



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

POLICY AREA 'SAFE'

EUSBSR PA SAFE Formal Steering Group Meeting

Online, 2025-05-27 12.30-15.30 CEST

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



**Co-funded by
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EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

POLICY AREA 'SAFE'

32nd Meeting of the International Steering Committee for the Policy Area on Maritime
Safety and Security of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region - Formal part
May 27 2024 12.30 - 15.30 CEST

Agenda

1. Welcome Words and Tour de Table
2. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes from the Last Meeting
3. Words from the Polish Chair and Presidency
4. Activities of the Policy Area Coordinators
5. EUSBSR Action Plan Update – PA Safe Status
6. Helcom Recommendation 34E/2 Revision
7. PAC & SG Participation of Project Conferences
8. Steering Group Meetings – when and where
9. Presentation of projects
10. Policy Suggestions and Other Input from the Operational Advisory Board
11. Any other business, Next meeting & Conclusion
12. Meeting closure

And a 10 min break after approx 1h15

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Tour de Table

- Name & Country / Organization
- Any latest news relevant for PA Safe?
- What are the burning issues in maritime in your country?

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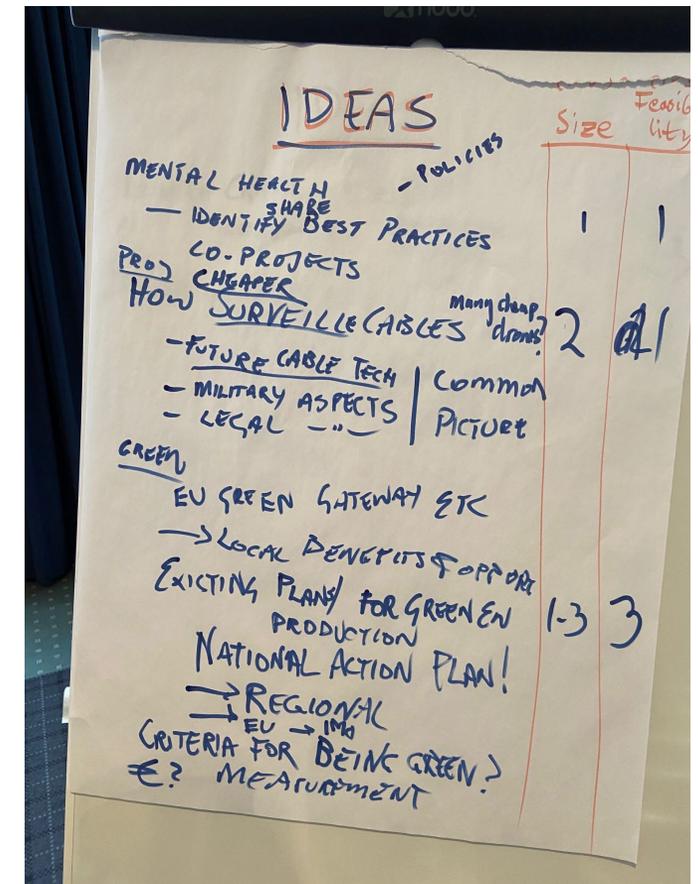
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Overview of the activities since October 2024

Highlights of General Work

- Action Plan - submitted to EUSBSR, continued work on format
- HELCOM 34E/2 - final draft developed
- Annual reporting to Interreg BSR and to EUSBSR
- Discussions on cooperation with PA Edu, Trpt, ...



Overview of the activities since October 2024

Meeting/Events

- December 4th Offshore energy value chains, Poland
- February 27th Idea Generation, Latvia
- April 26th-27th - OpenRisk II - Midterm conference, Estonia
- April 1st - 2nd EUSBSR PAC & NC Dialogue, Finland
- April 7th PA Safe Action Plan Briefing with DG MARE, online
- April 9th PA Safe Operational Board, online
- April 14th PA Safe & NC Dialogue, online
- May 7th Online Seminar Co-existence Wind Farms & Winter Navigation
- May 14th WATERWAYS and MARISEC national projects Kick-off, Helsinki University, Finland
- May 21st - 23rd European Maritime Day, Ireland
- May 22nd Åland's Maritime Day, Finland



PA Safe and PA Ship Idea Generation Workshop at Riga 27.02.2025

1. Welcome & Workshop Objectives
2. PA Safe & PA Ship - projects and future development
3. Financing opportunities
4. Workshop part 1 - generating ideas

LUNCH

1. Workshop results & selecting ideas
2. Workshop part 2 - developing ideas
3. Workshop results
4. Summary and final words

PA Safe and PA Ship Idea generation Workshop: Example project ideas

Project idea	Research on surveillance of maritime cables	
Safe/Ship Act.	PA Safe, Activity 4	
Objectives	To form anchorage areas into the BS	Keep cables intact, cable infrastructure security
Activities	1. Legislation 2. Int'l agreements in EEZs 3. Hackathon	Re-survey cable routes frequently Dig cables deeper at laying, cover Follow ship traffic, satellite images + pictures
Partners	Gov't agencies Academia + research institutions (none of participants)	Cable owners Coast guard (none of participants)
Funding ideas	Gov't	Cable owners, private sector, Gov't
Next step	MoT and Navy to call a meeting	

Project idea	Drones for VTS, remote pilotage & bathymetric measurements	
Safe/Ship Act.	Background/ ongoing work RTU project: Surface drones, concentrated on the safety of navigation rather than sensors, rules of the sea. Communication with vessels for safety. Air drone with payload to measure Co2 and sulphate from ships. Sniffing by the chimney. Sent ashore (other private airplane from private company in Latvia and Sweden). To stop the vessel from entering and pollute the harbour. Port project with drones: Navigational safety and traffic monitoring and port security. Liepāja.	
Objectives	Navigational safety, remote pilotage and environmental control enabled by multi functional UAS and USV.	
Activities	1: Traffic surveillance 2: Remote Pilotage (qualification/education of operator, legislation,) 3: AI	
Partners	Riga Technical University , Ports of Riga and Ventspils, Coastguards (part of Navy responsible for SAR, pollution prevention), Klaipeda port (pilotage), Maritime administration, Swe: coastguard & Swedish Maritime Administration?	
Funding ideas	Interreg/ Horizon	
Next step	Form consortia, find funding, international partners, Riga Tech uni. calls for meeting	

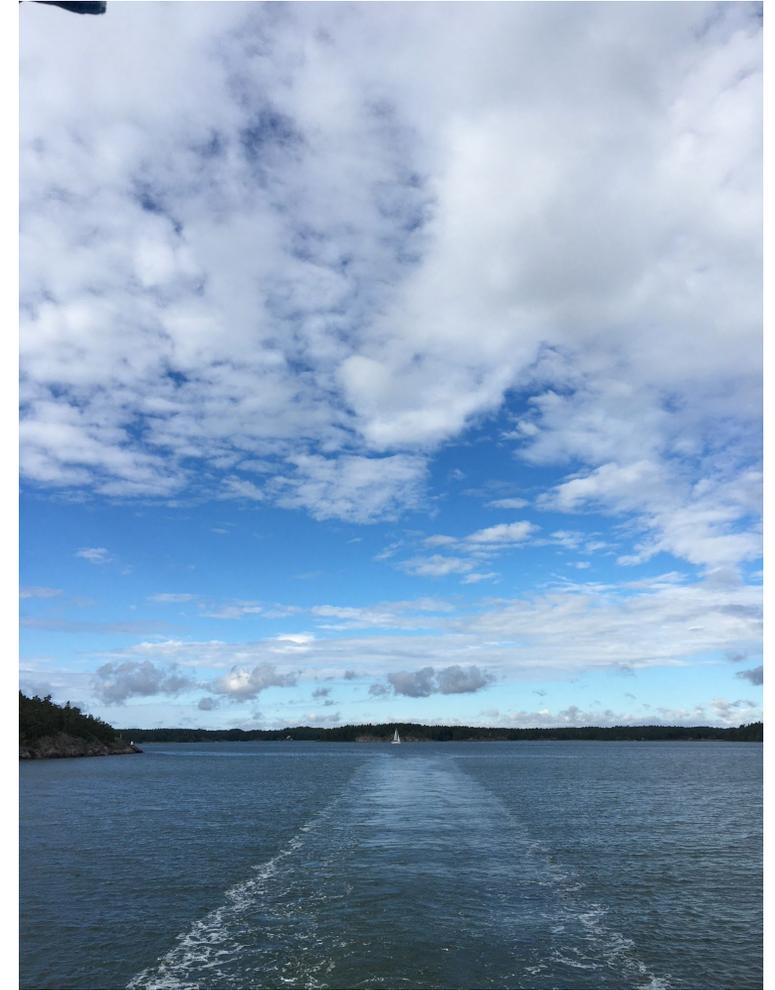
Online Seminar on the Co-existence of Offshore Wind Farms and Winter Navigation - Agenda



12:30	Welcome
12:45	Session 1: Ice structure <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aalto University: Windy Sea project – pylon effects on ice• Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency: studies of ice structures within the WINMOS III-project
13:30	Session 2: Ship operations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uppsala University: CO2-emission effects by changing routes• Finnish Geospatial Research Institute: Ice boat – ship optimization tool• Finnish Meteorological Institute: Wind trapped - Proof of Concept traffic analysis
14:30	Session 3: impact on assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chalmers University of Technology & Uppsala University – Impact study• Finnish Transport and Communications Agency & Ramboll – offshore wind farms without ice – risk analysis in the Bothnian Sea• Swedish Maritime Administration & Research Institutes of Sweden – Offshore wind farms with ice – effects on shipping and icebreaking
15.15	Summary – which new research needs are identified
15:30	Closing

Overview of the activities in the future

- Participating in the organizing and coordination team of one event to be held in the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Sopot
 - Navigating green fuels for green corridors- workshop with PA Safe & Transport
- Idea Continuation Workshops
 - at least 3 different workshops where the Idea Generation workshop ideas are brought together with the stakeholders -> Forming new projects



Overview of the activities in the future

Planning for 2025-2026:

- Events coming up:
 - Idea Continuation workshops
 - Annual Forum 2025, Sopot, 28.-30.10.2025
 - Macro-Regional Strategy & Sea-basin days, Brussels 23.-26.9.2025
 - EUSBSR Presidency opening
 - Annual Forum 2026, Estonia, tentatively week 24 / 2026



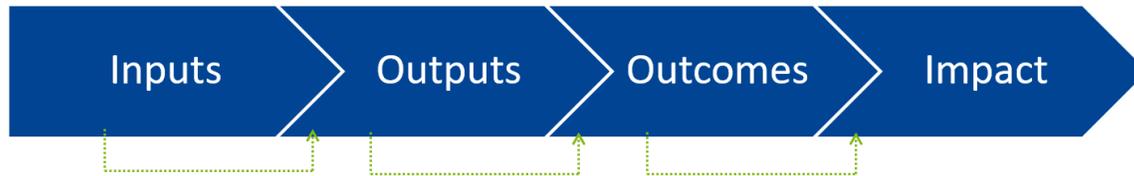
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EUSBSR Action Plan Update - PA Safe part last year

An updated Action Plan will be set in 2025

- A new template has been developed by EUSBSR
- A bigger focus on indicators in all stages of the action – the impact pathway



PAs need to send their suggested plan by January 1, 2025.

Rough time plan:

- PACs make a first rough draft – Nov 5
- Review and input from Steering Group and project managers – Nov 20
- PACs make a final draft – Dec 5
- SG approves through the online approval process – Dec 15

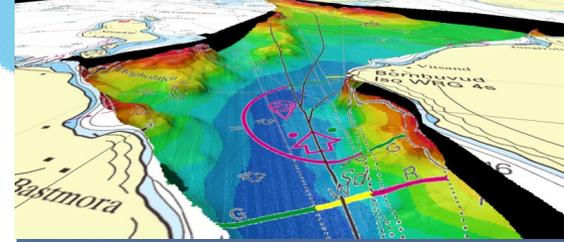
PA Safe actions

Action 1: Providing reliable navigational conditions to the Baltic Sea

Action 2: Developing winter navigation to meet future challenges

Action 3: To be a forerunner in digitalisation and automation

Action 4: Ensure accurate preparedness and response for maritime accidents and security issues



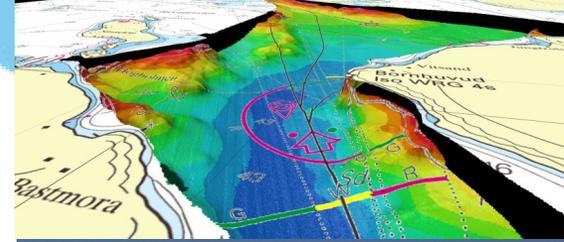
PA Safe actions - PAC draft of update

Action 1: Enable reliable and secure navigational conditions to the Baltic Sea

Action 2: Developing winter navigation in ice to meet future challenges

Action 3: Enable efficient traffic management and implement maritime services

Action 4: Ensure accurate preparedness and response for maritime accidents and security incidents issues



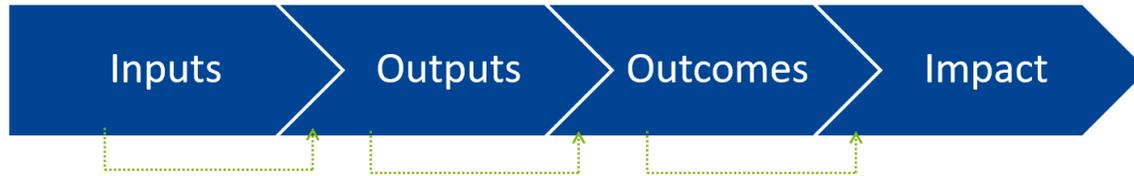
Discussion on Security within the Policy Area for Maritime Safety and Security

- Difficulty in adding value to Security issues
 - Closed discussions
 - National Military/Border guard
 - EU MARSEC/EMSA/CISE/Frontex/DG MARE
- We have projects increasing Maritime Safety which mitigates security threats as well
 - R-Mode
- Should PA Safe be limited to OPEN maritime security issues that are relevant for maritime safety?
- Should we remove "Security" in the main description of our PA?
- If so, should we remove " Action 4: Ensure accurate preparedness and response for maritime accidents and security incidents issues " in the future action plan?
- If so, should we keep " Action 1: Providing reliable and secure navigational conditions to the Baltic Sea" in the future action plan?

EUSBSR Action Plan Update - PA Safe part this year

An updated Action Plan will be set in 2025

- A new template has been developed by EUSBSR
- A bigger focus on indicators in all stages of the action – the impact pathway



Rough time plan:

- NCs have read templates and want a shorter format
- NC/PAC meeting in Turku April 1-2 discussed format

[NCs to meet PACs in April, to learn more]

[NCs to decide which PAs should exist in the next action plan May-June]

- BSP prepares and NCG approves final Policy Area template by June 30th
- Next round of PA drafting would be approximately from July to **end of October**

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HELCOM 34E/2 recommendation: On e-Navigation in the Baltic Sea Region - Background

- Adopted 2013
- Amended 2018
- Work group FI, SE, DK formed January 2024.
 - Got approval from HELCOM Safe Nav September 2 2024
 - However the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission, which is not part of HELCOM, but gives input to HELCOM meetings had not been consulted
 - HELCOM Maritime WG was informed October 22-24 2024
 - BSHC formed its own Work group and has provided valuable input
 - A new version has been signed off by both work groups
- Update will include the suggestion to coordinate implementation of e-navigation services in a harmonized manner based on international standards
 - The update will point directly towards some services that should come soon

HELCOM 34E/2 recommendation: On e-Navigation in the Baltic Sea Region - Going Forward

- HELCOM Expert Group on AIS to approve May 20, 2025
- PA Safe Steering Group to support May 27, 2025 – today's meeting
- HELCOM Expert Group SafeNav to approve in September 2025
- BSHC to approve in September 2025
- HELCOM Maritime Work Group to Approve in October 2025
- HELCOM formal adoption at government meeting in spring 2026

HELCOM 34E/2 recommendation: On e-Navigation in the Baltic Sea Region - **DECISION**

- **Will the PA Safe Steering Group to support the update of the recommendation?**
 - Should we use the word “approve” instead of “support”?
 - Last year we used the word approve
 - Since HELCOM is a different organization from EUSBSR, **PACs suggest using the word “support” in our decision.**

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PAC and Steering Group participation on project conferences

At least one PAC have tried to participate in Policy Area projects' workshops and major meetings.

PACs have found it successful to:

- "show the flag" being interested on projects. Also funding representatives (Interreg) have participated in workshops;
- PACs gain knowledge on the project progress and also observe the stakeholder interest, also for further dissemination in common Maritime events;
- PACs may provide input into the workshops;

DISCUSSION

PACs propose:

- PACs participate in PA projects workshops and major meetings. SG members are encouraged also to participate, especially when the event is in their country.

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Steering group meetings - when and where

Steering group has decided that one steering group meeting per chair period shall be a video on-line meeting and one a face-to-face meeting

PACs have organized the meetings together with the Presidency: Spring meeting in video on-line, fall face-to-face meeting back-to-back with common events. Starting from 2026 the Annual Forum will be held during the Presidency, Estonian Presidency: week 24, 2026.

DISCUSSION

PACs propose, that starting from 2026:

- the spring meeting will be held face-to-face and back-to-back with Annual Forum
- the fall meeting will be a video on-line meeting

One-on-one meetings for SG Members and PAC

- Reasons for the meeting:
 - To get to know you even better
 - To get to know your, your organisation's and your country's interest in PA Safe matters
 - To get opinions and expectations of PA Safe's future, including the Action Plan
- What, when and where?
 - Both SG member and PAC will have a small introduction/presentation
 - Conversation
 - After new template for Action Plan is released (June 30)
 - Most likely to be held online
 - Let's find a suitable date thru mail
 - Once a year + introduction meetings to new SG members

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*Did we already reach 1h15?
If not a break anyway!*

PA Safe projects

- Speed up Resurveying
 - (BalMarGrav)
 - Baltic Sea e-Nav
 - Sustainable Flow
 - WINMOS III
 - MaDaMe
 - Ormobass
 - Open Risk II
- PAC summary of input at operational meeting:
 - Project objectives
 - Impact and lasting results
 - Looking into the future

Project update

OpenRisk II

Project objectives

Developing and implementing a regional risk assessment tool based on Norwegian work

Impact and lasting results

Adding ice module in risk tool. Implementation in Finland

Looking into the future

Implementation in other countries. Interest from Estonia and Poland. Apply to the Interreg BSR platform call.

Sustainable Flow

Project objectives

Reduce CO2 in port areas

Impact and lasting results

Ease of CO2-analysis and -reporting for ports in the region

Looking into the future

Focusing on the port parts of the project, dropping the winter navigation, thus staying as PA Ship-project but no longer a PA Safe project

Project update

ORMOBASS

Project objectives

Provide resilient navigation (backup to satellite navigation at sea)

Impact and lasting results

Demonstrating the quality of the solution will give support for global standardization thru IALA & IMO

Looking into the future

Commercialisation of the solution for transmitters on masts and receivers on ships.

BalMarGrav

Project objectives

Enhance the Baltic Sea Geoid model

Impact and lasting results

Saved a lot of money by digging up old classified measurement data from the pre-1989 period, and testing them for relevance. Updated the geoid.

Looking into the future

Project ended and reported

Project update

WINMOS III

Project objectives

Safeguarding icebreaking resources and prepare for a changing future

Impact and lasting results

Long term investments, updated icebreaking fleet

Looking into the future

WINMOS IV – continuing the modernization of the fleet and the methods

MaDaMe

Project objectives

Provide more accurate and timely data

Impact and lasting results

Piloting three services: Navigational Warnings, Aids to Navigation and VTS Traffic Clearance

Looking into the future

Enhancing the IHO standardization

DEMO:

<https://vimeo.com/1019632391?share=copy>

Project update

Baltic Sea e-Nav

Project objectives

Harmonized S-100 implementation: water levels, currents, bathymetric surfaces, ENC

Impact and lasting results

Enhanced safety, consistent use of S-100 in the region

Looking into the future

New project building on this and MaDaMe. Implementing Navigational warnings and the underlying technical infrastructure

Speed up re-surveying

Project objectives

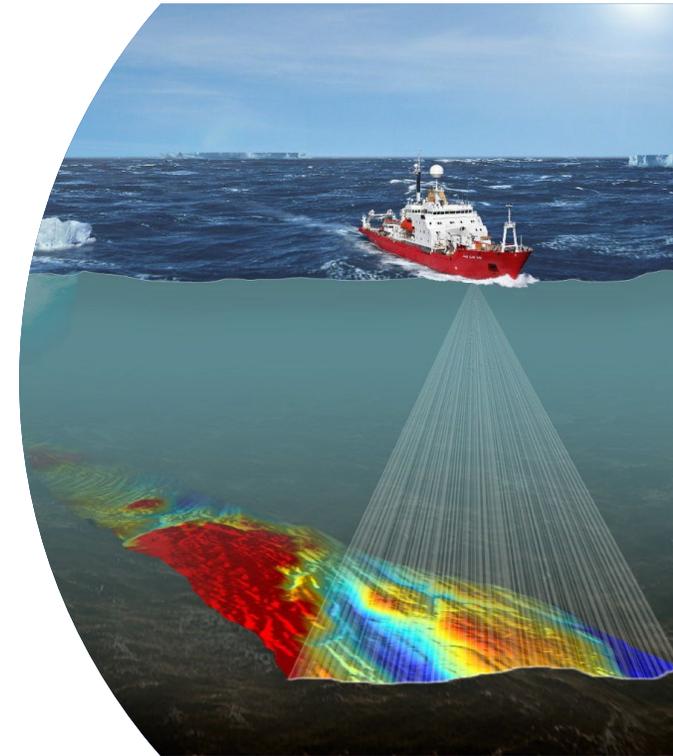
Survey the entire Baltic Sea with modern technology

Impact and lasting results

Most used shipping lanes measured. 92% of other areas used for navigation done as well.

Looking into the future

Develop affordable methods and technology for the rest of the Baltic Sea (67% remaining, e.g. nearshore, archipelago). Enhance the usage of the data.



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Policy Suggestions and other input from the Operational Advisory Group

NO policy suggestion

PA Safe operational advisory group meeting on 9.4.2025 (on-line) drew a good number of participants, 26 + 3 PACs. All ongoing projects presented shortly their status so far. Some discussion followed.

A PA Safe project platform was discussed shortly at operational advisory group meeting. PA Safe intends to file in an application on project platform, as the 2nd call will open on 21 May in Interreg BSR meeting in Tampere.

As PA Safe and PA Ship have held Idea Generation Workshops in all BS member states 2022 - 2025, the way forward now is to evolve further the ideas among stakeholders from several countries.

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SMA economic situation and prioritization

The Swedish Maritime Administration has been losing money the last 20 years.

The new Director General (DG) has announced drastical measures. Pausing operational measures – hoping to get more budget from the Government. Going thru with cuts in central support.

One thing is very much lowered ambitions within Research and Innovation:

- Research & Innovation unit dissolved.
- All former workers within the unit has gotten notice. Including Ulf and Emelie
- Projects and initiatives are reviewed and may be stopped. Including PAC work.

No answers when we ask about the timeline regarding decisions on projects. First decision on people end of June.

Next meeting

PA Safe, PA Ship and PA Transport have filed in an application on a workshop at Annual Forum on green shipping and green fuels.

The tentative agenda for Annual Forum 2025 is

Tuesday 28.10. 9-17	BSSSC Day of the Cities and Regions
Wednesday 29.10. 9-16:45	Annual Forum Day 1 + 19 -> Gala dinner
Thursday 30.10. 9:30 – 13:30	Annual Forum Day 2
Thursday 30.10 13.30 –	NC/PAC meeting (NEW)

Next Steering Group meeting is proposed to be on-site back-to-back with Annual Forum

How do the SG members see the timetable of the meeting

- a. **on Tuesday 28.10. morning or afternoon and evening dinner**
- (b. on Thursday 30.10. afternoon (after Annual Forum closes) and evening dinner)*

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