

Foreword

Close to 200 parliamentarians, government representatives and esteemed experts from the Baltic Sea Region and beyond took part in the 19th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, held in Mariehamn, Åland Islands on 29–31 August 2010. The Conference continued to foster the parliamentary bonds in the Region while, at the same time, serving as a forum for broad and open-ended dialogue and interaction.

My thanks go to our host, the Parliament of the Åland Islands, to the keynote speakers and parliamentarians, and to our observers and guests, all of whom contributed to a successful outcome of the 19th BSPC.

I have had the privilege of chairing the BSPC Standing Committee, as well as the Enlarged Standing Committee, since the 17th BSPC in Visby in 2008. I would like to extend my thanks to the Vice Chairman of the BSPC, Ms Valentina Pivnenko, to the members of the Standing Committee and Enlarged Standing Committee, and to the chairmen and members of the BSPC Working Groups for all their efforts in updating BSPC policies and structures and preparing for the 19th BSPC. I would also like to thank our Secretary General Jan Widberg for all his hard work.

The Baltic Sea Region is a good place to live in. But, this being said, we should not neglect the risks we face in our Region and its vicinity. One of the main themes of the Conference was that of peace and security. The ultimate goal of international cooperation, including our regional efforts for a healthier and prosperous Baltic Sea Region, is to promote welfare and security for the citizens.

Have we been successful? The acid test for me is not whether each and every recommendation has been implemented in the short run, but rather that we continue to be a stakeholder that is listened to and respected. If parliamentarians are respected as opinion-makers, initiators and watchdogs, as was stated during the conference, it will be a confirmation that we are doing the right things and doing them right.

Conferences, seminars, programmes and reports are important components in developing the Baltic Sea Region. But at the end of the day, the value and success of an organisation will be judged not by its internal coherence, but by its capacity to improve the welfare – in a broad sense – of the citizens of the Region. Continued dialogue between citizens, experts and decision-makers is of vital importance for our joint capacity to meet the challenges of our Region.



*Ms Christina Gestrin,
MP, Finland,
Chairman of the BSPC*

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Sunday 29 August

The 19th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference was held in Mariehamn, Åland Islands, on 29–31 August 2010. On the first day of the conference, participants were offered an excursion to ÅCA, a biogas and dairy plant. They also visited the ruins of the Fortress of Bomarsund and the Castle of Kastelholm. After the excursions, the BSPC Standing Committee held a meeting in which Christina Gestrin was re-appointed as Chairman of the BSPC until the 20th BSPC, and Valentina Pivnenko re-appointed as Vice Chairman of the BSPC for the same period. The day was concluded with a dinner hosted by Christina Gestrin and the Finnish Parliament.





Monday 30 August

Opening of The Conference

Mr Roger Nordlund, Speaker of the Åland Parliament opened the Conference by wishing all participants welcome to the autonomous and demilitarized archipelago of Åland. Mr Nordlund reminded participants that this was the second time the BSPC had been arranged in Mariehamn. He underlined that Åland and its Parliament, *Ålands Lagting*, has for decades been committed to extensive and broad co-operation for stability and security. The reason is simple: co-operation is needed in order to safeguard peace, security and the environment. According to Mr Nordlund, the sea is of utmost importance as it never divides – it links.

Mr Harry Jansson, MP, Åland, recalled his first memories of the Baltic Sea environment from the 1960s, when he was one of the fore-runners in Åland in collecting money to save the white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*). This experience reinforced the idea that goals can be achieved by co-operation. He shared Mr Nordlund's views about improving the state of the flora and fauna in the region. Living in an autonomous area with demilitarized and neutral status right in the middle of the Baltic Sea does pose some challenges in terms of economy, energy, communication and employment, Mr Jansson stated. He underlined the need to strengthen parliamentary work and cooperation, and felt that the BSPC can and should play a major role in relations to the EU as well as to Russia.



Mr Roger Nordlund



Mr Harry Jansson

First Session:

Cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region

Ms Christina Gestrin, MP, Finland, Chairman of the BSPC, was delighted to see so many participants at the conference. It was yet another testimony of broad engagement that gives strength to the political standpoints taken by the BSPC.

Ms Gestrin reported that a lot is being done to help the Baltic Sea recover and to promote welfare in the region. The environmental problems in the region are, however, still major and ongoing. Ms Gestrin reminded participants that the oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico was a grim threat that was not an unrealistic scenario for the Baltic Sea. It is estimated that oil transports by sea in the region will increase by over 70% by 2015.

Ms Gestrin observed that there were great inequalities and imbalances in the Baltic Sea Region, resulting in social and economic anomalies. Parliamentarians have a task and a mandate from their constituencies to carry out initiatives and measures to protect the Baltic Sea environment and to promote prosperity.

Ms Gestrin gave a review of the contacts with CBSS and other organisations in the region. She felt that cooperation with CBSS was pragmatic and constructive. BSPC attended the CBSS 8th Summit, reminding the governments that they must shoulder their responsibility to strengthen coordination between various initiatives and to provide these with economic and other resources for implementation. BSPC has coordinated its main priorities with those of the CBSS. The working groups of the two organisations have regular contact.

Contacts with other organisations and players in the region have been strengthened. Ms Gestrin stressed that BSPC, from the very beginning, declared its strong support for HELCOM's Baltic Sea Action Plan. Parliamentarians are keenly awaiting national implementation plans in 2011 from those countries that were not able to present them in 2010.

Ms Gestrin mentioned the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region as a welcome contribution, and one that should be synchronised with other initiatives and actions, especially with the Northern Dimension, in order to ensure full and equal participation by all countries in the Baltic Sea region.

Ms Gestrin reported on the new patterns for meetings in the Standing Committee as well as in the Enlarged Standing Committee, which are part of the internal development of the BSPC organisation. The January meeting of the Enlarged Standing Committee has become a strategic decision-making occasion in which all BSPC member parliaments and parliamentary organisations take part.

Ms Gestrin informed participants that a mechanism has been applied from 2007 about the financing of the running costs of the BSPC Secretariat. During 2009–2010 it had grown into an effective model, and all member parliaments had paid – or announced their intention to pay – their contribution for 2010. She then referred to the new

BSPC homepage (www.bspc.net) and observed that it functions well as a platform for dissemination of information and documentation.

Ms Gestrin stated that BSPC had matured into a stable structure, with permanent bodies and recurrent working groups, and with established external cooperation and information channels. She continued by raising the issue of whether it was now time to rename the organisation, for example, the Baltic Sea Parliamentary *Council* rather than Conference. It would be a more accurate title, and would also give parity with CBSS.

In conclusion, Ms Gestrin stated that many of the challenges in the Baltic Sea Region were complex and had different consequences and repercussions for different countries or players. It was obvious that the parliamentary voice had been heard, not least when BSPC collaborates with other players in the region. BSPC could contribute to



a transparent, democratic and constructive political process, and to practical solutions to the challenges facing the Baltic Sea Region.

Mr Erik Lahnstein, State Secretary of Norway, representing the Norwegian CBSS presidency in 2010–2011, agreed with Ms Gestrin that the relationship between the two organisations, CBSS and BSPC, was pragmatic and worked well. He urged parliamentarians to continue dialogue and acknowledged that parliamentary support was imperative for successful intergovernmental cooperation.

Mr Lahnstein started his report by referring to the five priority areas during the Lithuanian presidency that preceded the Norwegian: environment, economic development, energy, education and culture, civil security and the human dimension. The Norwegian presidency has outlined three priorities: maritime policy, fight against trafficking in human beings, and the further organisational development of the CBSS.



On the subject of the maritime sector, Mr Lahnstein mentioned that the Norwegian presidency will make use of the CBSS Expert Group on Maritime Policy to meet the challenges in the region. Shipping and related maritime activities are vital for the economic development of the region, but also entail negative environmental effects such as air emissions, discharge of oil and other waste and introduction of alien species through ballast water. The use and distribution of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) in Baltic Sea shipping will be a specific priority area for maritime policy during the Norwegian presidency, which will also strive to create a maritime cluster in the region.

Mr Lahnstein informed participants that Norway had decided to focus on combating all forms of trafficking in human beings. He underlined the need for all Baltic Sea countries to take stronger action against trafficking, based on the solid foundation provided by the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. He urged those countries that had not already done so to ratify the Convention.

Mr Lahnstein emphasised that all Member States and parliaments in the Baltic Sea Region had joint responsibility for curbing organised crime, including trafficking. Trafficking is a very complex issue, which is why it is addressed by three expert bodies in the framework of the CBSS: Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings, the Expert Group for Cooperation on Children at Risk (EGCC), and the Task Force on Organised Crime.

Mr Lahnstein spoke about further organisational development of the CBSS. Mr Jan Lundin, incoming Director General of the CBSS Secretariat (from 1 September 2010), was introduced. Greater transparency and efficiency in the organisation will be sought, taking into account work done in the framework of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and the partnerships established under the Northern Dimension.

Mr Lahnstein closed his report by underlining that Norway and the CBSS valued the BSPC highly, and appreciated the parliamentary support and overview.

Ms Diana Wallis, Vice-President, European Parliament, started by reflecting over the role of the European Parliament and its active participation in the Baltic Sea Region policy in recent years. She mentioned that the mandate has been renewed for Baltic Intergroup, which is one of the biggest and best-attended of the parliamentary intergroups in the European Parliament.

The launching of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region is a result of a parliamentary initiative, which shows what can be done when parliamentarians work together with joint focus and determination.

Ms Wallis agreed with Ms Gestrin that the parliamentary dimension was an important component of co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region. At the same time, it was a tool for exerting political pressure, promoting dialogue, and supporting the parliamentarians' role as watchdogs.

Ms Anne Christine Brusendorff, Executive Secretary, HELCOM, presented the activities of HELCOM, her main focus being on HELCOM Initial Holistic Assessment of the Ecosystem Health of the Baltic Sea 2003–2007. Ms Brusendorff explained that it was the first-ever holistic overview, and included status, pressures, economic analysis and a baseline for assessing the effectiveness of implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan. It was launched as a supporting document at the Ministerial Meeting in Moscow in May 2010. The report evaluates the measures taken during 2003–2007.

Talking about the Baltic Sea ecosystem, Ms Brusendorff referred to a recent study commissioned by the Swedish Government showing that the economic benefits of freeing the Baltic Sea from eutrophication are up to EUR 5 billion per year. This figure only concerns the effects of eutrophication and so may be an underestimate. She also warned participants that the cost will be even higher if no action is taken. Quick action is a cost-effective way of dealing with the problems of the Baltic Sea.

Ms Brusendorff described the role of HELCOM as a bridge between science and policy-making. This required access to accurate, harmonised and comparable data. One of the priorities of the Swedish chairmanship of HELCOM is to further strengthen the scientific role and the status of HELCOM as a focal point in the region.

Ms Brusendorff said there had been no obvious reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus loads between 1995 and 2006. The Baltic Sea Action Plan targets had not been permanently reached for either nutrient and there were differences between countries in terms of performance. Consequently, further work will be needed, especially if climate change increases the loads. Ms Brusendorff illustrated the status of the pollution in the Baltic Sea by declaring that all open water was affected by eutrophication except Bothnian Bay. Only 11 out of 172 coastal areas are unaffected by eutrophication.

In the declaration from the HELCOM Ministerial Meeting in Moscow in May, attention was paid to the effects of fishing practices on biodiversity. According to Ms Brusendorff, cer-



Ms Christina Gestrin



Mr Erik Labnstein



*Ms Anne Christine
Brusendorff*



Ms Diana Wallis

tain fishing techniques should be banned. One positive development has been a new arena, a Fisheries and Environment Forum, that has brought these sectors together in dialogue. Ms Brusendorff also said that the establishment of a joint Agricultural/Environmental Policy Forum has been fruitful in encouraging dialogue.

On a positive note, Ms Brusendorff mentioned that the number of marine protected areas had increased and that the Baltic Sea had reached the target for the regional network of marine protected areas set by the United Nations Convention of Biodiversity.

In conclusion, Ms Brusendorff said she was confident that the adopted ministerial declaration gave HELCOM a strong political basis for future work, serving also as a base for the national implementation programmes. She was counting on continued BSPC support and welcomed the role of parliamentarians as watchdogs.

Mr Jaakko Henttonen, Director ND EBRD, talked about the Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership, pointing out that there were several common points regarding the Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership and the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. NDEP cooperates closely with HELCOM and other regional organisations to strengthen coordination of activities.

Mr Henttonen noted that cooperation with the Russian Federation and Belarus had both been rewarding. Intensive cooperation with Russia, following the adoption of the HELCOM National Action Programmes, has been developed. He reported on projects that had been successfully completed. Great results have been achieved for instance in St Petersburg. Since the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant came into operation in 2005, the city's capacity for wastewater treatment has increased to 85%.

Mr Henttonen was pleased to inform participants that Belarus was now involved in the activities of the NDEP. Belarus and Russia still need more efficient municipal wastewater treatment, with Kaliningrad being one of the regions in Russia requiring support. Mr Henttonen reported that an agreement had been made between the Kaliningrad authorities and international partners to continue investments in line with internationally accepted practices. The aim was to complete the wastewater plant by 2012.

He also described many benefits that have been achieved besides the main target. The projects prevented further deterioration of municipal systems and services, promoted better municipal management of wastewater, and projected management skills. Other side benefits included transfer of modern project and investment planning, and financing and management competencies, together with technology transfer. Although processes are normally long-term, they can yield results in the short term, too. Where there is the will, things can be done, Mr Henttonen stated.

Mr Henttonen went on to explain the funding system of the Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership. It is recognised as an effective model for international cooperation, based on a co-financing structure composed of loans, grants and local funds. EBRD, NIB, NEFCO and EIB provide the necessary loans for financial packages

and preparation of project concepts for NDEP. The NDEP Steering Group will shortly be seeking new funding for intensive project development.

Mr Jean-Marc Venineaux, DG Regio, EU Commission, spoke about the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, its overall development, evaluation, projects and expectations. The Strategy and Action Programme was adopted by the European Council in October 2009. The Strategy has four important partners: Iceland, Norway, Belarus and Russia. Contacts with these countries are useful, positive and encouraging, and it is expected that cooperation will be developed in many domains of the Strategy.

The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region is the first macro-regional strategy in the EU. It was agreed on the basis of the principles of no new EU institutions, no new EU funding and no new EU legislation. The Strategy should be seen as a means of strengthening existing legislation and institutions, and making the most of existing funding.

Mr Venineaux reported that the main task during the first nine months of the implementation phase was to establish the necessary structures to organise the Priority Areas and to ensure that the Flagship Projects were launched. The Strategy has successfully used existing structures in a pragmatic and flexible way.

According to Mr Venineaux, the Strategy was based on a flexible and lean governance structure. National Contact Points have been set up by all eight participating Member States in the region to assist the implementation of the Strategy at national level. Through its Environmental Priority Areas, the Strategy aims at providing a supportive framework for HELCOM activities, as well as for follow-up activities of the Baltic Sea Action Summit.

Because of its strong maritime component, the Strategy is an important part of the process towards regional implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union in the Baltic Sea Region. It also serves as a platform for establishing a maritime community in the region.

Mr Venineaux reminded participants that the Strategy was not a funding instrument. Funding is to be raised from existing sources. A systematic approach to the alignment of policies should also be put in place to ensure that sectoral policies take due consideration to the specific characteristics of the Baltic Sea Region. In order to maintain high-level political pressure and strong political commitment, platforms should be established for the region's leaders to engage in political dialogue on the implementation and the future of the Strategy, Mr Venineaux concluded.

Mr Mathias Bergman, Secretary General of the Baltic Sea Action Group, gave a presentation of the Baltic Sea Action Group and its activities. The Group is a private foundation working in four areas closely related to the HELCOM Action Plan.

The Baltic Sea Action Group addresses all problems, and observes that eutrophication is the major threat for the Baltic Sea. Another threat is the heavy maritime traffic. More than 2,000 ships are sailing

in the Baltic Sea at any given moment. The main routes go through extremely sensitive bird and marine mammal habitats.

Mr Bergman explained that the Summit was an innovative initiative with the task of gathering practical and binding commitments from private and public stakeholders. He described the outcome of the first Baltic Sea Action Summit, held in February 2010 in Helsinki, as a success. It obtained 147 commitments from the participating stakeholders, each containing a concrete measure for the Baltic Sea. He mentioned, for instance, that the projects arising from the commitment of the Parliament of Åland Islands, as well as that of BSPC, are running well. New commitments are received all the time, and the Action Group will keep up the momentum to implement them.

Ms Gestrin felt that, in order to remedy eutrophication, immediate measures were needed in the agriculture, industry and transport sectors. Ultimately though, it is our lifestyle that is the basic cause of pressure on the ecosystems.

Mr Michel Orda, MP, Belarus expressed his gratitude for being invited to the Conference as a guest, and hoped that Belarus soon will be granted observer status in the BSPC. Mr Orda informed participants that, in March 2010, a standing committee was established in the Parliament of Belarus with the task of maintaining contacts with BSPC. This was a strong expression of the interest and the commitment to work more closely in the Baltic Sea Region. Belarus enjoys observer status in CBSS and is involved in Baltic energy cooperation. Belarus wishes to develop its involvement in the energy co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region. Northern Dimension, social welfare and security in the region are other highly esteemed issues in Belarus. Mr Orda also mentioned human rights and combating organised crime as potential areas of cooperation. He also underlined that cooperation in the customs area is important for Belarus.

Approximately 50% of Belarus lies in the Baltic Sea catchment area. Belarus has good experience of contributing to a range of programmes. Belarus must reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to proceed environmentally



Mr Jaakko Henttonen



*Mr Jean-Marc
Venineaux*



Mr Mathias Bergman



Mr Mikhaïl Orda

along the lines of the Kyoto Protocol mechanism. Mr Orda appreciated the opportunity for Belarus to participate in the Northern Dimension partnerships for environment, public health and social well-being, and for transport and logistics.

Ms Sinikka Bohlin, MP, Sweden, referred to the fact that almost 20 years had passed since the first BSPC in Helsinki 1991. She noted that parliamentarians have tools for promoting the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan and the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. These should be discussed in the national parliaments and at the next Conference too. She agreed with those who argue that the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region should be linked systematically to the Northern Dimension, and she advocated a clear parliamentary perspective in the Northern Dimension.

She also talked about the role of civil society in the region, and emphasised the utmost importance of NGOs and citizens fully supporting the work of BSPC. Governments were more inclined to implement the parliamentary declarations if there was solid backing from civil society, Ms Bohlin believed.

She expressed a wish that BSPC would review its own working methods. She was grateful that the ministers from Åland attended the conference and met the parliamentarians in the debates, but also wondered why ministers from other Baltic Sea countries did not attend.

Mr Vatanyar Yagya, MP, St Petersburg, supported Ms Gestrin's idea to change the name of the BSPC to Baltic Sea Parliamentary *Council*, which might be a more appropriate title. It would not only indicate a forum as such, but also comprise a permanent parliamentary dimension in the Baltic Sea Region.

He proposed that BSPC should put greater emphasis on the regional parliaments and their work, as they are responsible for the finances and the implementation of legislation at regional level. This would make the work more relevant for the man in the street and the citizens of the region.

Mr Yagya reiterated the need for clear connections between the Northern Dimension and the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. As far as the Northern Dimension projects pre-



Ms Sinikka Bohlin



Mr Vatanyar Yagya



Ms Anita Brodén



Mr Georgy Leontiev

sented by Mr Henttonen were concerned, Mr Yagya was surprised that so many projects lacked funding. He hoped that there could be funding earmarked for Northern Dimension within the framework of the international financing institutes.

Mr Yagya hoped that cooperation could be started between St Petersburg University and Finnish ecological institutes regarding the environmental problems of Lake Ladoga. He also proposed that the environmental legislation in the Baltic Sea countries should be coordinated as far as possible.

Ms Anita Brodén, MP, Sweden, was satisfied with the way the Conference was working, as it receives reports and background information from many leading experts. She stressed, however, that it was also important to reach practical conclusions.



Ms Brodén was concerned about the continuous discharge into the Baltic Sea from various wastewater systems, from individuals, and especially from ships and boats. She appreciated the work done by the Åland Islands on the issue of wastewater from vessels, and proposed that the Conference should decide to target the problem of wastewater, regardless of its sources.

Mr Georgy Leontiev, MP, Russia stated that climate change is an important issue for Russia. He was concerned that no agreement had been reached in Copenhagen in December 2009, and that the Kyoto Protocol is running out. Mr Leontiev thought that the EU target to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 30% below the 1990 level by 2020 is not enough, and that there should be a further 15% in order to make real progress.

He informed participants that Russia had passed a law on energy efficiency that was very much in line with the Kyoto requirements. Municipalities have a key role in implementing the law. One of the



committees in the State Duma is discussing nuclear energy with the aim of securing future energy power supply in Russia. The Russian Prime Minister, Mr Putin, has stated that nuclear energy is the only alternative to traditional energy sources, Mr Leontiev reported.

Mr Antti Kaikkonen, MP, Finland, stated that the pollution of the Baltic Sea is a gloomy reality but even small actions taken in everyday life can have big positive effects on our environment. He agreed that national and regional parliaments should play a major role in preparing relevant Baltic Sea protection projects and overseeing their implementation.

He also stated that economic development and environmental protection are not mutually exclusive. Many environmental projects can create new jobs, for instance in the field of renewable energy. Greater energy efficiency, the lowest possible level of pollution, and recycling of resources are all needed in order to bring about change, he concluded.

Mr Franz Thönnies, MP, Germany joined those who felt that the parliamentarians have an important role for the development and protection of the Baltic Sea Region. He referred to the Baltic Sea Labour Network, where the aim was to foster cross-border labour markets. He underlined the importance of parliamentary motions and also the need for feedback from parliaments and governments in the region. Moreover, he was in favour of changing the name 'Conference' to 'Council', as it would correctly reflect the way the organisation had developed in recent years.

Mr Lahnstein commented on the role of parliamentarians and hoped that the parliamentary side would present as specific recommendations as possible. He vowed that the Norwegian presidency will take all proposals in the BSPC Resolution into consideration, and stressed that parliamentarians play an important role by, for instance, simultaneously posing joint questions to all the governments of the Baltic Sea Region.



Mr Antti Kaikkonen



Mr Franz Thönnies



Second Session:

Impact of Climate Change on the Biodiversity in the Baltic Sea Region

Mr Erik Bonsdorff, Professor, Åbo Academy, Finland, provided background information about climate change and biodiversity. He started by wishing that people could distinguish between climate and weather, which is a question of time. The climate is changing because the Earth is warming. Global warming is predicted to be 2–4 degrees over the next 70–80 years.

Biodiversity is the variation of life forms within a given habitat or on the entire Earth. It is often used as a measure of the health of an ecosystem. Global warming is a rapidly escalating process that will get worse if it is not tackled now. It will be very hard to counteract climate change, and so it is crucial to do the utmost to prevent the negative effects of the other stressors in the system today.

Mr Bonsdorff described the situation that fisheries will collapse unless fish-stocks are repaired, and that the effects of harmful substances will grow as temperature increases. Marine protected areas are needed, and biodiversity and ecosystem function must be considered a priority. Mr Bonsdorff warned that primary production will increase, and stronger and more frequent cyanobacterial and harmful algal blooms will follow. The cold-water species are at risk, and they will be replaced with species that can tolerate low salinity and warmer water, i.e. a different marine ecosystem than the one known today. Non-native invasive species will become more dominant than today, increasing risks of harmful organisms occurring.

The Baltic Sea dead zone can be expected to further increase in area and volume, with direct consequences for fisheries. Many cold-water fish species may more or less disappear, and some species may increase. Baltic Sea fisheries may be completely different to those of today. Once an ecosystem starts heading in one direction it is almost impossible to change the direction. Agriculture, fishing, shipping and forestry are areas that should rethink their working methods and their consequences.



Mr Erik Bonsdorff



Ms Maria Staniszevska

Mr Bonsdorff noted that much research is being done, and that HELCOM has done a huge job in compiling the results. Climate change effects cannot be treated separately from other factors. Simple engineering solutions are not sufficient, but science in support of management is also needed, Mr Bonsdorff concluded.

Ms Anne Christine Brusendorff, Executive Secretary, HELCOM, noticed that biodiversity in itself is valuable. HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan is an ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities, and it contains customised measures and actions for eutrophication, hazardous substances, maritime activities, biodiversity and nature conservation. Protection of biodiversity is a priority.

HELCOM and VASAB are going to start cooperation to support the elaboration of common broad-scale marine spatial planning principles for the Baltic Sea. Eutrophication and fisheries stand out as the two most prominent human pressures behind changes, especially in the communities in the Baltic Sea offshore areas. All marine mammals and several bird species are under threat or in decline in much of the Baltic Sea.

Ms Maria Staniszevska, M.Sc., Poland, spoke about climate change, eutrophication and loss of biodiversity as interacting factors in the environment. Increasing temperature, lower salinity and eutrophication influences biodiversity. Increased temperatures stimulate pelagic bacteria more than primary production. The ratio between bacteria biomass and phytoplankton is expected to increase with temperature in eutrophied waters. The combination of decreasing salinity and increasing temperature will clearly impair the general condition of native benthic species and their adaptability to cope with other stressors, e.g. low oxygen levels due to chemical pollution.

Eutrophication poses a direct threat to the health of the Baltic Sea ecosystem. Changes of phytoplankton biomass and species composition reflect eutrophication but also climatic change. Eutrophication is expected to enhance production in the ecosystem up to a central point, after which the system will collapse because of interaction of several mechanisms



Mr Jochen Schulte



Mr Werner Kubn



Mr Tero Jokilehto



Mr Carsten Jürgensen

such as chemical and biotic interaction. After this a new ecological balance will develop, which may be characterised by low biodiversity.

In order to remedy the situation Ms Staniszewska argued that the Baltic Sea countries should fully implement all agreements in the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan in all sectors, especially the reduction of nutrients. They should also take stronger action against eutrophication, for instance by improving the sanitation systems in rural areas.

Mr Jochen Schulte, MP, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Chair of the BSPC Working Group on Integrated Maritime Policy, gave an interim report on the activities of the BSPC Working Group on Integrated Maritime Policy. The meetings have showed that maritime safety and climate protection constitute the principal political content of deliberations and are closely linked to the competitiveness of the Baltic Sea Region. The harmful effects of ship-generated emissions and the designation of Sulphur Emission Control Areas were at the centre of deliberations.

During its first year, the Working Group decided to make recommendations such as the following:

- Encourage the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) to bring forward the start of worldwide lowering of the sulphur content of marine fuels to 0.5 percent,
- Examine whether, and to what extent, a further reduction to 0.1 percent would result in unacceptable competitive disadvantages for the Baltic Sea Region, and what measures might be taken to avoid or compensate for such disadvantages.

The use of shore-side electricity at berth and alternative fuels is a necessary and promising way of dealing with pollutant emissions from shipping. Mr Schulte proposed that the European Union could introduce a tax exemption for shore-side electricity used by ships.

Harmonised data communication, strict traffic monitoring and mandatory pilots in difficult sea areas continue to be regarded as ways of further enhancing maritime safety. Continuous traffic monitoring and management should be improved for the entire Baltic Sea Region by harmonising existing vessel monitoring and traffic management services, Mr Schulte argued.

Mr Werner Kuhn, MEP, Germany, gave an introduction to the Integrated Maritime Policy of the EU. He described the targets of the Integrated Maritime Policy as being cross-sectoral, aiming at open cooperation between different policy areas.

Maritime spatial planning is a process designed to promote rational and sustainable use of the sea, balancing different interests including environmental aspects and improving the quality of decisions. The EU countries are not obliged to carry out maritime spatial planning. However, the European Commission is promoting this process as a stable and transparent way to improve the competitiveness of the EU maritime economy and to deal with complex trans-national issues such as the effects of climate change, Mr Kuhn explained.

Mr Kuhn illustrated how the Integrated Maritime Policy is a holistic approach to maritime development, including energy issues, spatial planning, fishing, emissions, transport and recreation.

Maritime spatial planning is a horizontal tool and a key instrument for the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy.

Mr Tero Jokilehto, Senior Specialist, Finland, argued that there were far too many regulations written in order to regulate the shipping industry. While the Baltic Sea continues to be one of the most heavily trafficked seas in the world, the number of ship accidents has dropped drastically, especially in such busy traffic areas as the Gulf of Finland, according to the latest HELCOM study.

Mr Jokilehto stated that there is a need for control and advising, but control, rules, regulations and guidelines are positive only so far as they are manageable. A single shipowner might have difficulties when trying to read all the regulations, e.g. for the transports in the Baltic Sea Region. New regulations are coming all the time. Harbours can even have their own regulations, and so forth.

Mr Jokilehto recommended that the main regulatory work should be done through IMO. He reminded that parliamentarians should be watchdogs in the work. He recommended that even local regulations should always be negotiated via IMO. Control consists of verifying total compliance with the plan adopted, the instructions used and principles established. Mr Jokilehto wished that there could be one book relevant for the region on the bridge of the vessel, written in a language that is understood by all the personnel of the ship.

Mr Carsten Jürgensen, BRISK, Denmark, presented the BRISK project, which is a flagship project in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. It is an overall risk analysis with common methodology for the entire Baltic Sea Region, with the aim of identifying areas with highest risk of oil spills and environmental damage. BRISK includes effects of oil spill response and, at the same time, takes into account characteristics of different sub-regions, ice conditions etc. The picture of the distribution of the risk for different spill sizes and spilled substances and risk assessment includes prognosis of the maritime traffic, introduction of risk reduction measures and development of emergency responses. The result is given in operational terms. The project fits into the HELCOM BSAP. The general objective is to help build up sufficient emergency capacity and pollution response capability in the Baltic Sea Region, Mr Jürgensen explained.

Ms Valentina Pivnenko, MP, State Duma, Russia, referring to Mr Jürgensen's presentation, expressed a wish for more specific information on the potential accidents that might occur if Russian tankers collide with other vessels, as Mr Jürgensen had indicated. Ms Pivnenko wondered whether the Russian ship officers possess adequate training and experience, as Russian tankers are mentioned. She reminded participants about the system in which Estonia, Finland and Russia are working together and the positive results generated in terms of decreasing numbers of accidents in the Gulf of Finland.

Mr Jürgensen answered that the concern of the countries is based on the critically dense traffic, where big tankers are always a risk. According to him, the Russian vessels were in good shape and were well run by professional, experienced and engaged personnel. But

it is the frequent and dense traffic that comprised a risk factor. Intensified traffic, including more oil tankers, always increases risks at sea.

Ms Susanna Huovinen, MP, Finland, felt that data was needed for decision-making; consequently she was grateful to HELCOM for delivering information. At the same time she was concerned about the situation that almost nowhere are we close to achieving the goals regarding the health status of the Baltic Sea. She referred to a report on the Baltic Sea issued by the Finnish Government to the parliament in 2009, including some 70 actions and governmental follow-up. She called for more concrete actions about funding and better co-ordination between nations and organisations in order to achieve more results. Ms Huovinen mentioned the COFREP system between Estonia, Finland and Russia, which is a mandatory reporting system that has reduced accidents in the Gulf of Finland. To regulate is to prevent accidents. What could be needed, however, is better agreement on follow-up of the regulations, Ms Huovinen concluded.



Ms Susanna Huovinen



Ms Lisbeth Grönfeldt Bergman

Ms Lisbeth Grönfeldt-Bergman, MP, Sweden, was concerned about competitiveness in the region. She proposed that the BSPC Working Group on Integrated Maritime Policy should look at the situation from the perspective of industry and shipping, and try to work to give these sectors good conditions in the Baltic Sea Region. Smart technological solutions should be sought in energy and fuel development. She hoped that the working group could generate concrete proposals in time for the next conference.



Mr Börje Vestlund

Börje Vestlund, MP, Sweden, agreed with Ms Lisbeth Grönfeldt-Bergman that competitiveness should be incorporated in the discussion when comparing the conditions for a vessel from the Mediterranean to one from the Baltic Sea. The IMO sulphur regulation increases costs for sea transports as well as reduces competitiveness for e.g. the forestry industry in the Baltic Sea Region.



Mr Bernd Voss

Mr Bernd Voss, MP, Parliament of Schleswig-Holstein referred to the cooperation between the universities of St Petersburg and Kiel dating from the 1920s. He saw it as an ex-

ample of contact between people that is characteristic for the region. He noted that neither fish nor fishermen are doing well in the region and therefore argued for stronger parliamentary action on fisheries.



Tuesday 31 August

Third Session:

The Baltic Sea Region as an Area of Peace and Security

Dr Sia Spiliopoulou Åkermark, Professor, Director, Åland Islands Peace Institute, started by illustrating how the concept of security had changed and developed new dimensions through time. Talking about security in the Baltic Sea Region she was convinced that security concerns at government level in the Baltic Sea Region have not decreased in recent years. On the contrary, NATO has recently made contingency plans for the Baltic States and increased the frequency of exercises in the Baltic Sea Region, including Partnership for Peace countries such as Sweden and Finland. The image of peace has been modified by the introduction of the concept of human security.

Dr Spiliopoulou Åkermark used some examples to illustrate today's work for peace. She stated that work focusing on gender quality and prevention of trafficking means preventing the causes that allow development of organised crime. This means addressing issues of gender inequality, gender stereotypes, sexual and domestic violence and holding continuous debate on these themes, in particular with young people, girls and boys alike.

Dr Spiliopoulou Åkermark talked about civil society contacts, observing that NGO cooperation enhances contacts between countries and persons who would not otherwise meet, in spite of being neighbours around the same sea. A problem is how to finance these contacts. In many smaller countries and regions around the Baltic Sea there is neither the financial nor institutional capacity to make use of the enormous funds available at international level. And some of the countries are themselves unable or unwilling to contribute with the kind of co-funding usually required.

Speaking about management of diversity and multiculturalism, Ms Spiliopoulou Åkermark observed that the Baltic Sea region has several



*Ms Sia Spiliopoulou
Åkermark*



Mr Pertti Joenniemi



*Mr Charly Saloniuss-
Pasternak*



Mr Trivimi Velliste

examples of management of diversity and regional identity. She took as an example the increased awareness of the situation of the Sami people in the north.

Regional self-government is debated in various parts of the world as a potential solution to conflicts. The Åland Islands is a good example, but there are also good models in democracy and self-government in several other regions around the Baltic Sea. There are two interesting things about the Åland example: firstly, the combination of demilitarisation and neutrality with regional autonomy, and secondly the longevity of the regime.

Mr Pertti Joenniemi talked about the relationship between the Baltic Sea Region and Europe. We might be used to regarding Europe as consisting of a concentric configuration, i.e. a setting where our own policy tries to remedy our marginality by moving towards the core. But we are, in fact, being offered the role of a creative force in a regional sense, Mr Joenniemi suggested.

Security has traditionally held a central role in the debate concerning the Baltic Sea Region. It has therefore brought about a divided political landscape. With issues pertaining to alliances, balances, security guarantees, etc. high on the agenda, there has been very little space for regionalisation to unfold and impact the political landscape. It would be an overstatement to claim that the Baltic Sea Region remains stuck with the old power political discourse, but there may well be issues to pursue pertaining to various soft forms of security.

The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region aims to create a rather pluralistic constellation instead of staying within the confines of a concentric one. This time Brussels does not seem to insist on imposing strict conditions for the unfolding of regionalisation. Instead, the message seems to be encouraging the Baltic Sea Region to continue precisely on the basis of its own logic. The argument is that we should remain precisely where we already are.

Mr Joenniemi argued that there are clear signs of a formative moment in European development, with far greater emphasis on a rather de-centred Europe of macro-regions than has been the case previously. The constitutive discourse impacting the unfolding of political space in Europe seems to be changing and it also positions the Baltic Sea Region in a new context. Considerable possibilities are opening up, but the change underway also entails formidable challenges. Therefore, yet another switch to a new discourse seems to be needed to prevent us being stuck with an already outdated one, Mr Joenniemi concluded.

Mr Trivimi Velliste, MP, Estonia, Vice President of the Baltic Assembly, described the Baltic Sea Region today being neither a homogeneous, united nor integrated area. It can be characterised by differences between the countries in terms of size, development and welfare, even proximity to the sea itself. The countries have also different perceptions of their history. In spite of this, the countries in the Baltic Sea Region are united by important political objectives. They have a common political agenda and they enjoy dynamic eco-





conomic cooperation. The regional cooperation has indeed provided significant security and stability. The Baltic Sea Region is quite a typical European region where a great variety of nations and policies meet in a relatively small space.

Mr Velliste reviewed the situation in the region. According to him, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union brought about substantial change in Sweden's and Finland's neutrality. Alongside new developments in the foreign policies of the countries concerned, there was also unprecedented activity in international institutions in the region. Mr Velliste also felt that, despite many fundamental changes in the Baltic Sea Region and renewing dynamism of the security system, it is universally recognised that the region was, and remains, one of the most stable parts of Europe.

Old threats, including nuclear weapons, persist in new forms, while new threats have emerged. These new forms of insecurity, which include financial instability, environmental degradation, energy dependence, organised crime and terrorism, are more diverse, less visible and less predictable than ever before. According to Mr Velliste, security analysis requires answers to three main questions: what needs to be secured; from whom; and how to secure. A security review should also develop ways to make Russia feel more attracted to, and less marginalised by, the institutions and organisations of European security, thereby encouraging Russia to define itself as a real stakeholder in the European security architecture, rather than as a critic of the system.

It is necessary to seek new methods and means in order to combat asymmetric threats, including cyber attacks and organised crime, Mr Velliste concluded.

Mr Charly Salonijs-Pasternak, Researcher, the Finnish Institute of International Affairs, started by stating that there are currently three plus one security communities in the Baltic Sea Region: the Nordics, Baltic Three, and the "Hansa Core" of Germany and Poland. In addition, these three groups form a larger internal security community. Despite the significant changes that have taken place in the Baltic Sea Region in the past 20 years – with EU and NATO memberships being the most significant from a security perspective – there have been no wars in the region. Mr Salonijs-Pasternak noticed that overall cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region has increased with growing stability, as all but one Baltic Sea country has joined either EU or NATO, or both.

Increased interdependence in economics and trade, as well as history, has provided much of the coherence. Mr Salonijs-Pasternak speculated about the future, stating that EU consolidation and NATO expansion means that by 2020 there will effectively be two players in the field of security in the Baltic Sea area: the EU/NATO security community and Russia. This will mean that for Finland and the three Baltic states, the Baltic Sea Region is not, and will not in the coming decades, be a unified security community. According to Mr Salonijs-Pasternak, any changes to this are largely dependent on internal changes and dynamics in Russia.

The situation has repercussions at national level, in terms of Baltic Sea Region cooperation and also more broadly. At national level, money is expended and resources used on military and other hard security related matters that could be used for other purposes, concluded Mr Saloniuss-Pasternak.

Mr Björn Lyrvall, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden praised the cooperation concept in the Baltic Sea Region where all levels of society cooperate in a decentralised way. The region has positive characteristics as the cooperation is a profound sub-regional phenomenon. Russian participation is one of the crucial factors.

Speaking about Europe, Mr Lyrvall observed that it is an area of interdependence. There is a transition taking place towards a more globalised world, and the area is facing new threats and challenges that go beyond traditional concepts of hard security. Trans-border and borderless activities are often complex as we head towards a multilateral and broader non-military and non-state situation. Sweden has recognised that it is as important to work with the security of the individual as it is to work with the security of the state.

Mr Lyrvall described the Nordic-Baltic cooperation, called NB8, and announced that an expert report on the future cooperation was presented recently. As the NB8 framework was established in the early 1990s a strategy update was needed on how to strengthen this cooperation. The new report with its 38 hands-on recommendations will now be discussed in order to develop this cooperation further.

Mr Lyrvall also mentioned the Arctic Council and Barents Council as highly prioritised organisations in regional cooperation. Sweden is taking an active part in the development of these regional councils. Nowhere else in Europe is Russia more involved in security cooperation than in the northern European region. Every security challenge involves Russia, and Russia is a part of every solution.

Speaking about the Northern Dimension, Mr Lyrvall observed that the participating states do not always necessarily agree on everything at the practical level. In spite of such difficulties, the Baltic Sea Region has shown that



Mr Björn Lyrvall



Mr Erkki Tuomioja



Ms Line Barfod



Ms Gabriele Dobusch



practical regional cooperation is possible and also fruitful. We share the region and the future with Russia, and continue to cooperate, Mr Lyrvall concluded.

Mr Erkki Tuomioja, MP, Finland observed that the Baltic Sea is today an open region for everyone. And for the first time ever, the Baltic Sea Region embraces only countries committed to democratic principles and to the recognition of human rights. At the same time, the Baltic Sea Region is an area where all the new threats to the broad concept of security can be found.

Concerns about traditional military threats have not all disappeared and there are still too many weapons, including nuclear weapons, in or close to the Baltic Sea Region. As these weapons are not deployed primarily for reasons related to the region itself, their reduction is more likely to come about as a result of more comprehensive and global disarmament and arms control negotiations.

States could also use military resources to enhance confidence and cooperation in the region. Mr Tuomioja took as an example the navies that could be engaged to cooperate on maritime surveillance and rescue services as they no longer have much use as a deterrent for potential invaders. He welcomed the project of the Nord Stream gas pipeline as an example of the kind of trans-national cooperation that will promote positive interdependence between Russia and the EU.

Mr Tuomioja shared the opinion regarding NGO participation in regional co-operation. People-to-people contacts are fundamentally important in facilitating and promoting democracy and peace.

Ms Line Barfod, MP, Denmark, Chair of the BSPC Working Group on Civil Security, especially Trafficking in Human Beings, gave a gloomy picture about trafficking and its repercussions. On the one hand there is a demand for cheap labour and sexual services, and on the other hand there are people with poor living conditions and little or no hope for the future. This market is exploited by criminals who lure or coerce their victims into slavery. They take advantage of people who have little or no opportunities to provide for themselves and their families. This is something that goes on, and not only in poor, remote countries. It also takes place here within our own region. People are sold on an equal footing to drugs and weapons but, unlike drugs and weapons where profit can only be made once, victims of trafficking can be sold again and again. And this is the brutal perspective that makes human trafficking such an extremely lucrative business with a very high profit margin. At the same time, there is little risk of the people responsible being caught and punished, which is why human trafficking is one of the most rapidly-growing types of criminality, not only in the Baltic region and Europe, but also in a global context.

Consequently, the problem is both local and international and must therefore be placed high on the political agenda at both levels. It is not enough to leave the problem to international organisations. Human trafficking is very much a local problem. We must fight the factors that make people vulnerable and we have to make sure that

victims find the necessary support to regain control over their lives, Ms Barfod said.

Ms Barfod described the meetings, working methods, contacts with other stakeholders and recommendations drafted by the group. The focus areas are as follows: national and regional perspectives concerning human trafficking; economic aspects of human trafficking; victims of human trafficking; children as victims of human trafficking; police and prosecution awareness. The Working Group is a political working group that can make joint political recommendations. Ms Barfod was pleased to report that, despite different national and party political convictions, the Working Group has not found it difficult to reach consensus on its recommendations.

Ms Gabriele Dobusch, MP, Hamburg, shared the opinion of Ms Barfod that trafficking is an issue that must be tackled on a united front. She was concerned about the lack of data about women working unofficially in restaurants, hotels, households and childcare. It is social dumping that is difficult to stop. Women in particular end up working in very poor conditions. The concept of free movement has led to low salaries. The number of identified victims will increase if there are no joint forces fighting for their rights. Raising awareness on trafficking is a good first step. Preventative work in the gender programmes is necessary, Ms Dobusch said.

Mr Nikolay Churkin, MP, Russia, declared that problems and risks in the Baltic Sea Region are first and foremost related to the relationship between the environment and citizens. People in the region live together without threatening each other. Speaking about the Russian fleet in the Baltic Sea, Mr Churkin emphasised that it is training solely for anti-terrorist actions. Three ships are using this area for training to counter Somali pirates, and weapons are used only for training. The Russian territory in the Baltic Sea Region is an area of stability. Eight of the Baltic Sea states are NATO countries, and Mr Churkin hoped that this will not lead to polarity, but that countries can work together in a pragmatic way.

Mr Churkin urged the BSPC to continue its



Mr Nikolay Churkin



Ms Sinikka Boblin



Mr Stanislaw Wziatek

co-operation with non-EU states in the region. The Russian Federation will fully participate in co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region, which is highly regarded by Russian decision-making bodies.

Ms Sinikka Bohlin, MP, Sweden, observed that security systems are being sold more than ever in our countries. There is an anxiety in society that parliamentarians must address.

Mr Stanislaw Wziatek, MP, Poland thought that parliamentarians should have visions and goals and efficient ways to attaining credible solutions, which can also be applied in the area of peace and security. Political dialogue ought to turn from endeavours and wishes to concrete action. Mr Wziatek referred to the environment in the Baltic Sea and reminded participants about the chemical weapons lying on the sea bed. Purity of water ought to be a priority, as there might come a time when the waters are dangerous because of the chemicals. The elimination of munitions from World War II is an important task. He also spoke about the NATO-Russia relationship in the light of the report of the so-called NATO group of wise men, and hoped that a new strategic NATO concept should arise.



Adoption of Documents and Closing of the Conference

Ms Christina Gestrin informed participants about the work of the Enlarged Standing Committee acting as Drafting Committee during the conference. The BSPC Work Programme 2010–2011, revised BSPC Rules of Procedure, and, not least, the 19th BSPC Resolution, was then adopted unanimously by the Conference.

Ms Gestrin thanked all participants for their active involvement and constructive debate, and looked forward to continued and intense activities in all BSPC bodies during the coming year. She reminded all parliamentarians to take the resolution back to their parliaments and governments and urge them to implement its recommendations. She reiterated her thanks to the host, the Åland Islands, for inviting the BSPC to Mariehamn, and to the Åland Islands secretariat for its skilful and smooth organisation of the Conference. Next year it will be 20 years since the first parliamentary conference was held in Helsinki. Ms Gestrin closed the conference by welcoming participants to the 20th conference in Helsinki.



Conference Resolution

Adopted by the 19th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference (BSPC)

The participants, elected representatives from the Baltic Sea States*, assembling in Mariehamn, Åland Islands, 29–31 August 2010, discussing Co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region, Climate Change and Biodiversity, Integrated Maritime Policy, Peace and Security in the Baltic Sea Region, and Trafficking in Human Beings,

- A. emphasizing the important role parliamentarians can play for a sustainable development of the Baltic Sea Region, by raising awareness, building opinion, driving issues, exerting political pressure on governments, and initiating and adopting legislation;
- B. reaffirming the close, constructive and mutually beneficial exchange between BSPC and CBSS, as evidenced in e.g. the interaction between BSPC and CBSS working bodies on trafficking in human beings and on integrated maritime policy, and recognizing the usefulness of this interaction as a joint resource in following and addressing the economic, social and political challenges of the Baltic Sea Region;
- C. maintaining its strong support to the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan as one of the main tools for the restoration of good ecological status of the Baltic Sea by 2021, regretting that not all HELCOM member states had managed – as they had agreed – to present national implementation plans at the HELCOM Ministerial Meeting in Moscow 20 May, and expecting that those countries that did not deliver national implementation plans will do so at the high-level meeting of HELCOM in early 2011 at the latest;
- D. noting with satisfaction the adoption of the declaration “A Vision for the Baltic Sea Region by 2020” at the 8th Summit of the Baltic Sea States in Vilnius in June 2010, and considering the implementation of its provisions as a key factor for further development of the Baltic Sea Region;
- E. taking note of the adoption of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region in October 2009, underlining that since the EU strategy is an internal EU endeavor, it should be adequately harmonized with the Northern Dimension policy, which brings together EU- and non-EU- members as equal cooperating partners;

**Parliaments of Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Greenland, Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Latvia, Leningrad, Lithuania, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Norway, Poland, Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, City of St. Petersburg, Schleswig-Holstein, Sweden, Åland Islands, Baltic Assembly, European Parliament, Nordic Council, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.*



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- F. supporting the Baltic Sea Action Summit as a platform for practical commitments aiming at saving the Baltic Sea, and reaffirming the BSPC commitment to the Summit to continue to take political initiatives, to follow the actions taken by the states in the region, and to exercise parliamentary pressure on the national governments of the Baltic Sea Region, urging them to fulfill their obligations in the Baltic Sea Action Plan,

call on the governments in the Baltic Sea Region, the CBSS and the EU,

Regarding Co-operation in the Region, to

1. consider ways to further strengthen cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region between the CBSS and the BSPC in order to ensure cohesion and to avoid divisions in the Baltic Sea Region, while supporting CBSS in implementing the aims of its reform process and achieving concrete results within the framework of its long-time priorities;
2. fulfil their already agreed obligations under the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan, in particular – for those who have not already done so – by producing concrete National Implementation Plans by early 2011 at the latest;
3. fulfil their commitments to the Baltic Sea Action Summit, for instance by allocating sufficient resources for the actual implementation of commitments;
4. coordinate as far as possible the EU Baltic Sea Strategy with the Northern Dimension policy, as well as with the Council of the Baltic Sea States – being a core regional cooperation body – and other Northern and Baltic cooperation bodies;
5. provide contributions to the BSAP Trust Fund managed by the Nordic Investment Bank and the Nordic Environment Finance Corporation, thereby strengthening the resources for the development of bankable projects, meaning coherent, realistic and viable projects to implement environmental and other projects for the benefit of the Baltic Sea Region;
6. work to gradually dismantle barriers encountered by workers, companies and tourists, such as visa requirements and requirements to register place of residence, continue to work towards dismantling obstacles to mobility for workers in the border regions and ensure the availability of a range of high-quality information centres ensuring social security for cross-border workers;
7. promote the further development of civil society in the region, including assisting NGOs both in accessing Baltic Sea support programmes and in placing applications in order to boost their involvement in implementing the programmes;

Regarding Climate Change and Biodiversity in the Baltic Sea Region, to

8. apply an ecosystem approach to the environmental work in the Baltic Sea Region, including investments, research and development to protect ecosystem services and to integrate their values in economic systems, national budgets and strategies for sustainable development, as appropriate;
9. support measures to protect and restore biodiversity, such as reinstating migratory waterways, restoring physical environments, oxygenization and restocking;
10. enhance work with the aim of preventing the continued introduction of alien invasive species of flora and fauna in the Baltic Sea by ships, for instance by developing technologies for ballast water treatment and by a possible ban against ballast water exchange in certain areas;
11. take active measures to protect threatened species, minimize by-catches and phase out discard in fishing, and to ensure that commercial fishing respects catch quotas and fishing areas;
12. take strong and focused measures to eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing, by reinforcing inspection resources and by strengthening landing control;





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Regarding Integrated Maritime Policy in the Baltic Sea Region, to

13. promote new measures in view of reduction of harmful emissions:
 - render more active support than heretofore to short sea shipping as an eco-friendly alternative to inland transport;
 - investigate to what extent the reduction of the sulphur content of ship fuels may result in competitive disadvantages to the economy in the Baltic Sea Region and elaborate proposals on how to avoid such disadvantages while maintaining high environmental standards in the maritime sector;
 - actively support the projects approved for funding under the Baltic region Programme, especially such projects with the objective to reduce harmful emissions from ships and develop reception facilities for waste water from ships in the ports of the Baltic Sea;
14. support the implementation of improved security and fire prevention measures regarding vessels, terminals, ports, sea and shore-line constructions as well as the use of environmentally friendly substances to alleviate damages caused by accidents;
15. extend the obligatory use of pilots in risk areas of the Baltic Sea and strictly implement the ban on transporting oil in single-hulled tankers;
16. initiate measures which 1) pave the way for and promote the use of a single language in international transport operations at sea and on land, and 2) standardize and facilitate the implementation of joint customs and taxation procedures;
17. continue to ensure improvements to the transport infrastructure in the Baltic Sea Region and, while focussing in particular on developing land and sea routes, to promote a transport policy that is in principle governed by the idea that transport operations should be carried out in an eco-friendly way, supported by an interconnected infrastructure;
18. make sure that the EU TEN-T core network must be made up of nodes (capitals, other cities or agglomerations of supra-regional importance, gateway ports, intercontinental hub ports and airports, the most important inland ports and freight terminals) and connections of the highest strategic and economic importance linked with key infrastructure in third countries (including Russia).
19. attach particular importance to the strategic development of the seaports with associated logistics centres and rail terminals in order to create national, regional and European networks. In this context, gaps in the priority TEN projects should be filled, and the projects should be linked and consolidated into a core network;
20. support initiatives for improving safety of navigation and environmental risk reduction in the Baltic Sea and addressing the human factor including support of initiatives that can lead to less administrative burdens by harmonizing and elaborating the existing ship reporting systems (SRS) and vessel traffic services (VTS) in the Baltic Sea;

21. strengthen the joint regional as well as national preparedness and capacity to tackle major spills of oil and hazardous substances, for instance by sub-regional preparations, co-ordination and exercises, as pursued in the HELCOM BRISK project, and by procuring sufficient supplies of oil spill and hazardous substances recovery equipment;

Regarding Peace and Security in the Baltic Sea Region, to

22. encourage and foster the development of a joint perception of the threats against public safety and civil security in the region, covering natural as well as technological and other man-made threats and risks;
23. promote the development of joint strategies, action programmes and concrete resources to prevent and manage the threats against civil security in the region;
24. extract and exchange experiences from recent threats, such as the bird flu in 2007, the cyber attacks in Estonia in 2007, and the swine flu in 2009, in order to gain knowledge and enhance the joint awareness and preparedness for such threats;
25. promote the dissemination of the experiences from the Baltic Sea Region regarding peace, security and development of democracy in political and diplomatic contacts in order to support democracy;
26. exchange available information on the location and state of sea-dumped chemical weapons, to inform the public about the threats caused by these weapons, to prepare guidelines for behaviour if unexpectedly encountered with sea-dumped chemical weapons, and to organize seminars and conferences on this issue.

Regarding Trafficking in Human Beings, to

27. sign, ratify and accede, for those countries that have not already done so, to all relevant international conventions, protocols and decisions, such as the Trafficking in Persons Protocol ("The Palermo Protocol"), the Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings, and other international agreements; consequently, national legislation and administration of justice should, where necessary, be reviewed and amended in order to ensure conformity with international conventions and protocols and to enable legislation that criminalizes all chains of trafficking in human beings;
28. recognize that trafficking in human beings is an international cross-border crime that requires international cooperation and concerted action across borders, but also that the actual exploitation of victims is perpetrated locally and therefore should be fought by enhanced local plans and resources, including efforts to curb the demand for sexual services from victims of trafficking;

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29. allocate sufficient, permanent and dedicated funds and resources to, for instance, public authorities, specialized agencies, NGOs, and inter-governmental organizations and projects, such as the CBSS Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings, in order to maintain the pursuit of persistent and sustained efforts against trafficking in human beings, for example by measures such as the Nordic Council internal instruction on using only those hotels that can issue a guarantee that they do not engage in any facilitation of selling or buying sexual services;
30. promote the development of an interoperable, coordinated and transparent system for the collection, analysis, exchange and dissemination of information on trafficking in human beings, in order to enhance the understanding of the problem, develop adequate measures against it, improve the capacity to identify victims of trafficking, support investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases, and provide best possible assistance to victims of trafficking;
31. ensure that a victim-centered approach is adopted in all measures and actions against trafficking in human beings, meaning that trafficking is exploitation irrespective of where it takes place or what form it takes, that the human rights of trafficked persons should be at the centre of all efforts against trafficking, that victims should be protected, assisted and empowered, and that victims and relatives of victims should receive unconditional assistance regardless of their status, their willingness to participate in criminal proceedings against traffickers or the kind of exploitation experienced;
32. promote and support the development of the operational capacity to fight trafficking in the field; efficient cooperation models should be developed both between relevant state actors – such as the police, prosecutors, social welfare authorities and migration authorities – and with NGOs, in order to strengthen the chain of assistance and protection of witnesses, victims and relatives of victims and to increase the number of convictions of the perpetrators;

Furthermore the Conference

33. asks the Standing Committee to perform an evaluation of the functioning of the BSPC Joint Financing Mechanism, including a consideration of a possible revision of the procedures for financing the Secretariat function;
34. adopts the amended Rules of Procedure, to take effect after the closure of 19th BSPC;
35. welcomes with gratitude the kind offer of the Parliament of Finland to host the 20th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference in Helsinki on 28 – 30 August 2011.

Programme

The 19th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference Mariehamn, Åland Islands, 29 – 31 August 2010

Sunday, 29th August

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|-------|---|
| 11.00 | The registration office opens at the Parliament Building |
| 13.00 | Excursion to ÅCA, a biogas and dairy plant. Visit to the ruins of the Fortress of Bomarsund via the Castle of Kastelholm.
Transportation from the Parliament Building.
Transportation are arranged for those arriving to the harbour of Väster hamn at 12.00 (Viking Line terminal) in Mariehamn. |
| 18.00 | BSPC Standing Committee meeting at Hotel Arkipelag. |
| 20.00 | Dinner at Alandica Cultur and Congress Centre
Host: The Parliament of Finland |

Monday, 30th August

- 07.45 The registration office opens at the Parliament Building.
- 08.00 Enlarged Standing Committee, as Drafting Committee, at Hotel Arkipelag.
- 09.00 **OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE**
 Chair: Ms Christina Gestrin, MP, Finland, Chairman of the BSPC
 Vice-Chair: Ms Valentina Pivnenko, MP, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Vice Chairman of the BSPC
 Welcome by Mr Roger Nordlund, Speaker of the Åland Parliament
 Music: Pianist Emanuele Ferrari,
 Solist Stephanie Jörgensen
- 09.30 Welcome by Mr Harry Jansson, Åland, Member of the Standing Committee of the BSPC, Chairman of the Åland parliament BSPC delegation
FIRST SESSION
Cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region
 Chair: Ms Christina Gestrin, MP, Finland, Chairman of the BSPC
 Vice-Chair: Ms Valentina Pivnenko, MP, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Vice Chairman of the BSPC
 Report from the Standing Committee
 Ms Christina Gestrin, MP, Finland, Chairman of the BSPC
 Report from CBSS
 Mr Erik Lahnstein, State Secretary, Norway
Coffee and Tea is served outside the Chamber.
- 10.30 Ms Diana Wallis, Vice-President, European Parliament
 HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan
 Ms Anne Christine Brusendorff, Executive Secretary, Helsinki Commission
 EU Baltic Sea Strategy and the Northern Dimension
 Mr Jaakko Henttonen, NDEP Manager, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
 Recipient of the Baltic Sea Prize 2010.
 EU Baltic Sea Strategy
 Mr Jean-Marc Venineaux, DG REGIO, European Commission
 The Baltic Sea Action Summit 2010
 Dr Mathias Bergman, Secretary General, Baltic Sea Action Group
 Plenary debate
- 12.30 **Lunch at Indigo Restaurant**

14.00

SECOND SESSION***Impact of Climate Change on the Biodiversity in the Baltic Sea Region***

Chair: Mr Franz Thönnies, MP, Germany, Member of the BSPC Standing Committee

Vice-Chair: Mr Trivimi Velliste, Vice President of the Baltic Assembly, Estonia,

Member of the BSPC Standing Committee

Dr Erik Bonsdorff, Professor, Åbo Academy

Ms Anne Christine Brusendorff, Executive Secretary, Helsinki Commission

Ms Maria Staniszevska, Master of Science, Polish Ecological Club City of Gliwice Chapter. Recipient of the Baltic Sea Prize 2005

15.15

Coffee and Tea is served outside the Chamber.

Progress report from BSPC Working Group on Integrated Maritime Policy

Mr Jochen Schulte, MP, Landtag Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Chairman of the Working Group

Mr Werner Kuhn, MP, European Parliament

Mr Tero Jokilehto, Senior Specialist, Ministry of Transport and Communications

The BRISK Project (Sub-regional Risk of Spill of Oil and Hazardous Substances in the Baltic Sea)

Mr Carsten Jürgensen, Doctor, COWI A/S Denmark
Plenary debate

17.30 – 19.00

Enlarged Standing Committee, as Drafting Committee, at Hotel Arkipelag

20.00

Dinner at S/S Pommern, a 4-masted barque

Host: Mr Roger Nordlund, Speaker of the Åland Parliament

Tuesday, 31st August

08.30 – 09.30 Enlarged Standing Committee, as Drafting Committee, at Hotel Arkipelag

09.30 **THIRD SESSION**

The Baltic Sea Region as an Area of Peace and Security

Chair: Mr Harry Jansson, MP, Åland, Member of the BSPC Standing Committee

Vice-Chair: Mr Ryszard Górecki, MP, Poland, Member of the BSPC Standing Committee

Convergence or divergence in Baltic Sea Security?

Dr Sia Spiliopoulou-Åkermark, Associate professor, Director

Mr Pertti Joenniemi, Licenciate of Social Sciences, International Politics Senior Researcher, Danish institute for international studies

Mr Trivimi Velliste, Vice President of the Baltic Assembly, Member of the National Defence Committee of the Riigikogu

10.00 *Coffee and Tea is served outside the Chamber.*

Mr Charly Salenius-Pasternak, Researcher, the Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Mr Björn Lyrvall, Director-General for Political Affairs, Foreign Ministry of Sweden

Progress Report from BSPC Working Group on Civil Security/Trafficking

Ms Line Barfod, MP, Denmark, Chair of the working group

Plenary debate

12.00 **Lunch at Indigo Restaurant**

13.00 **CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE**

Chair: Ms Christina Gestrin, MP, Finland, Chairman of the BSPC

Vice-Chair: Ms Valentina Pivnenko, MP, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Vice Chairman of the BSPC

Administrative Matters

Adoption of Resolution

Presentation of Next Year's Host Country

14.00 **Press Conference**



List of Participants

Speakers

Barfod, Line	MP, Chairman of the Working Group
Bergman, Mathias	Secretary General, Baltic Sea Action Group
Bonsdorff, Erik	Professor, Åbo Academy
Brusendorff, Anne Christine	Executive Secretary, Helsinki Commission
Gestrin, Christina	MP, Finland, Chairman of the BSPC
Henttonen, Jaakko	NDEP Manager, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Recipient of the Baltic Sea Prize 2010
Jansson, Harry	MP, Member of the BSPC Standing Committee
Joenniemi, Pertti	Licenciate of Social Sciences, International Politics Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for international Studies
Jokilehto, Tero	Senior Specialist, Finland's Ministry of Transport and Communication
Jürgensen, Carsten	Doctor, COWI A/S Denmark
Kuhn, Werner	MEP, European Parliament
Lahnstein, Erik	State Secretary, Representing the CBSS, chairmanship, Norway
Lyrvall, Björn	Director-General for Political Affairs, Foreign Ministry of Sweden
Nordlund, Roger	President of the Åland Parliament
Salonius-Pasternak, Charly	Researcher, the Finnish Institute of International Affairs
Schulte, Jochen	MP, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Chairman of the Working Group
Spiliopoulou-Åkerman, Sia	Associate Professor, Dr, Director, Åland Peace Institute
Staniszewska, Maria	Master of Science, Polish Ecological Club City of Gliwice Chapter. Recipient of the Baltic Sea Prize 2005
Venineaux, Jean-Marc	DG REGIO, European Commission
Velliste, Trivimi	MP, Vice president of the Baltic Assembly, Member of the BSPC Standing Committee
Wallis, Diana	Vice President, European Parliament

Parliaments and parliamentary organisations

Baltic Assembly

Zommere, Erika MP, President

The Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

Churkin, Nikolay MP

European Parliament

Gallagher, Pat the Cope MEP

Kuhn, Werner MEP

Wallis, Diana MEP, Vice President

Nordic Council

Eklöw, Raija-Liisa MP

Gestrin, Christina MP

Olsson, Kent MP

Sindal, Niels MP

Tuomioja, Erkki MP

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Vesaite, Birute MP

Parliament of Denmark

Barfod, Line MP

Bisgaard, Per MP

Parliament of Estonia

Reps, Mailis MP

Velliste, Trivimi MP

Parliament of Finland

Harkimo, Leena MP

Huovinen, Susanna MP

Kaikkonen, Antti MP

Naucér, Elisabeth MP

Tiilikainen, Kimmo MP

Parliament of Free and Hanse City of Bremen

Mathes, Karin MP

Schildt, Frank MP

Parliament of Free and Hanse City of Hamburg

Duden, Barbara MP, Vice President

Dobusch, Gabriele MP

Hackbusch, Norbert MP

Machaczek, Bettina MP

Waldowsky, Andreas MP

Parliament of Greenland

Hammond, Aleqa	MP
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Parliament of Latvia

Bendrate, Silva	MP
Reirs, Janis	MP

Parliament of Leningrad Region of Russia

Kiselev, Nikolay	MP
Petelin, Evgeniy	MP
Potomsky, Vadim	MP

Parliament of Lithuania

Adomenas, Mantas	MP
Siaulienė, Irene	MP

Parliament of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

Bretschneider, Sylvia	MP, President
Dr. Jäger, Armin	MP
Holznagel, Renate	MP
Müller, Detlef	MP
Schulte, Jochen	MP
Schwebs, Birgit	MP

Parliament of Norway

Dahl, André Oktay	MP
Halleraker, Øyvind	MP
Henriksen, Per Rune	MP
Mandt, Sonja	MP
Opheim, Torfinn	MP

Parliament of Poland

Górecki, Ryszard	MP
Kozak, Zbigniew	MP
Litwinski, Arkadiusz	MP
Palys, Andrzej	MP
Wziątek, Stanisław	MP

Parliament of Schleswig-Holstein

Amtsberg, Luise	MP
Funke, Kirstin	MP
Herbst, Niclas	MP
Strehlau, Ines	MP
Voss, Bernd	MP

Parliament of Sweden

Brodén, Anita	MP
Bohlin, Sinikka	MP
Grönfeldt Bergman, Lisbeth	MP
Sellén, Birgitta	MP

Stenberg, Maria	MP
Vestlund, Börje	MP

Parliament of the City of St Petersburg

Yagya, Vatanyar	MP
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Parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany

Lietz, Matthias	MP
Thönnies, Franz	MP

Parliament of Åland

Aaltonen Carina	MP
Gunell, Camilla	MP
Ehn, Johan	MP
Jansson, Gunnar	MP, Vice president
Jansson, Harry	MP
Jansson, Roger	MP
Lindholm, Gun-Mari	MP, Vice president
Lindström, Henry	MP
Mattson, Åke	MP
Nordlund, Roger	MP, President
Sjölund, Folke	MP
Sundman, Danne	MP
Nordberg, Mika	MP

The State of Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

Leontiev, Georgy	MP
Nikitin, Vladimir	MP
Pivnenko, Valentina	MP

Observers

Arnold, Stewart	Policy&Communication, Advisor, European Parliament
Bergman, Mathias	Secretary General, BSAG
Briseid, Dag	CBSS
Ehlers, Alexandra	Baltic Sea Secretariat for Youth Affairs
Hellberg, Helge	Baltic Sea Secretariat for Youth Affairs
Krings, Thomas	Deputy Secretary General,ALDE group in EP
Lehtinen, Karl-Johan	NEFCO
Luis, Merethe	Norwegian Presidency of CBSS
Lundin, Jan	CBSS
Magnadóttir, Nanna	CBSS
Ribiacauskaite, Rimante	Baltic Sea Secretariat for Youth Affairs
Röbbelen-Voigt, Katariina	Researcher, Project Manager BSLN
	Baltic Sea Labour Network

Sjövall, Mikael

Sundback, Barbro

Thiele, Jan

Nordic Environment Finance
Corporation

MP, Baltic Sea Forum, Parliament of
Åland

Baltic Sea States Sub-Regional
Co-operation

Guests

Conway, Adam

Eriksson, Viveka

Grinkevich, Andrei

Gulyaeva, Ksenia

Iremark, Ingrid

Korotkova, Anna V.

Krotov, Mikhail

Lindbäck, Peter

Maciejowski, Marek

Mauricio, Jeanette,

Nikora, Evgeny

Ålands Natur och Miljö r.f.

Head of government of Åland

Ambassador, Belarus

Staff, CIS-IPA

Consul-General

NDPHS

Secretary General, CIS-IPA

Governor, Åland

NDPHS

The Åland Peace Institute

MP, Chairman of Murmansk Regional
Duma

MP, Belarus

Nord Stream

Minister, Government of Åland

Mayor, Åland

Advisor, Murmansk Regional Duma

Dr, Deputy Head of Mission,

The Embassy of Germany

Minister, Government of Åland

Minister, Government of Åland

Government of Åland

Government of Åland

Orda, Mikhail

Pekkola, Tapio

Perämaa, Mats

Pettersen, Bjarne

Shmatkova, Marina

Seidenberger, Ulrich

Sjögren, Katrin

Thörnroos, Veronica

Wennström, Mikael

Vävere, Susanne

Secretariats

Aaltonen, Kristina

Andreassen, Bjørn

Bahr, Bodo

Staff, Nordic Council

Staff, Parliament of Norway

Staff, Parliament of Mecklenburg-
Vorpommern

Bostrup, Tina

Dakhova, Nadezda

Staff, Nordic Council

Staff, Federal Assembly of the Russian
Federation

Enckell, Liisa

Enestam, Jan-Erik

Foerster, Tom

Fraser, Thomas

Grätz, Petra

Staff, Parliament of Finland

Secretary General, Nordic Council

Staff, BSLN

Staff, Parliament of Norway

Staff, Parliament of Federal Republic
Germany

Gutzeit, Gerald

Staff, Parliament of Mecklenburg-
Vorpommern

Hermann, Kathrin	Staff, Parliament of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
Hissa, Jaakko	Staff, Parliament of Finland
Hjelm, Eva	Staff, Parliament of Sweden
Holmström, Mats	Staff, Nordic Council
Jansson, Johannes	Staff, Nordic Council
Kjelgaard, Kamilla	Staff, Parliament of Denmark
Koperski, Piotr	Staff, Parliament of Poland
Kuzmina, Irina	Staff, State Duma of the Russian Federation
Laizane-Jurkane, Marika	Staff, Head of Secretariat, Baltic Assembly
Lind, Dennis	Staff, Nordic Council
Lozbinev, Vladimir	Staff, Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
Malovec, Michal	Staff, European Parliament
Myhre-Jensen, Kjell	Staff, Parliament of Norway
Putnina, Ingrida	Staff, Parliament of Latvia
Rongelep, Ene	Staff, Parliament of Estonia
Sandberg, Johanna	Assistant to Christina Gestrin
Schmidt, Jürgen	Staff, Baltic Sea Forum
Schmidt Holländer, Jutta	Staff, Parliament of Schleswig-Holstein
Seip, Marianne	Staff, Parliament of Norway
Smekal, Eva	Staff, Parliament of Sweden
Sørensen, Torkil	Staff, Nordic Council
Söderlund, Barbro	Journalist, Parliament of Finland
Terekhovskiy, Sergey	Staff, Parliament of the city of St Petersburg
Tikkala, Terhi	Staff, Secretary General of Centre Group
Wagner, Reinhard	Staff, Parliament of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg
Bou-Said, Andrea	Staff, Parliament of Federal Republic of Germany
Yakhmenev, Petr	Expert, The State Duma of the Russian Federation
Yagya, Said	Staff, City of St Petersburg
Zilliacus, Patrick	Staff, Parliament of Finland

BSPC Secretariat

Lindroos, Päivikki	Rapporteur
Widberg, Jan	Head of BSPC Secretariat

Secretariat of the Parliament of Åland

Bolos, Dan	Messenger
Eriksson, Roger	Messenger
Eriksson, Sten	Inspector
Eriksson, Susanne	Secretary General
Falck, Maj	Secretary