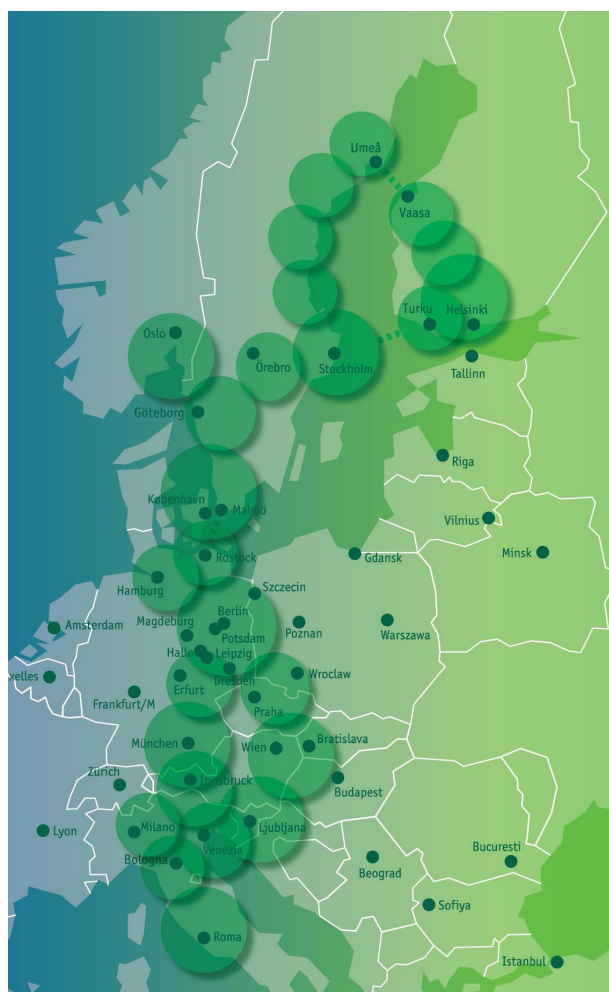


Interregional Agreement on Establishing the Scandria® Alliance for Territorial Cooperation along the Scandria® Corridor



Founding Members:

1. Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg
2. City of Turku
3. Eastern Norway County Network
4. Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council
5. Region Örebro County
6. Region Skåne

List of Contents

Article 1 - Constitution of the Agreement

Article 2 - Name

Article 3 - Geographical Scope

Article 4 – Vision of the Scandria®Alliance

Article 5 – Mission and tasks of the Scandria®Alliance

Article 6 - Thematic Scope

Article 7 - Membership and Subscription

Article 8 - Organs and Competences

Article 9 - Transnational Conference

Article 10 - Financing

Article 11 - Duration

Article 12 - Language

Article 13 - Liability

Article 14 - Final Provisions

Signature

Annex A: Scandria®Corridor Map

Annex B: Scandria®Alliance Organisational Chart

Annex C: Scandria®Alliance Membership List

Introduction

Scandinavian and central European regions are characterized by a long history of exchange in trade and commerce, the establishment of transport infrastructures and traffic services as well as the regional development. Since more than ten years – in fact with the “Berlin Declaration” of 2007 as a milestone – the regions showcase a continuous cooperation in several strategic projects such as Scandria and BSR Transgovernance. The recent Scandria[®]2Act project, from May 2016 to April 2019, has a transnational approach and follows an initiative and action plans of regions located along the Baltic Sea Region and stretches to the TEN-T Core Network Corridor Scandinavian-Mediterranean.

The main objective of Scandria[®]2Act was to improve and foster the sustainable and multimodal transport of freight and passengers and the interaction with spatial development in order to increase the connectivity and competitiveness of corridor regions whilst reducing environmental impacts caused by freight and passenger transport. The results of the project indicated the need and importance of an integrated communication approach for further cooperation between various partners and stakeholders, so that jointly agreed messages can be communicated to the outside.

The Scandria[®]2Act core members continued their strategic cooperation beyond the Scandria[®]2Act project period. In order to achieve this, the partners set up a partnership, aiming at securing a long-term transnational interregional partnership and cooperation. The founding members of the agreement represented by:

- Mats Gunnarsson, Chairperson of the Regional Public Transport Authority and Regional Infrastructure Board, Region Örebro County,
- Henrik Fritzson, Chair of the Ecexecutive Committee, Region Skåne,
- Ossi Savolainen, Regional Mayor, Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council,
- Roger Ryberg, Chairman of Eastern Norway Regional Co-operation Board, Eastern Norway County Network,
- Minna Arve, Mayor, City of Turku
- Kathrin Schneider, Minister for Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, Federal State of Brandenburg and Katrin Lompscher, Senator for Urban Development and Housing, Federal State of Berlin representing the Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg,

supported and agreed upon establishing the Scandria[®]Alliance for Territorial Cooperation along the Scandria[®]Corridor, as well as, the Scandinavian–Mediterranean European Transport Corridor.

This revised version of the interregional agreement has been unanimously approved by the General Assembly in Berlin, Germany on 2 November 2021.



Article 1 - Constitution of the Agreement

This agreement sets-up a lasting partnership.

Article 2 - Name

The name of the partnership is **"Scandria®Alliance"**.

Article 3 - Geographical Scope

The geographical scope covered by Scandria®Alliance is the Scandria®Corridor made by the regions around the Baltic Sea and along the Scandinavian–Mediterranean Core Network Corridor, and is outlined in the map in Annex A.

Article 4 – Vision of the Scandria®Alliance

The vision of the Scandria®Alliance is **"Connecting regions, communities, and economies through clean and smart transportation"**.

Article 5 - Mission and Tasks of the Scandria®Alliance

To fulfil the vision described in Article 4, the partnership agrees on the following mission statement for the Scandria®Alliance: "To provide an arena for cities and regions to collaborate on climate-smart multimodal transport connectivity at the interface to sustainable regional development between Scandinavia and the Adriatic Sea."

To this end, the members of the Scandria®Alliance:

- share their knowledge and experience both internally and with relevant stakeholders from the Scandria®Corridor and wider Europe,
- develop joint positions towards relevant policy developments at European, macroregional and national levels,
- bring together stakeholders from all levels to discuss common positions and convey them to relevant decision makers,
- develop common project approaches in transnational and other relevant European programmes.

Article 6 - Thematic Scope

The thematic scope focuses on decarbonisation of transport, “clean fuels” deployment and development of multimodality for both passenger and freight taking into account the interaction with spatial development.

Main thematic scope:

- governance (e.g. European / national transport policies);
- logistics (e.g. unit-trains, innovative transshipment technologies);
- railways (e.g. freight and passenger rail infrastructure projects, interoperability);
- Green Corridor (e.g. alternative fuels and propulsion technologies like biogas or e-mobility);
- economic cooperation (e.g. cluster cooperation);
- development of urban nodes;
- financing issues (e.g. funding programmes and project finance).

The thematic scope may be further developed by a decision of the General Assembly.

Article 7 - Membership and Subscription

Article 7.1 - Membership

Membership of Scandria®Alliance is open to all regional authorities, municipalities and further public authorities responsible for the subject matters described in Article 4, or their representatives, in line with spatial planning and development at regional level along the Scandria®Corridor.

The founding members seek to expand the membership by completing the coverage of the Scandria®Corridor (see Article 3 and the map in Annex A).

In addition to that, managers of seaports, airports, road and rail infrastructures, chambers of commerce, and other organisations situated in the Baltic Sea region and along the Scandinavian-Mediterranean Core Network Corridor can also join the Scandria®Alliance as associate members.

Candidates for membership or associate membership can join the Scandria®Alliance upon request or invitation with the approval of the General Assembly (see Article 8.1). The approval can be done in a written procedure.

A member or associate member, which counteracts with the articles of the agreement to the disadvantage of the Scandria®Alliance or its members may be excluded from the Alliance upon reasoned request of any member and with the approval of the remaining members of the General Assembly.

A constantly updated membership list can be found in Annex C to this agreement.

Article 7.2 - Associate Members

Associate members may participate in working group meetings upon invitation and contribute to the subject matters in line with the vision.

Article 8 - Organs and competences

The organs of Scandria®Alliance are as follows (see organisational chart in Annex B):

- The General Assembly
- The Chairperson of the General Assembly
- The Steering Committee
- The Chairperson of the Steering Committee
- The Coordination Group
- The Expert Task Forces

Article 8.1 - General Assembly

The general assembly is the decision-making body of the Scandria®Alliance and is composed of one person per member.

The person representing the member shall be appointed by the member and holding a political mandate.

The general assembly elects a chairperson (see Article 8.2).

The chairmanship shall rotate among the members regularly every two years.

The assembly shall meet on a regular basis every year. The regular meetings shall take place at the occasion of the transnational conference or – when the conference organiser and place do not allow for – at the place of the region or municipality holding the chairmanship.

The general assembly take following decisions:

- adapting the general strategy in line with the European and national political objectives and the Scandria®Alliance vision (Art. 4);
- amending this partnership agreement;
- selecting the next and 2nd next chair organisation ensuring a continuous “hand-over” according to the rotating principle;
- selecting the host organisation for the next annual conference;
- electing and dismissing the chairperson;
- amending the geographical scope;



- disapproval and/or approval of any member;
- dissolving the Scandria®Alliance (see Art. 11).

Decisions are taken unanimously. Decisions can also be taken in a written procedure.

The general assembly may elaborate and confirm internal rules of procedure.

Article 8.2 - Chairperson of the General Assembly

The chairperson is appointed out of the membership by the general assembly at the general assembly. The chairperson represents the Scandria®Alliance towards third parties at regional, national and European level within the limits of his/her responsibility.

Article 8.3 - Steering Committee

Each member organisation is a member of the steering committee. The members (persons representing the organisation) of the steering committee are appointed by their organisation with the approval of the general assembly. They are at least civil servants from the highest or second administrative level of the members. They shall generally meet at least once a year. Meetings shall be chaired by the chairperson of steering committee. The chair is a representative of the same organisation chairing the general assembly.

Main tasks:

- representing the Scandria®Alliance;
- determining the agenda for meetings of the general assembly;
- adopting the work plans in line with general strategy and the Scandria®Alliance vision;
- agreeing to policy aspects of the communication strategy;
- supporting the member organising the annual conference and agreeing to the conference programme.

Article 8.4 - Chairperson of the Steering Committee

The chairperson of the steering committee may use the title "Secretary General" to be recognised as the representative of the Scandria®Alliance by third parties.

The chairperson of the steering committee has the following tasks:

- representing the Scandria®Alliance;
- proposing and preparing the agenda for the meetings of the steering committee and the general assembly;
- proposing the communication strategy;
- developing and monitoring a meeting plan of the general assembly, steering committee and coordination group.

The chairperson of the steering committee is supported by a secretariat, which is performed by the chair organisation which has in particular the following tasks:

- maintaining a list of general assembly, steering committee, coordination group and task forces members' contact data;
- coordination group (day-by-day management);
- circulating the relevant documents between the members.

Article 8.5 – Coordination Group

The Scandria®Alliance Coordination Group is the working level organ, coordinating the activities of the Scandria®Alliance according to the strategy adopted by the General Assembly and the Work Programme adopted by the Steering Committee.

Each member of the Scandria®Alliance is entitled to delegate one representative as well as a deputy representative to the Scandria®Alliance Coordination Group.

The Scandria®Alliance Coordination Group shall meet regularly, at least every two months.

The tasks of the Coordination Group are:

- to organise and coordinate activities of the Scandria®Alliance according to the Work Programme,
- to install ad-hoc Expert Task Forces if needed for specific issues,
- to prepare Steering Committee meetings, General Assembly meetings,
- to prepare the work programme,
- to prepare the communication strategy,
- to prepare the enlargement strategy,
- monitor joint projects realised under the auspices of the Scandria®Alliance.

Decisions shall be met in consensus.

The Coordination Group is chaired by a person, appointed by the organisation that is chairing the Scandria®Alliance. The Coordination Group may be supported by a secretariat performed by the chair organisation

Article 8.6 - Expert Task Forces

The Scandria®Alliance has expert task forces to take forward the key thematic issues and projects identified by the Scandria®Alliance Steering Committee. Members of each expert task force can be representatives of the member organisations or further experts and shall be appointed by the members of the Coordination Group.

Main tasks of the expert task forces constitute:

- fulfil working tasks as decided by the Coordination Group;
- monitor relevant market trends, policy developments at European and national level;
- formulate policy positions and statements;
- prepare and organise joint thematic events, workshops and trainings addressing relevant thematic issues;
- prepare and implement joint, EU-funded projects.

The members of the expert task forces shall meet according to demand.

Article 9 - Transnational Conference

The transnational conference is the main communication platform of the Scandria®Alliance. The transnational conference brings together all members of the general assembly, members of the steering committee, associate members and further actors along and around the Scandria®Corridor, where ideas and interests are shared and knowledge is transferred.

The conference shall be held annually by and within the host region. The host region shall be chosen on a rotating basis, to be determined at the general assembly. The host region and the chair organisation of the general assembly may be different. The conference will mainly convene regional representatives, local authorities, national governments and EU institutions and further stakeholders interested in the subject.

Article 10 - Financing

Each member bears its own costs for its active participation in Scandria®Alliance work. This means that

Each member contributes to the following:

- salary and people staffing who will be involved in the activities of Scandria®Alliance on their behalf;
- travelling and accommodation costs of its representatives and all its involved experts participating in meetings, workshops and conferences on their behalf;
- logistics cost (meeting room, food and beverages) for meetings, workshops and conferences hosted by that member.

Chair organisation holding the (rotating) chairmanship contributes

- with salary and people as well as office and communication cost including the website of the Scandria®Alliance and travelling and accommodation costs for performing the secretariat of the respective chair organisation;
- logistics costs (meeting room, food and beverages) of the assembly meetings which shall take place at the respective host region holding the (rotating) chairmanship.

Participating organisations share costs of their joint activities and support activities such as launching studies, inviting experts to workshops. Joint activities and their financing needs have to be proposed and agreed upon in the Steering Committee with at least the approval of the participating organisations.

Further details will be set in the Work Plan.

Article 11 - Duration

The Scandria®Alliance is set up for unlimited duration.

Each member may withdraw with a reasoned statement that has to be made in writing to all members with a due time of not less than three months prior to the date of the meeting of the General Assembly.

The Scandria®Alliance can only be dissolved by the General Assembly by unanimous decision by all its members.

The withdrawal of single members does not terminate the association of the remaining members.

Article 12 - Language

The working language of Scandria®Alliance is English.

In case that a member requires translation, that member bears the translation costs to/from English.



Article 13 - Liability

This interregional agreement does not constitute any liability of the members towards each other and third parties. Each member remains liable for its activities within the Scandria®Alliance.

Article 14 - Final Provisions

Each member of Scandria®Alliance shall ensure that it fully complies with all applicable local, government and international laws, regulations and guidelines which are effective during the period of the Agreement.

If any provision of this Agreement shall be declared or deemed void, invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part for any reason, the Agreement shall be amended in order to give effect to, so far as is possible, the spirit of the Agreement. If the Agreement cannot be amended, the provision, which is void, invalid or unenforceable, shall be deemed deleted and the remaining provisions of the Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.



Signature

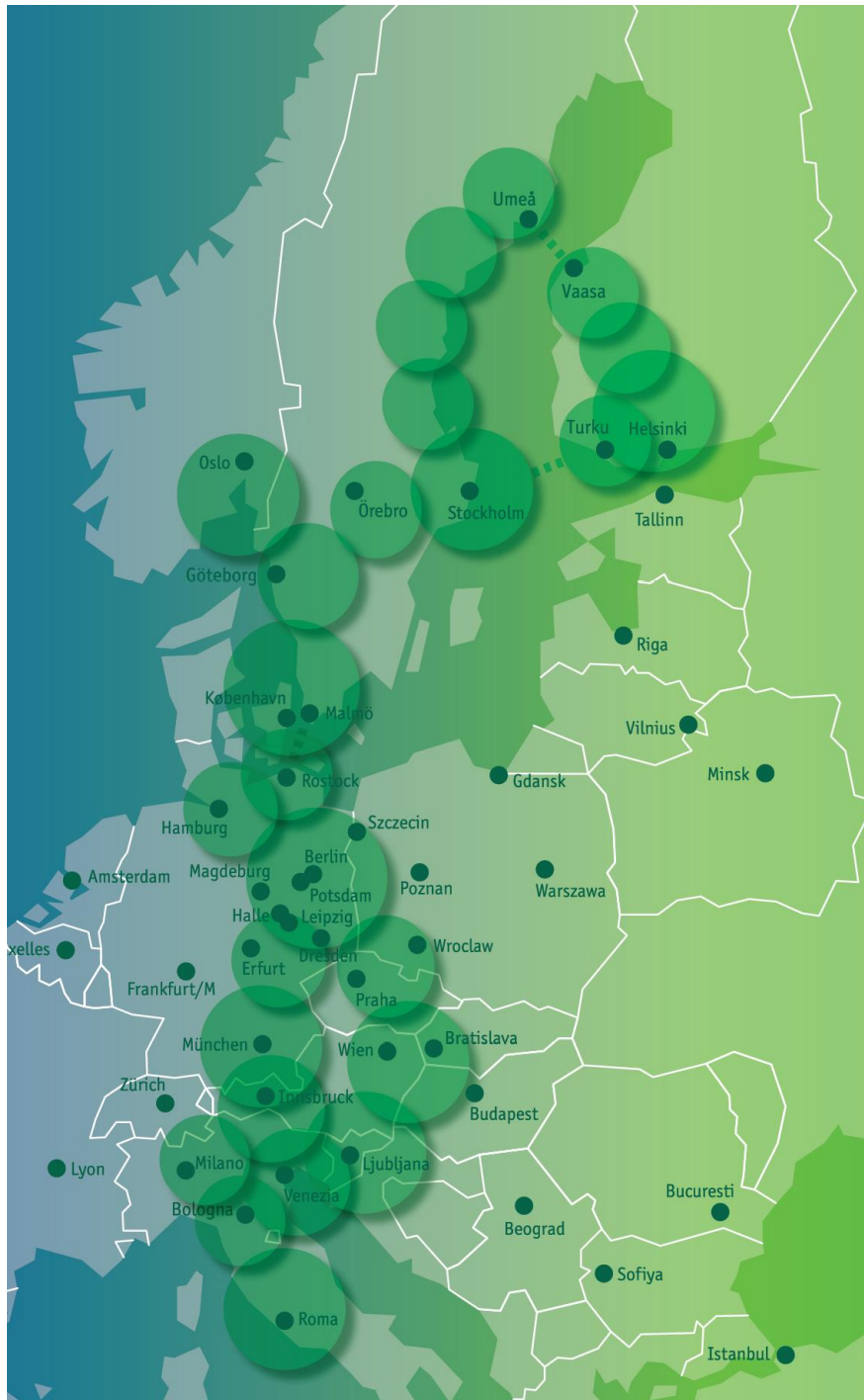
This revised version of the interregional agreement has been unanimously approved by the General Assembly in Berlin, Germany on 2 November 2021.

Guido Beermann

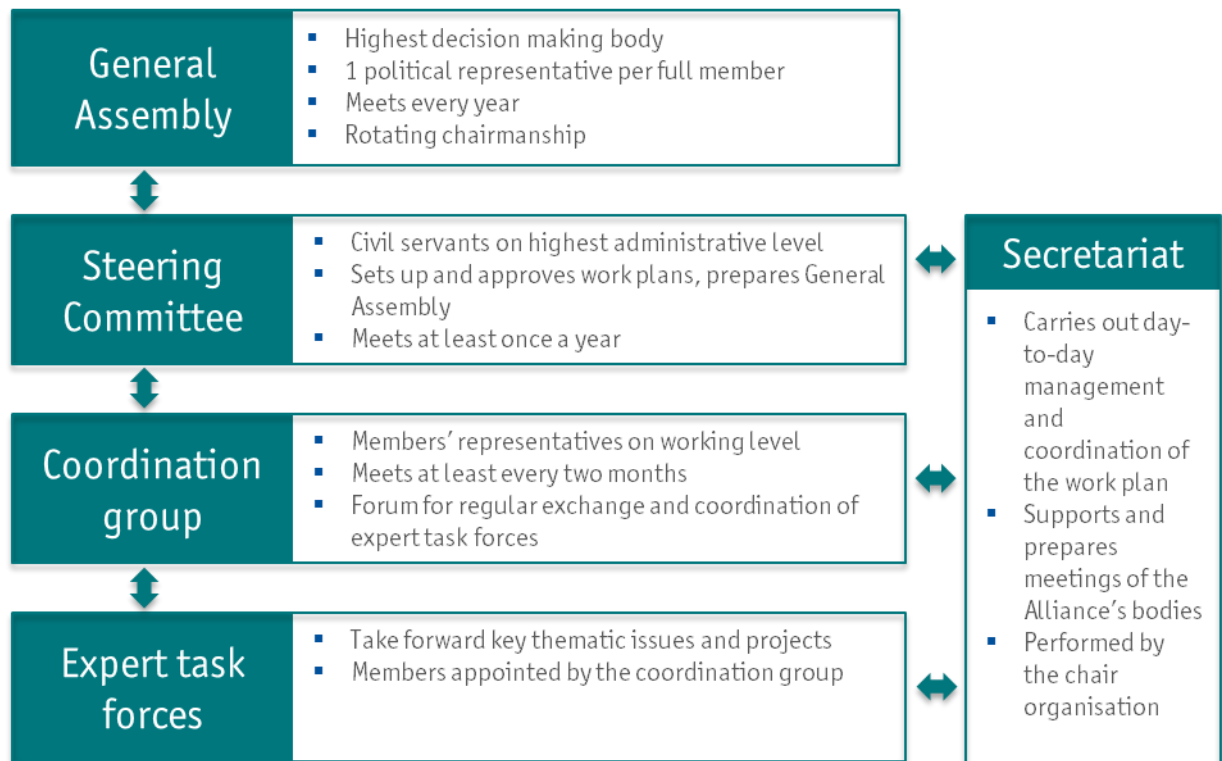
Minister of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning, Land Brandenburg

Chairperson of the Scandria® Alliance General Assembly]

Annex A: Scandria® Corridor Map



Annex B: Scandria® Alliance Organisational Chart



Annex C: Scandria® Alliance Membership List

1. Members (in alphabetical order)

#	Organisation	Address	Contact person(s)	Status, joined in
1	Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg	Joint Spatial Planning Department Berlin-Brandenburg Henning-von-Tresckow-Str. 2-8 14467 Potsdam Germany	Dr. Jürgen Neumueller juergen.neumueller@gl.berlin-brandenburg.de +49 331 866 8720 Tommi Vollmann tommi.vollmann@gl.berlin-brandenburg.de +49 331 866 8724	Founding member 2019
2	City of Turku	PO 355 20101 Turku Finland	Marjo Uotila marjo.uotila@turku.fi +358 40 651 4724	Founding member 2019
3	Eastern Norway County Network	c/o Viken fylkeskommune Postboks 220 1702 Sarpsborg Norway	Jon Petter Arntzen jona@viken.no +47 901 08 389	Founding member 2019
4	Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council	Esterinportti 2B 02400 Helsinki Finland	Sakari Saarinen sakari.saarinen@uudenmaanliitto.fi +358 40 637 5934	Founding member 2019
5	Kvarken Council EGTC	Gerbyntie 18 65230 Vaasa Finland	Mathias Lindström mathias.lindstrom@kvarken.org +358 50 918 6462	Full member 2021

#	Organisation	Address	Contact person(s)	Status, joined in
6	Regione Emilia-Romagna	Viale Aldo Moro, 52 40127 Bologna Italy	Paolo Ferrecchi	Full member 2021
7	Region Örebro County	Box 1613 701 16 Örebro Sweden	Dino Keljalic dino.keljalic@regionorebrolan.se +46 19 602 39 34	Founding member 2019
8	Region Skåne	Region Skåne 291 89 Kristianstad Sweden	Britt Karlsson Green Britt.KarlssonGreen@skane.se +46 768 87 18 87	Founding member 2019

2. Associated Members (in alphabetical order)

#	Organisation	Address	Contact person(s)	Status, joined in
1	Logistics Initiative Hamburg*	Wexstraße 7 20355 Hamburg Germany	Thomas Brauner tb@hamburg-logistik.net +49 40 22 70 19 – 802	Associate member 2021
2	Open ENLoCC – European Network of Logistics Competence Centres	Avenue Louise 146 1050 Bruxelles Belgium	Giuseppe Luppino info@openenlocc.net +39 051 527 3776	Associate member 2021
3	Port of Hamburg Marketing	Pickhuben 6 20457 Hamburg Germany	Stefan Breitenbach breitenbach@hafen-hamburg.de +49 40 37709 121	Associate member 2021
4	Technical University of Applied Sciences Wildau	Hochschulring 1 15745 Wildau Germany	Philip Michalk philip.michalk@th-wildau.de +49 173 84 59 702	Associate member 2021
5	Unioncamere del Veneto	Parco Scientifico Tecnologico - Vega Via delle Industrie 19/D 30175 Venezia – Marghera Italy	Roberta Lazzari roberta.lazzari@eurosportelloveneto.it +39 041 099 9411	Associate member 2021