

Building a resilient Baltic Sea Region

- perspectives and possibilities

follow-up meeting to last year's Annual Forum held in Visby on 16 - 18 June 2025

PROGRAMME

MONDAY 16 JUNE

Afternoon Arrival in Visby

18.30 Reception at Clarion Hotel Wisby hosted by Region Gotland

TUESDAY 17 JUNE

- 09.00 OPENING
Ms. Charlotte Petri Gornitzka, Governor of Gotland
Ms. Anna Hagström, EUSBSR National Coordinator, Prime Minister's office
- 09.20 INSIGHTS AND EXPERIENCES – A BALTIC SEA REGION OUTLOOK
Setting the scene for the days in Visby, with the current state of the region, challenges and need for resilience and preparedness.
- Speakers
- Ms. Charlotte Petri Gornitzka, Governor of Gotland
 - Dr. Ieva Birka, University of Latvia
- 10.00 INTRODUCTION TO WORK IN GROUPS
The Policy Area Coordinators for respective PA Energy, PA Bioeconomy and PA Secure will introduce the four groups together with Region Gotland. The topics to be discussed and how the discussions in Visby will feed into the implementation of EUSBSR Action Plan.
- 10.30 COFFEE BREAK
- 11.00 WORK IN 4 PARALLEL GROUPS
Participants have chosen one of the thematic groups for the workshop part of the programme: (1) Sustainable energy supply, (2) Resilient food systems, (3) Resilience of critical societal functions, and (4) Resilience at the individual level. In the groups, future cooperation in the BSR and how to involve Ukraine will be discussed.
- 12.30 LUNCH
- 13.30 PERSPECTIVES ON PREPAREDNESS AND CRISES MANAGEMENT
All are needed when building a resilient and secure Baltic Sea Region. Groups of stakeholders are contributing with different perspectives and competences. At this panel discussion the following groups are represented, civil society and youth organisations, businesses, local and regional administrations. The dialogue will both cover collaboration today, building preparedness and what will be needed in times of crises.
- Speakers
- Mr. Sigge Eriksson, Acting President, The National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations
 - Ms. Annika Rinne, Finnish National Rescue Association
 - Mr. Lars-Göran Uddholm, Head of Security and Preparedness, Region Gotland, Sweden

- 14.30 COFFEE BREAK
- 15.00 WORK IN 4 PARALLEL GROUPS
- 16.30 LESSONS LEARNED FROM UKRAINE
At the same time as the countries of the Baltic Sea Region support Ukraine in all possible ways they also learn from Ukraine what a full scale invitation requires of the society at large, from citizens, administrations in cities, regions and on the national level. How can energy and food supply be maintained? How can other services to citizens be maintained?
- Speakers
- Ms Sofia Westberg, Programme coordinator, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) (online)
 - Dr Oleksandra Keudel, Associate Professor, Vice-Chair for Science at the Social Sciences Department, Kyiv School of Economics, Associate at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (online)
- 17.30 CLOSING OF DAY 1
- 18.00 RECEPTION AT THE GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE

WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE

- 09.00 NAVIGATING CHALLENGES IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - CONFLICTING GOALS, PRIORITIES AND COORDINATION
In crises management goal conflicts are inevitable, priorities and coordination needed. In this panel representatives from both policy making and research will discuss these challenges.
- Speakers
- Mr. Svante Aasbjerg Thygesen, Researcher at the Royal Danish Defence College
 - Ms. Inese Suija-Markova, Deputy Chairwoman of Cēsis County Council, Latvia
 - Mr. Filip Reinhag, Regional Councillor and Chairman of the Health and Medical Services Committee, Region Gotland and President of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)
- 10.00 COFFEE BREAK
- 10.30 WORK IN 4 PARALLEL GROUPS
- 12.00 SHORT REPORTS FROM THE GROUPS AND CLOSING REMARKS
- 12.30 LUNCH

