



# **EUSBSR** EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

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**24<sup>th</sup> EUSBSR PA SHIP Steering Group  
meeting**

**26<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 12:30-15:30 (CEST),  
Online**

## Agenda

- 1) **Welcome words and Tour de Table**
- 2) Approval of the agenda and minutes of the last meeting
- 3) One-one-one SG-PAC meetings
- 4) Activities of the Policy Area Coordinators
- 5) Next SG Meetings & Participation in Project conferences
- 6) EUSBSR Action Plan Update
- 7) Current & New Projects
- 8) Any other business



***Comfort break at 13:30 - 13:45***

## Tour de Table

- Name & Country / Organization
- Any latest news relevant for PA Ship?
- What are the "hot potatoes" in maritime in your country?

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## One-on-one meetings for SG Members and PAC

- Reasons for the meeting:
  - To get to know you better
  - To get to know your interest in PA Ship matters
  - To get opinions and expectations of PA Ships future
- What, when and where?
  - Most likely to be held online
  - Both SG member and PAC will have a small introduction/presentation
  - Conversation
  - Let's find a suitable date.

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## Activities of the Policy Area Coordinators

Milla Harju and Sami Vesterinen, EUSBSR PA Ship Coordinators  
Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom  
[milla.harju@traficom.fi](mailto:milla.harju@traficom.fi) [sami.vesterinen@traficom.fi](mailto:sami.vesterinen@traficom.fi)

## Overview of the activities since October 2024

### Events

- March 6<sup>th</sup> Helcom - PA Ship cooperation initiative meeting
- March 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> Interreg BSR Lead partner seminar
- April 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> PACS & NC Meeting
- April 15<sup>th</sup> PA Ship Operational Group meeting
- May 9<sup>th</sup> EUSBSR day in Turku
- May 12<sup>th</sup> CBSS EGSME Seminar
- May 16<sup>th</sup> HELCOM Tank washing water workshop
- May 20<sup>th</sup> Interreg BSR Project platform Kick-off
- May 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> European Maritime Days in Cork
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> Ålands Maritime Day



# PA Ship Operational Group meeting 15.04.2025



EUSBSR PA Ship Operational Group  
Meeting Agenda  
15.04.2025  
Online - all time EET

Logging in 13.20-13.30

1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30-13.40  
*Milla Harju/Sami Vesterinen PA Ship Coordinator (PAC), Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom*
  - Few words on WHAT, WHY and WHO? also Words about the Action plan update.
2. Guest speaker Cea Mittler (Traficom) 13.40 - 13.50  
Cea speaks about sewage discharge ban in the Baltic Sea (Finland & Sweden)
3. Projects: first wave 13.50 - 14.20  
*Project Managers*
  - 13.50 Baltic Sea e-Nav
  - 14.00 MaDaMe
  - 14.10 Sustainable Flow
4. Discussion 14.20 - 14.30  
*All participants are invited to comment, ask questions and make suggestions*  
  
*Coffee Break 10 min 14.30-14.40*
5. Projects: Second wave 14.40 - 15.10  
*Project Managers*
  - 14.40 Blue Supply Chains
  - 14.50 REISFER
  - 15.00 OpenRisk II
6. Discussion 15.10 - 15.20  
*All participants are invited to comment, ask questions and make suggestions*
7. New Projects  
*Project Managers*
  - 15.20 H2Deri
  - 15.30 Circular Ports
8. Discussion 15.40 - 15.50  
*All participants are invited to comment, ask questions and make suggestions*
9. AOB and closing the meeting 15.50 - 16.00

*Milla Harju/Sami Vesterinen PA Ship Coordinator, Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom*

## 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	Green shipping corridors in Latvia
Safe/Ship Act.	PA Ship, Act 3
Objectives	Investigating the status in Latvia and best practices (2 <sup>nd</sup> project in mind. Implementing Green Corridor w one end in Latvia)
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Other ports (R'dam-Gothenburg) model for Riga</li> <li>2. Shipping lines (Stena) model for Ventspils/Liepaja</li> <li>3. Content of Clydesbank declaration</li> <li>4. How is bunker need of green fuel solved (ask 1 and 2)</li> </ol>
Partners	Port Authoritiesx3(LEAD), Ministry of Transport , university (write the study – master theses? )
Funding ideas	ERDF, National funding
Next step	Ministry of Transport: Present idea to Port Authorities and initiate discussion with RTU/LMA

Project idea	E-Fuels
Safe/Ship Act.	PA Ship Act 3 (&1)
Objectives	(Sustainability - Energy Independence) Creating legal framework supporting and attracting long term investment
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Market analysis - finding demand</li> <li>2. Study of other countries framework</li> <li>3. Suggest changes policies and legal framework</li> </ol>
Partners	Ministries Energy, Climate/Environment (LEAD?), Transport, Finance. EU Commission?? DG Compet, DG MOVE, DG Ener. Ports.
Funding ideas	National and mostly EU : CEF? ERDF? Cohesion?
Next step	National meeting, called by Min of T

## Overview of the activities in the future

- Participating in the organizing and coordination team of two events to be held in the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Sopot
  1. New Circular Economy Solutions, panel discussion with PA Nutri, Hazards, Bioeconomy
  2. Navigating green fuels for green corridors- workshop with PA Safe & Transport
- Idea Continuation Workshops
  - TBA at least 3 different workshops where the IDG 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
  - Macro-Regional Strategy & Sea-basin days
  - EUSBSR Presidency opening
  - Annual Forum 2026



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## Next SG Meetings & Participation in Project conferences

- Steering group has decided earlier, that one steering group meeting shall be a video online meeting and one onsite meeting

PACs have organized the meetings together with the Presidency: Spring meeting in video online, 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 onsite and back-to-back with Annual Forum
  - the fall meeting will be a video online meeting
- 
- Next meeting at the Annual Forum in Sopot 29-30th of October, onsite

## Next SG Meetings & Participation in Project conferences

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

PACs have found it successful to:

- PACs may provide input into the workshops;
- "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;

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DISCUSSION

PACs propose:

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

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**EUSBSR Action Plan Update**  
**PA Ship New actions and schedule**

# Updating the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

- The Strategy has been updated four times, in 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2021, and now it will be re-written over the year.
- The update process will focus first and foremost on the Policy Areas and their actions and indicators for the upcoming years.
- Policy Area Coordinators lead this planning process together with their Steering Group members from all eight EU countries bordering the Baltic Sea.
- The PA Ship action items have gone through changes, and the latest update with impact pathway was sent to all SG members

# Updating the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

- IMPACT PATHWAY

## 6. Impact pathway

Before heading into the next part, we wish to remind you of the following:

- The following questions and answers are designed to make a single plausible pathway of how the PAs' inputs are translated through PAs' outputs into outcomes and eventually impact (see the graphic below). Each Action has all steps.
- For a single expected impact there may be multiple outcomes possible or needed. And for the outcomes multiple outputs possible or needed. Be realistic of what your PA can achieve and impact. It would be wise to consider synergies and cooperation with other actors and stakeholders but focus on those outputs and outcomes that your PA itself seeks to realize.
- Focus on what is in between the steps, i.e. the process of translating input to output to outcome to impact. Do not simply expect that the reader will understand how an output will create outcomes and impact.



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## Action 1: Support the development of an environmentally sustainable shipping sector.

- Outcome indicators:
  - Regulatory standards, recommendations and/or initiatives for new ships on zero carbon technology,
  - New best practices e.g. on slow steaming shared across the region,
  - New Green Shipping Corridors or similar initiatives.
  - Climate change mitigation policies mentioned in regulations, standards, best practices etc.
- Impact indicators:
  - HELCOM declaring Baltic Sea with "Good" status,
  - Significantly decreased amount of eutrophication in the sea,
  - Decreased number of Dead Zones in the Sea,
  - Abundant marine life in the sea.



## Action 2: Support research on challenges related to current shipping practices and their impact on the marine environment and its biota.

- Outcome indicators:
  - Research papers
  - Implemented new or improved policies
  - Adopted new legislation / regulatory standards impacted by PA Ship project results
  - Training programmes related to project outcomes
  - Climate change policies affected by the studies
- Impact indicators:
  - Policy impact: regulatory updates affected by research conducted in PA Ship projects,
  - New innovations brought forward in the projects,
  - Primary data collected in the projects.
  - Climate change mitigation efforts - e.g. amount of fossil fuels used less in the region.



## Action 3: Support development of shore side facilities to enable sustainable shipping practices.

- Outcome indicators:
  - Regulatory update on the emissions taking place in the port,
  - Regulatory standards for zero emission ports,
  - New best practices e.g. on decarbonised port operations,
  - New Green Shipping Corridors or similar initiatives
- Impact indicators:
  - Reduced nutrients in the Baltic Sea,
  - Number of new port infrastructure (e.g. for alternative fuels),
  - Reduced pollution in the Sea.
  - Reduced CO2 emissions via possibility for alternative fuels



## Timeline of the Action Plan Update

- The last PAC-NC meeting was held on 8th of May. NCG will provide their written input on the PAs and future PA composition to the Presidency.
- Matter will be discussed at the NCG meeting on 28th of May
- July – October 2025 – Policy Areas prepare their final actions.
- 2025 – The updated Action Plan is approved within the National Coordinators Group.
- 2026 – The updated Action Plan goes to the European Commission's internal consultation process
- 2026 – The updated Action Plan is approved and published

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# Thank you!

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**TRAFICOM**  
Finnish Transport and Communications Agency

**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



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