



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION



EUSBSR POLICY AREA SECURE



Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



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EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Policy Area Secure

17th Steering Group Meeting
Oslo, 1 June 2022

MINUTES

Participants

See attached participants list.

1. Welcome by PACs: adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Steering Group

2. Latest updates from PACs on the Strategy work

- Updated Rules of Procedure accepted by the National Coordinators Group (NCG)
- PA Secure application submitted together with PA Culture, the decision is expected in June 2022.
- PACs presented PA Secure work in the Coffee with the Presidency meeting for the NCG and other PACs

3. EUSBSR Annual Forum 2022 in Lappeenranta

28-29 September 2022, discussion about potential PA Secure contribution, workshop/ societal security session

CBSS Secretariat informs about the background: CBSS was a co-organiser of the Annual Forum in the past, quite successfully also in Turku 2020 for the online forum; now Lappeenranta was chosen and approached CBSS to support with previous knowledge

- The forum in short:
Putting plans into practice - a prosperous, connected, and green Baltic Sea Region
6 parallel session (2x3), as not to have so many overlaps,
no workshops during the Forum's programme,
no PA booths
- PAs hold an event (workshop) as they see fit format- & timewise and provide a two-page report about it (they are encouraged to work together as 2 or 3 PAs).

All participants discuss the topics/ format for PA Secure contribution (workshop, societal security session) with the following outcome:

proposals:

1. Volunteers in focus, meeting in-person connected to VOALA Kick-off
2. Connected to crisis communication roundtable (project in the CBSS pipeline)
3. "How to survive crisis?" – for example: on survival backpack,
4. Workshop under the NEEDS project's umbrella



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Comments/ Questions:

LV comments that:

- SG members might not all know the other PAs while it would be interesting to know what they are planning to better understand who they are and whom to work with. Suggests connecting with other PAs for cooperation

FI remarks that:

- sectors often work in silos because there is no capacity to do more, only sometimes crossing paths cross-sectorial. The idea would be to bring PAs together and get cross-sectorial, objective input.

CBSS Secretariat reminds that workshop is for:

- promotion, for visibility of the PA Secure work
- Also, it does not necessarily need to be a workshop, it can be a seminar, conference, roundtable or any other event

DE reminds that not everyone knows CBSS and the BSR organisations, so if needed/possible it would be good to introduce the attending organisations to the audience.

LV proposes that:

- 10 countries and invited experts/ professionals could form and hold a session focusing on crisis communication.
 - BSR contacts and projects/ project partners could be used.
 - CBSS will apply for SI funding for a crisis communication roundtable, it could be connected but should not be rushed just to fit into the September deadline.

NO reminds of the Annual Forum topic "From Plans to Practice" and asks whether the session should be related to that?

4. Updates regarding the Overview of the implementation of the Joint Position

MS declarations regarding coordination of JP priorities

Overall priority. Building a common societal security culture (CSSC)

à All members confirm that the coordination (Presidency)/ support (all MS) stays unchanged.

Priority nr. 1. Combining national efforts in implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

Coordinator (LV) and supporting MS (FI, SE, DE) confirm their commitment. Norway volunteered to join the supporting MS.

Priority nr. 2. Enhancing resilience of the BSR to disasters

FI steps back from the coordinator role which is temporarily filled by DE as the presidency (under the condition to revise it at the end of the presidency). FI joins the supporting MS (LV, LT, SV) who confirm their commitment. EE agrees to consider becoming a supporting MS also.

Priority nr. 3. Increasing cross-sectoral cooperation and partnerships.

Coordinator (FI) and supporting MS (Germany) confirm their commitment with SE joining the supporting MS and EE tbc.



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Priority nr. 4. Building capacity of Member States in the civil security area.

All members confirm the Troika format for coordination (changing now to NO, DE, FI) with all MS as support.

Priority 5. Supporting mutually beneficial interaction between research and practitioners.

PL agrees to join FI in a joint coordination, with NO and SE confirming their support and EE tbc.

Comments/ Questions:

- What does coordination mean?
 - There are no specific rules/description, historically: gather information, keep topic alive, coordinate where needed
- What does support mean?
 - It means supporting MS do not need to do everything. They can recommend or engage another organisation that do work towards the goal of the priority.
- Not all countries should be listed as a support.
 - There could be a column with proposals on what country wants to achieve (national expectations)? Or compare first and have a column with the common points later
- Should a meeting be organised about the midterm review?
 - Not considered necessary at this point.
- Can study visits be financed by “exchange of experts programme” (DG ECHO) even for several countries?
 - CBSS Secretariat agrees to take it up with DG ECHO
 - Study visits best not organised by the presidency because it might be same/similar.
Decision: next interactive session on study visits, all to think about what could be done.

5. Announcements and AOB

All participants agree that the next interactive session should be on the topic of study visits and to take place online.

DE lays out their plan for the next meetings under their upcoming presidency:

- Next CPN meeting back-to-back with the BALTInnoSEC Pilot Forum in Warsaw (15-17 November 2022, tbc).
- Next PA Secure Steering Group Meeting in Hamburg (between 12-16 December 2022, tbc).
- CPN SEM planned to take place in Berlin (March 2023, tbc).

No other announcements

6. Summary, plans for the next meeting and closing of the meeting

- The revised version of the Overview will be shared with the Steering Group.
- The meeting notes and deadlines will be shared with the Steering Group.
- All members will think about study visit suggestions until the interactive session.
- All members are to send a short paragraph plus picture to CBSS Secretariat for the newsletter – deadline 10 June.