in the Field of Qualification**
- 12.00-12.30 **Session 5 : Closing Session**
Handing Over BSSSC Chairmanship
from the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg to Western Pomerania
- 13.00 Lunch
- 12.30-13.30 **Joint Press Conference (BSSSC and European Commission)**



1st Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

14-15 October 2010, Meriton Hotel, Tallinn, Estonia



European Union
Regional Policy

Thursday, 14 October 2010

- 13.30-14.30 **Opening Panel**
 - With Representatives of EU, National and Regional Level
 - Presentation of the Draft Annual Report on the Implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
- 14.30-16.30 **Five Parallel Workshops – Part I**
- 16.30 Coffee Break
- 17.00-19.00 **Five Parallel Workshops – Part II**
- 20.00 **Dinner offered by the European Commission**

Friday, 15 October 2010

- 09.00-11.00 **Discussion in Thematic Groups**
- 11.00 Coffee Break
- 11.30-13.00 **Plenary Discussion**
- 13.00-13.30 **Wrap Up Panel**