



## Connecting Through Science

### Newsletter #2 (Spring 2017)

Latest news of the transnational forum for higher education, science and research cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region

### Recent Events of the Baltic Science Network

**18 January 2017:** [BSN Macro Regional Workshop in Copenhagen](#) hosted by the Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education. The discussions of the workshop are feeding into a BSN Working Paper on challenges to research cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region (BSR), which later on will be accessible on the BSN website.

**8 February 2017:** the **Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) conference [Baltic Sea Science Day](#)** dedicated to discuss the [CBSS Science, Research and Innovation Agenda](#) with a focus on its two cornerstone projects – Baltic Science Network and Baltic TRAM – as outlined in the [CBSS 2016 Polish Chairs Conclusions](#) of the first [CBSS Science Ministerial](#).

**10 February 2017:** BSN transnational workshop [“Researchers’ mobility in Baltic Sea Region: where do we stand and how to move forward?”](#) opened by Ms. Jurgita Petrauskienė, Minister of Education and Science of Lithuania. The event introduced wider audiences to the results of this survey, as well as served to get a more in-depth understanding about the mobility schemes existing in the Baltic Sea Region. The workshop also offered a more nuanced look at BSN national discussions and country-specific challenges, thus facilitating the mapping of potential solutions and how they could be addressed in a joint, transnationally coordinated manner. For further details please consult the press release on the BSN website [here](#).

### Upcoming Events of the Baltic Science Network

**27 – 29 March 2017:** [Baltic University Directors Meeting](#) in Lviv, Ukraine

**30 March 2017:** BSN Transnational Workshop “[Widening Participation in Horizon 2020: A Way Towards Scientific Excellence in Baltic Sea Region](#)” in Riga, Latvia

**26 – 27 April 2017:** [BSN Partner Meeting in Turku](#), Finland

**13 – 14 June 2017:** [8<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region \(EUSBSR\)](#) in Berlin, Germany

**June 2017:** BSN Steering Committee meeting back-to-back with the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum of the EUSBSR in Berlin, Germany

**3 – 5 September 2017:** [Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference](#) in Hamburg, Germany

## ***Baltic Science Network in the Baltic Sea Region’s Headlines***

### **Be proud of the Baltic Sea Region!**

This was a key message of ScanBalt General Secretary Peter Frank at the Baltic Science Network’s Transnational Workshop: Researchers’ Mobility in the Baltic Sea Region on 10th of February 2017 in Vilnius. He referred to the fact that the Baltic Sea Region has a long tradition for collaboration which is a competitive advantage for the region.

“We can do things in the Baltic Sea Region which are difficult to replicate in other parts of Europe. The collaboration in the Baltic Science Network is an excellent example” he stated.

He went on to describe ScanBalt as an accelerator for public-private innovation partnerships, a model which is now being exported to other macro-regions. A basic requisite is a strong BSR market for health care products and services.

For more information please consult [the ScanBalt website](#).

### **Continued National Discussions on the Advancement of Baltic Science Network**

In January 2017, partners of the Baltic Science Network in Estonia, Finland and Sweden continued consultations with representatives from universities, research and academic institutions as well as national managing authorities in order to map challenges and barriers to research cooperation and mobility – and possible solutions in terms of enhancing macro regional cooperation.

For more information please consult [the BSN website](#).

### **BSR-Wide National Discussions on the Advancement of Baltic Science Network**

Starting in November 2016 throughout December 2016 and January 2017, partners of the Baltic Science Network in Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland hosted national workshops, assembling representatives from universities, research and academic institutions, national managing authorities as well as business sector in order to discuss challenges and barriers to research cooperation and mobility – and possible solutions in terms of enhancing macro regional cooperation.

For more information please consult [the BSN website](#).

## [A BSR-Wide Survey of Academic and Researchers' Mobility Trends](#)

In the framework of the Baltic Science Network, MOSTA (Lithuanian governmental research and policy advisory organisation) launched a survey on the Baltic Sea Region-wide academic and researchers' mobility trends, challenges and potential solutions.

For more information please consult the [BSN website](#).

## **Baltic Science Network on Other Baltic Sea Region and International Platforms**

BSN and its Steering Committee and Partner meeting discussed in the context of the World Science Day for Peace and Development 2016 in the [statement of Ambassador Maira Mora](#), Director General of the Council of the Baltic Sea States' Secretariat.

*Research Cooperation and Mobility in the BSR: the BSN-project looks closer at these issues* by Paula Lindroos, Åbo Akademi University, on the Baltic University Programme Newsletter #50 [here](#).

[BSN leaflet is available online](#)

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Header of the newsletter includes a graphic recording by Raquel Benmergui.