# Doing Well Today, Feeling Worried about Tomorrow

Observations from the 2016 State of the Region-Report

Christian Ketels, Harvard Business School

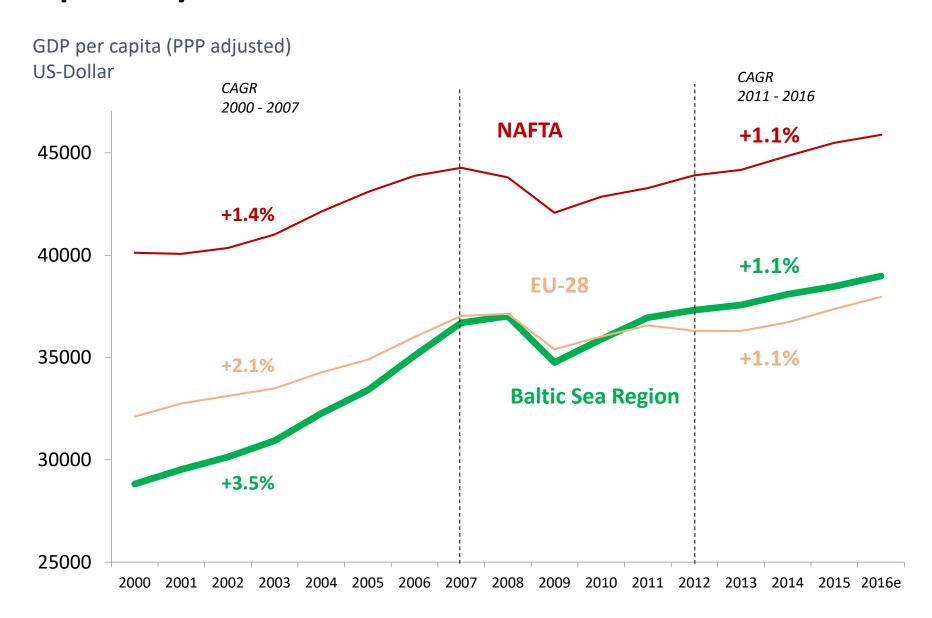
• Current economic performance

• The Baltic Sea Region in the Global Economy

• Competitiveness

• What lies ahead...

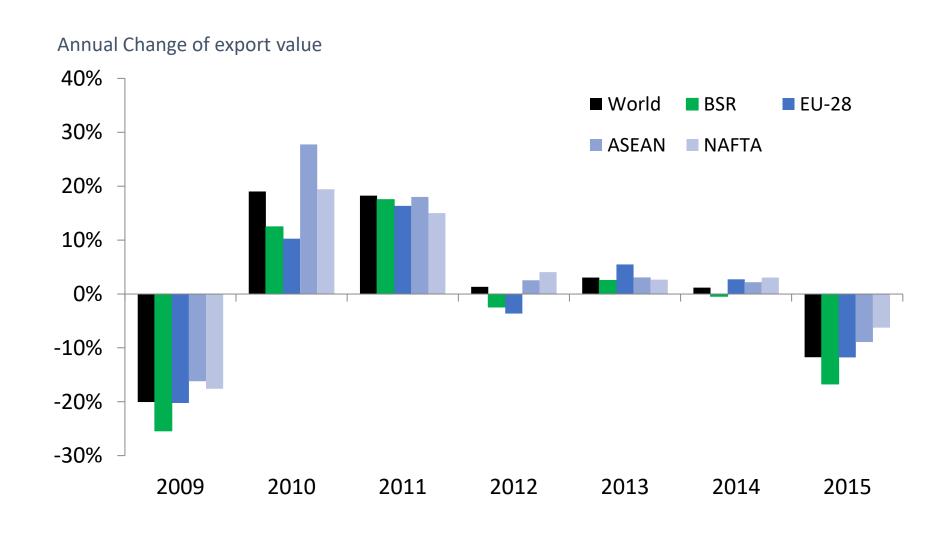
### Prosperity Performance Pre- and Post Crisis



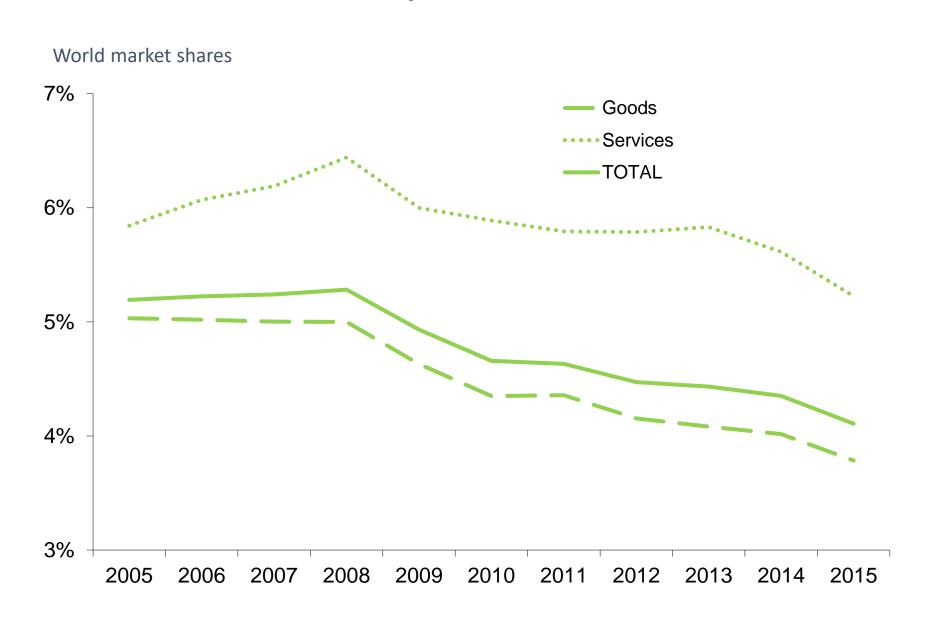
### Labour Productivity Growth across BSR Countries



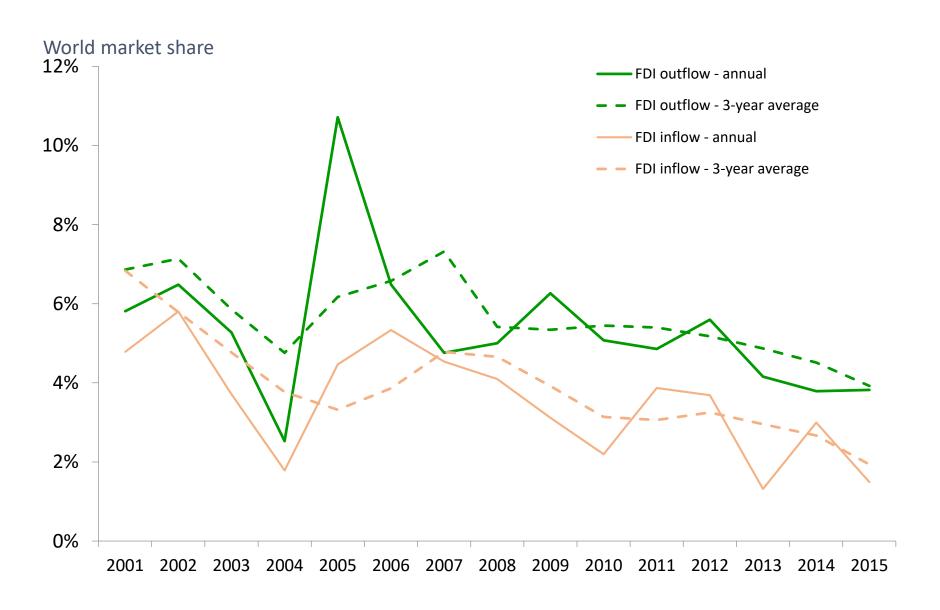
## **Trade Dynamics**



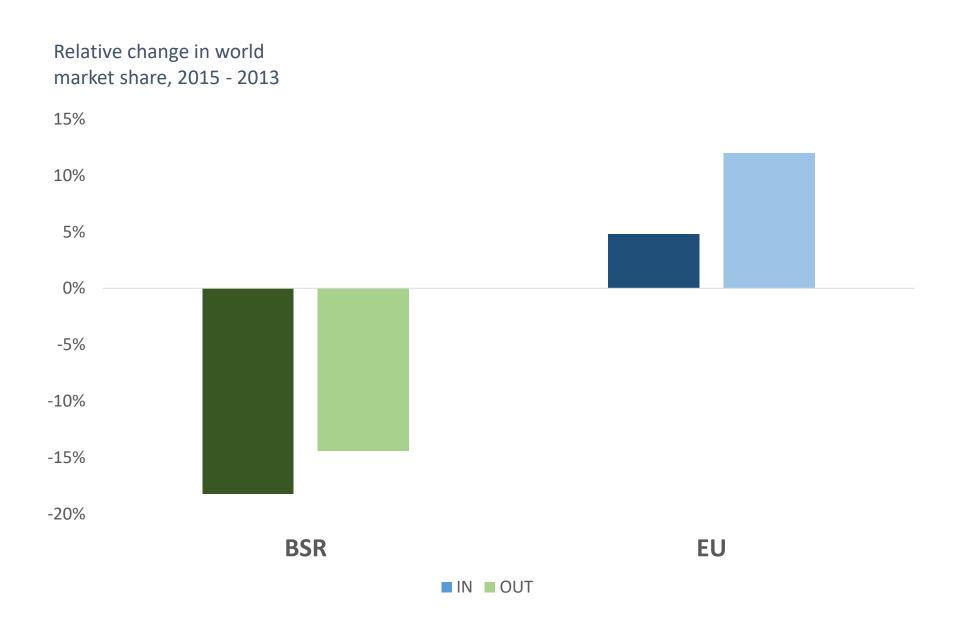
### **BSR World Export Market Shares**



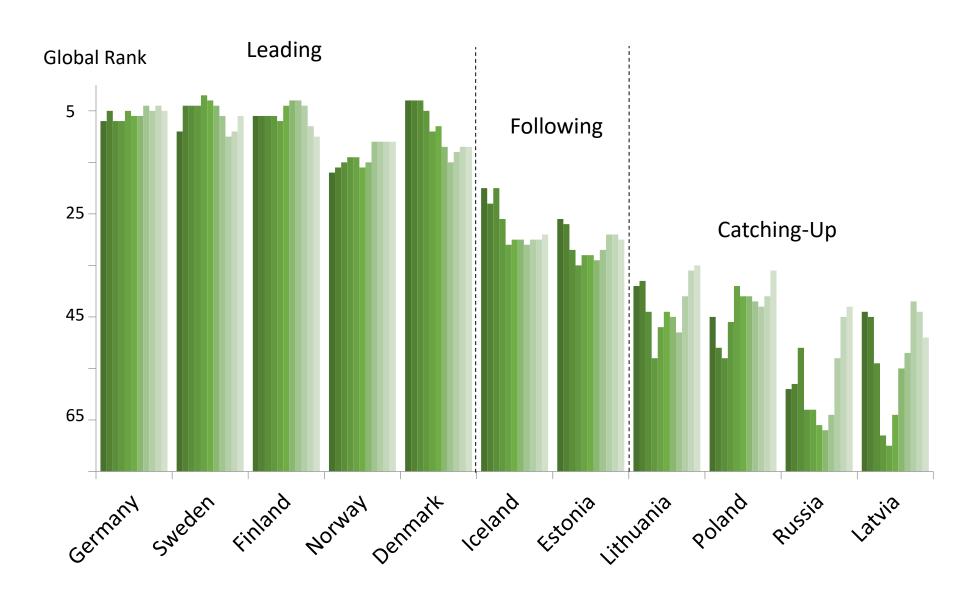
### Baltic Sea Region FDI Flows



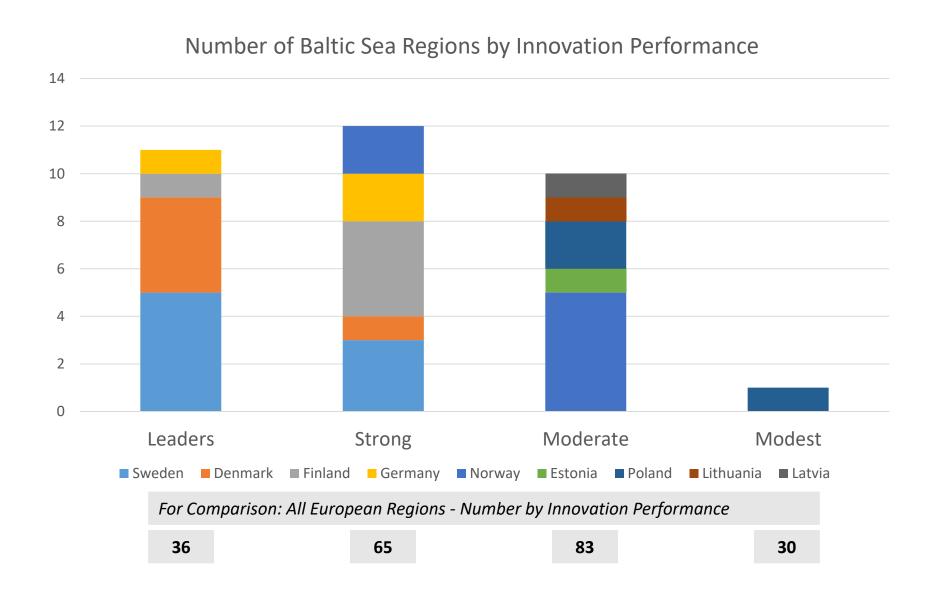
### FDI Stocks Over Time: Change in Market Shares



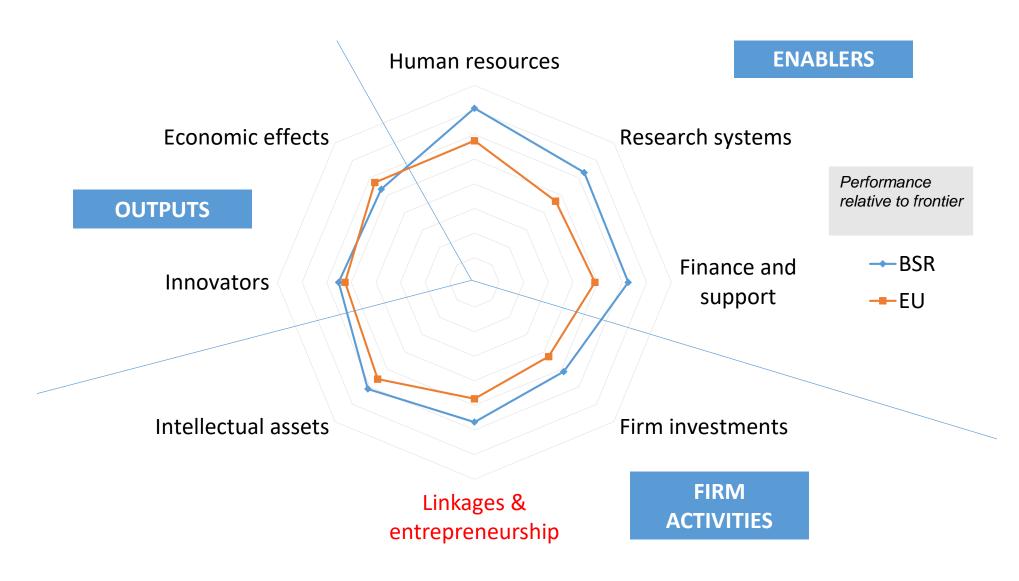
### Global Competitiveness Rankings over Time



### Innovation Performance of European Regions

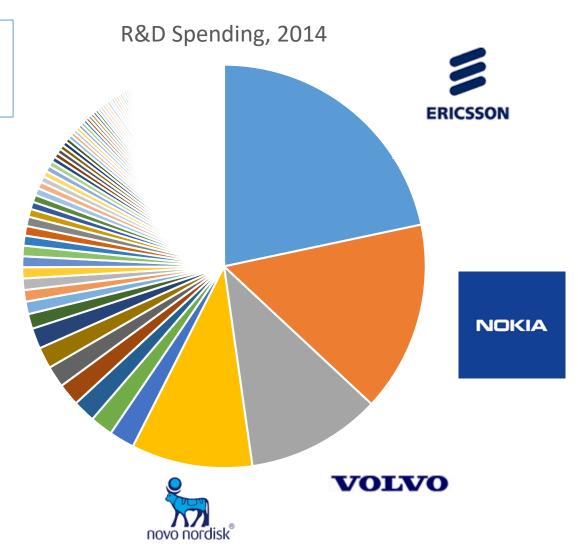


## Innovation Scoreboard Profile 2016: Baltic Sea Region



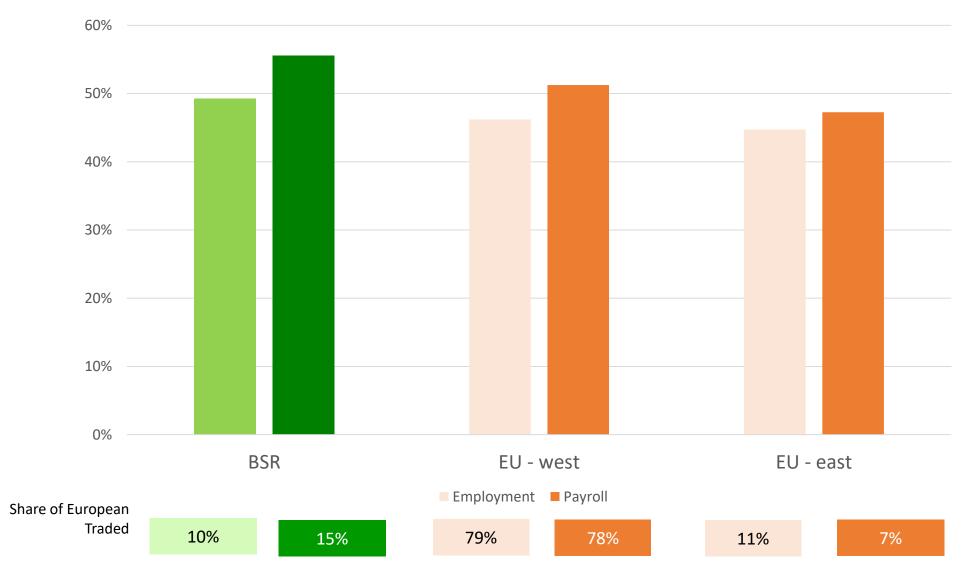
## Private Sector R&D Spending by Top Firms

57% of total spending is done by the top 4 companies

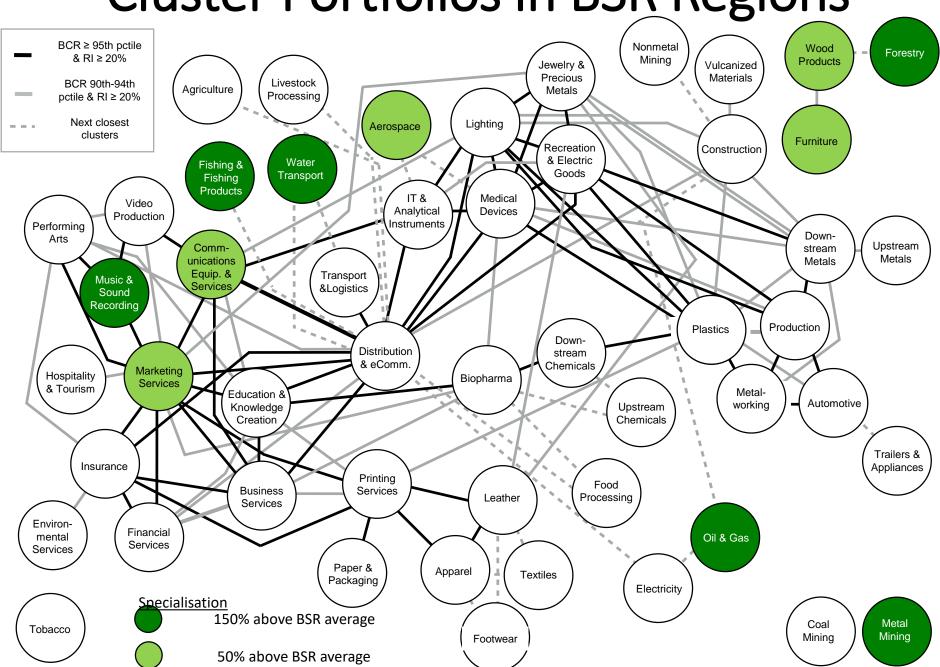


### Clusters across Europe

Share of Strong Clusters among all Traded Industries, 2014



Cluster Portfolios in BSR Regions Nonmetal Wood

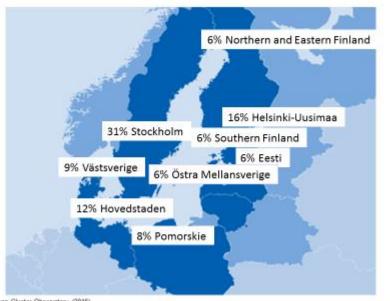


### Cluster Value Chains across the Baltic Sea Region

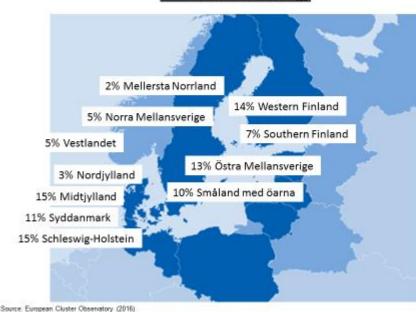
#### Cluster Footprints Across the BSR Furniture



### Cluster Footprints Across the BSR Communications Equipment and Services



### Cluster Footprints Across the BSR **Production Technology**



European Cluster Observatory (2016)

Source: European Cluster Observatory (2016)

## Anxiety

• How can the Region deal with the next macroeconomic downturn?

• Is there a way out of permanently lower productivity growth?

• What is the future of Europe?

• How many more political shocks await us?

• National policy makers need to prepare the Baltic Sea Region's economies for a future that is likely to be fragile; few of them do so today

• The Baltic Sea Region has a big stake in the future of Europe beyond Brexit; it needs to do more than staking out short-term national interests

• Macro-regions have the potential to become more important in the global economy; the Baltic Sea Region has much to build on but needs to regain momentum in specific common actions