

## EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region National Coordinators Group

### 6th Meeting under the Estonian Presidency, 2025-2026

**Date:** 16/12/2025  
**Time:** 10:00–12:00 EET / (9:00-11:00 CET)  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams

#### MINUTES

##### 1. Opening of the meeting and approval of the agenda

The meeting was opened by the Presidency at 11:03. The agenda was adopted without amendments.

##### 2. Action Plan update

The Presidency presented the agenda point and the draft text of the Chapter 1, which was prepared taking into account the previously agreed amendments and the amendments proposed at the National Coordinators Group (NCG) meeting on 2 December 2025. The NCG went through the text section by section, suggesting the amendments and clarifying the content. The Baltic Sea Strategy Point (BSP) presented the status of preparation of the Chapter 3 of the Action Plan. The Policy Area texts are in review with the Policy Area Coordinators and the Steering Groups until 19 December COB.

The Presidency concluded the agenda point and informed that the next consolidated version will be compiled based on the suggestions provided at the meeting. The changes will then be discussed and possibly agreed upon at the next NCG meeting.

##### 3. Cooperation with Pan-Baltic organisations

The Presidency informed that as part of the Action Plan update process, the Presidency reached out to the pan-Baltic organisations informing them about excluding the Annex with the list of pan-Baltic organisations from the updated Action Plan text due to non-exhaustive and excluding nature of such annex in principle. The Presidency received several responses from these organisations reaffirming the willingness to contribute to the Action Plan implementation and indicating interest to discuss ways for concrete cooperation. The NCG discussed and encouraged exploring further the cooperation possibilities without creating additional structures. The Presidency and the BSP will look into the ways to proceed with the

next steps. It is part of the BSP Work Programme for the current year to engage the major pan-Baltic organisations in the promotion of the updated Action Plan set to be published in the spring of 2026.

#### 4. Annual Forum 2027

The Presidency presented the agenda point, continuation of the discussion from the previous meeting and asked the Member States to confirm if there are any prospective candidates willing to engage in organisation of the Annual Forum 2027. No Member States could signal readiness to host at this point. The Presidency, in cooperation with the NCG and the BSP will continue the search for the viable solutions. The issue will be further discussed at the subsequent NCG meetings.

#### 5. Policy Area Bioeconomy

The Presidency and the BSP presented the agenda point. The BSP informed that there have been changes in the PAC composition in PA Bioeconomy. As of 1 January 2026, Administrative County Board of Gotland will replace Swedish Board of Agriculture as the Policy Area Bioeconomy Coordinator from Sweden. The NCG approved the updated List of PAC organisation taking into account the changes.

#### 6. AOB and date for next meeting

The next NCG meeting will take place on January 14th at 10:00 EET (9:00 CET). The invitation and the materials will be sent by the Presidency in due time.

The meeting was concluded at 11:02.

## PARTICIPANTS

Denmark	Peter Wilhelm Linde	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Estonia	Tõnis Nirk (NC, Presidency) Andreas Sepp (Deputy NC)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Finland	Helena Tuuri (NC)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Germany	Sven Freitag (NC) Christine Gockel (Deputy NC)	Federal Foreign Office Federal Foreign Office
Latvia	Kristine Cukure (NC) Santa Karina Norvele (Deputy NC)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Lithuania	Albinas Zananavičius (NC) Modesta Vanesa Viskontė (Deputy NC)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Norway	-	
Poland	Katarzyna Barcikowska (NC) Anna Korolec-Monko (Deputy NC)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sweden	Anna Hagström (NC)	Prime Minister's Office



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EU STRATEGY  
FOR THE BALTIC  
SEA REGION  
Estonian Presidency  
2025-2026

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	Anna Tofften (Deputy NC)	Ministry of Rural Affairs and Infrastructure
	Juhani Ailio Viktorii Hladii Kirsi Ahlman	Baltic Sea Strategy Point (BSP) Baltic Sea Strategy Point (BSP) Baltic Sea Strategy Point (BSP)
	Petri Koistinen Blagovestka Riiser	European Commission, DG Regio European Commission, DG Regio
	Elena Kolosova	Interreg Baltic Sea Region Secretariat