



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

---

## **Operational Group Meeting PA SHIP**

April 7, 2026

Policy Area Coordinators **Milla Harju & Sami Vesterinen**,  
*Finnish Transport and Communications Agency  
Traficom*

**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by  
the European Union

## Agenda

# 1. Welcome words, Approval of Agenda and Minutes from Last Meeting 13.30 - 13.35

2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions 13.35-13.45
3. Projects: First Flow 13.45 - 14.30
4. Discussion 14.30 - 14.45
5. Projects: Second Flow 14.45 - 15.15
6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30
7. Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45
8. AOB and closing the meeting 15.45 - 16.00

# WELCOME!

**Why are we here?**

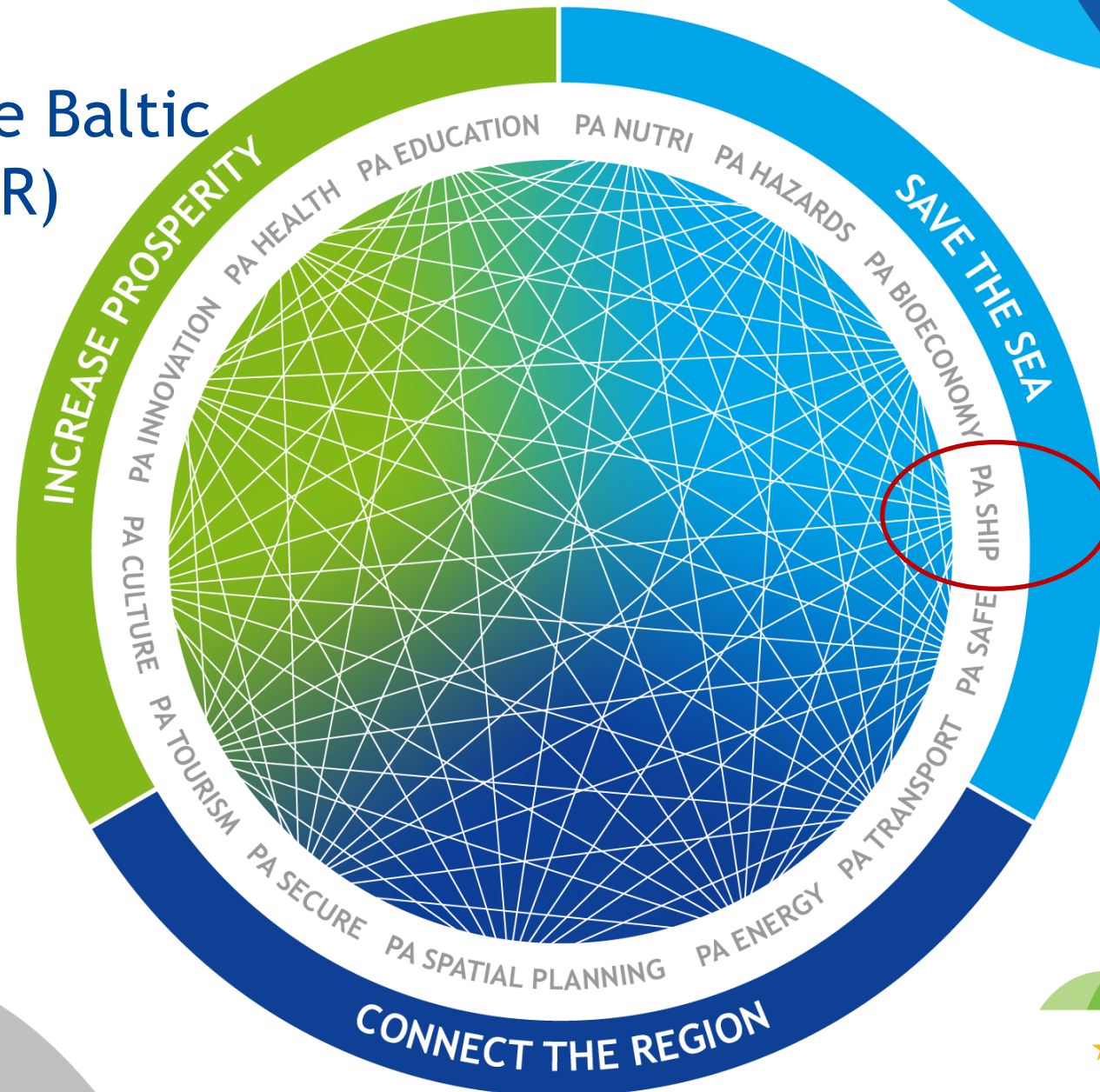
**Who is involved?**

**What do we want to leave with?**

# WHY:

## EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)

- ✓ 3 main objectives
- ✓ 14 interconnected Policy Areas



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

## Why are you here?

### Operational Group Tasks:

- to exchange views and information on the current and upcoming matters in the shipping sector;
- to facilitate setting up new projects,
- to exchange views and information on current and upcoming projects and project initiatives; and
- to provide information about available funding opportunities.



### In a nutshell:

- **Listen**
- **Ask**
- **Inform**
- **Share**

## Agenda

1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30 - 13.35

## **2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions 13.35-13.45**

3. Projects: First Flow 13.45 - 14.30

4. Discussion 14.30 - 14.45

5. Projects: Second Flow 14.45 - 15.15

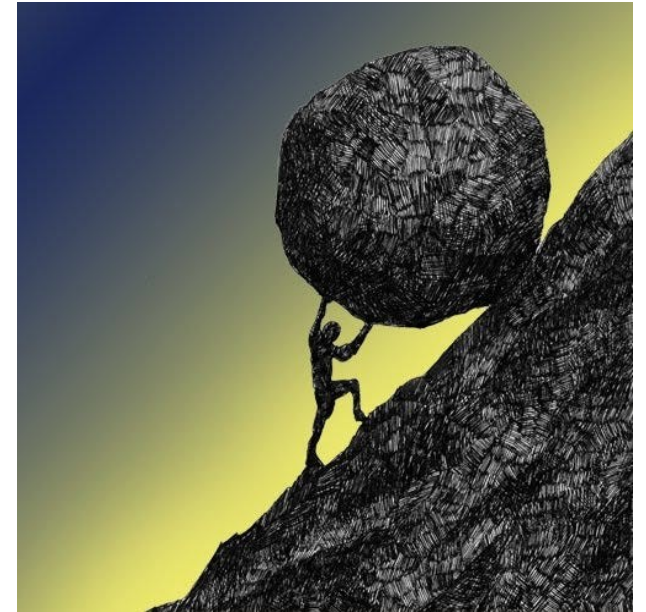
6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30

7. Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45

8. AOB and closing the meeting 15.45 - 16.00

## EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions

- EUSBSR Action plan update started at the end of 2024
- A lengthy process that involved PACs, SG members and stakeholders (you too! Thank you!)
- Action Plan has now been finalised, hurray!
- Approved by the National Coordinators Group and sent to the European Commission
- Status Quo: Waiting for the approval by the European Commission - granting approval, will be (finally) published.



## What is the Added Value of the Action Plan?

- The Action Plan provides a framework for regional cooperation
- Helps align efforts across countries, sectors, and policies
- Turns broad strategy goals into practical actions and results
- Supports coordination between EU, national and regional actors

### Key takeaways

1. Connecting actors
2. Coordinating actions
3. Delivering real results

**Acts as a bridge between strategy and implementation**



Image by freepik

## PA Ship - Aims and Objectives

*The objective of Policy Area (PA) Ship is for the Baltic Sea Region to become a model region for clean shipping.*

### Policy Area Actions:

Action 1: Support development of an environmentally sustainable shipping sector;

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

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



## Agenda

1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30 - 13.35
2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions 13.35-13.45

### **3. Projects: First Flow 13.45 - 14.30**

4. Discussion 14.30 - 14.45
5. Projects: Second Flow 14.45 - 15.15
6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30
7. Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45
8. AOB and closing the meeting 15.45 - 16.00

## Agenda

1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30 - 13.35
2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions 13.35-13.45
3. Projects: First Flow 13.45 - 14.30

## **4. Discussion 14.30 - 14.45**

5. Projects: Second Flow 14.45 - 15.15
6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30
7. Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45
8. AOB and closing the meeting 15.45 - 16.00

## Agenda

1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30 - 13.35
2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions 13.35-13.45
3. Projects: First Flow 13.45 - 14.30
4. Discussion 14.30 - 14.45

## **5. Projects: Second Flow 14.45 - 15.15**

6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30
7. Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45
8. AOB and closing the meeting 15.45 - 16.00

## Agenda

1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30 - 13.35
2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions 13.35-13.45
3. Projects: First Flow 13.45 - 14.30
4. Discussion 14.30 - 14.45
5. Projects: Second Flow 14.45 - 15.15

## **6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30**

7. Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45
8. AOB and closing the meeting 15.45 - 16.00

## Agenda

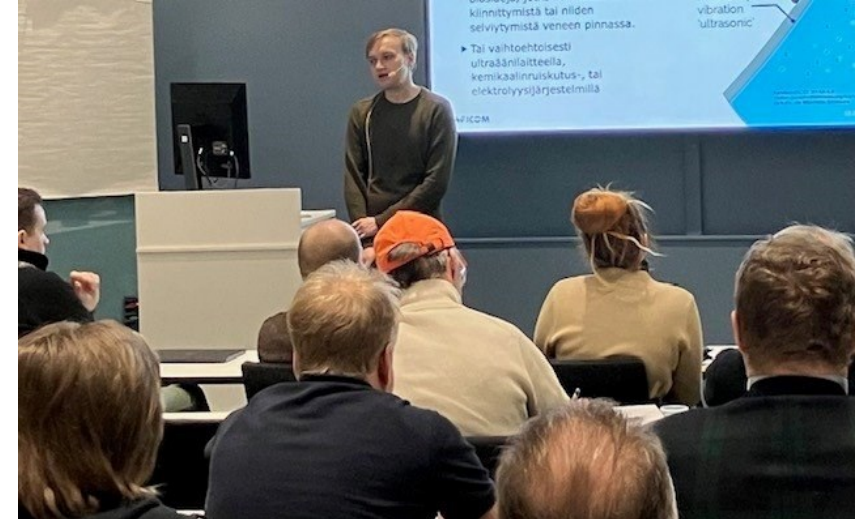
1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30 - 13.35
2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions 13.35-13.45
3. Projects: First Flow 13.45 - 14.30
4. Discussion 14.30 - 14.45
5. Projects: Second Flow 14.45 - 15.15
6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30

## **7.Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45**

8. AOB and closing the meeting 15.45 - 16.00

## Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination

- Due to governmental budget decisions, Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom i.e. PA Ship's current mothership, is not able to accommodate PA Ship and Safe after 2026
- Talks are being held with an interested party, who is potentially keen to take over
  - If the organization remains interested, they will be submitting the funding application later this Spring for the consideration of the JS/MA / Interreg BSR
- Ship & Safe PACs will be preparing for the handover this year



## PA Ship's Future Plans?

- Work will continue as planned till the end of 2026: two workshops planned (one in Latvia in June, one in Norway in August), "Power of Projects" document to be produced with the PA Ship Steering Group members
- As of 2027: the new Coordinator organisation will be able to reconsider the current work plans and find new ways to implement the Strategy, if they wish to do so.
- The future of the Operational Group depends on the next Coordinators' plans, however we would like to think the work carries on!



## Agenda

1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30 - 13.35
2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: Finalised PA Ship Actions 13.35-13.45
3. Projects: First Flow 13.45 - 14.30
4. Discussion 14.30 - 14.45
5. Projects: Second Flow 14.45 - 15.15
6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30
7. Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45

## **8.AOB and closing the meeting 15.45 - 16.00**



# **EUSBSR**

## EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

**PA SHIP**

<https://www.eusbsr.eu/pa-ship-about>

**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by  
the European Union