



## Baltic Sea Region Cooperation in challenging times

**Date:** 16 June 2022

**Time:** 15:30 – 17:15, immediately followed by a networking reception

**Place:** Norway House, Rue Archimède 17, Brussels

**Organisers:** Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mission of Norway to the European Union, and Eastern Norway County Network

*The event is organised within the framework of the Interreg BSR project Let's Communicate!*

**Target group:** Representatives from EU institutions (European Commission DGs, EEAS, CoR), national delegations from BSR countries, regional offices in Brussels, relevant organisations

**Objectives:** To present the results of the Norwegian Presidency of the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) 2021–2022, with a special focus on strengthening the strategic and practical cooperation with organisations and networks representing local and regional authorities, and to highlight opportunities of closer interaction within the framework of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR).

### Programme (final)

**Moderation:** Ann Irene Saeternes, Head of European Affairs, Eastern Norway County Network

#### Introduction (20 min)

- Welcome, and Norwegian perspectives on regional cooperation in the BSR, by HE Mr Rolf Einar Fife, Norwegian Ambassador to the EU
- EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region perspective by Chair Robertas Bružilas, Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### Thematic presentation (20 min)

- Visions and strategies for the Baltic Sea Region 2040 by Kai Böhme, Spatial Foresight

#### Panel discussion (1 hour)

- EU Commission representative - Jean-Pierre Halkin, Head of unit for Macro-regions, Transnational/Interregional/External Cooperation in DG Regio
- Norwegian Chairmanship of CBSS, Mr. Olav Berstad, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Member of the UBC Executive Board, Ms Linda Ozola, Deputy Chair of Riga City Council
- Secretary General of BSSSC, Mr. Wojtek Dorzynkiewicz, West Pomeranian Region
- Member of the Executive Committee of CPMR-BSC - Mr Merten Barnert, Land Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
- Incoming German CBSS Presidency – Florian Rudolph, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Get together event/networking (until 19:00)