

XVI Baltic Sea NGO Forum

- Strengthen NGO participation in the Baltic Sea Region -

17 - 18 May 2018 - Uppsala, Sweden

Venue: Scandic Hotel Nord

Thursday 17 May

- 11.30** **Arrival and registration**
- 12.00** **Lunch**
- 13.00** **Welcoming remarks**
Representatives from hosting organizations:
- Ambassador Maira Mora, Director General Permanent International Secretariat of the Council of the Baltic Sea States.
- Ambassador Hans Olsson, Chairman of the Committee of Senior Officials of the Council of the Baltic Sea States, CBSS, and the Swedish Presidency of the CBSS.
- Baltic Sea NGO Network under the Swedish presidency and expectations for the future.**
Bo Andersson, Secretary General, The Norden Association in Sweden and Baltic Sea NGO Focal point.
- 13.30** **Opening remarks on the Baltic Sea Action Plan 2030 and strategies for NGOs to make a greater impact on policy dialogs.**
Krista Kampus, Senior Adviser and Head of the Sustainable Development Unit - Baltic 2030, CBSS
- Robert Hall, President the European Network for Community-Led Initiatives on Climate Change and Sustainability, ECOLISE
- 14.10** **Baltic Sea NGO Network – capacity-building in a macroregional network.**
Jens Willian Grav, Baltic Sea NGO Network and Focal Point in Denmark

- 14.30** **Parallel workshops, including coffee break**
The challenge is to find basic conditions and solutions for building capacity amongst NGOs that leads to enhanced participation in and effect on policy processes in the Baltic Sea Region?
- The discussion will take place in 4 thematic groups.
- Capacity building
 - Education and Employability
 - Human Rights and Sustainable development
 - Youth
- 17.30** **End of sessions**
- 19.00** **Dinner**
- Friday 18 May**
- 09.00** **Part 2 of the thematic workshops.**
Concretization of statements and commitments within each thematic group.
- 10.40** **Expert Panel regarding funding and the participation of civil society in EU Strategies and Programmes.**
- Annika Korzinek, European Commission, Representation in Sweden
 - Andrejs Lukins, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, European Union Funds Department, European for Citizens programme
 - Angela Andersson, Swedish Council for Higher Education
 - Lotta Jarvenius Rössner, The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society
- 11.20** **NGO participation in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.**
Sofia Wennerstrand, Swedish Prime Minister’s Office, National Co-ordinator, EUSBSR, Sweden
- 11.35** **Statements and conclusion - Plenary discussion**
The working groups present their findings and the Editorial Committee presents the first draft of the declaration of the Forum.
- 12.30** **Closing ceremony with final remarks**
- 13.00** **Lunch**