Exploring Potential
Programme

08.00–09.00 Registration and Coffee

09.00–09.10 Welcome
  • Lene Espersen, Chairman, Baltic Development Forum
  • Verner Kristiansen (moderator)

09.10–09.50 State of the Baltic Sea Region 2016
With the launch of the 2016 State of the Region Report we will provide an overview of the economic trends in the Baltic Sea Region, including outlooks on investments, growth and competitiveness.
  • Christian Ketels, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm School of Economics, and Faculty Member, Harvard Business School
  • Helge J. Pedersen, Group Chief Economist, Nordea
  Comments by:
  • Jan Vapaavuori, Vice-President and Member of the Management Committee, European Investment Bank

09.50–10.05 Special Address
  • Martina Larkin, Head of Europe and Eurasia and Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum

10.05–10.45 Business Responses to Current Regional Trends
What defines the business climate in the Baltic Sea Region in 2016? Is the region still attractive to invest in, and what is its biggest potential? In a world increasingly impacted by global trends and volatile business environment, how can we build on the momentum and secure accelerated sustainable economic growth? How can we best make use of well-established industrial experiences and new entrepreneurial thinking to define future strategies?
  • Janne Ohman, CEO Siemens Finland
  • Ilja Lauri, Founder of GetJar and Nextury Ventures
  • David Zahle, Partner, Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG)

10.45–11.00 Key Note
  • Rickard Gustafson, CEO, SAS Group

11.00–11.10 Political State of the Region: Facing a New Reality in the Baltic Sea Region
Launch of the 2016 Political State of the Region Report
  • Jana Puglierin, Head of Programme, German Council on Foreign Relations

11.10–11.55 What Will It Take for Baltic Sea Regional Cooperation to Survive?
In a time of broader political conflicts and mistrust, can Baltic Sea regional cooperation be regenerated and play a positive role?
  • Jana Puglierin, Head of Programme, German Council on Foreign Relations
  • Andrei Kolesnikov, Senior Associate, Carnegie Moscow Center
  • Agnieszka Łada, Head of the European Programme/Senior Analyst, Institute of Public Affairs
  • Andris Piebalgs, Chairman of the Unity party and former European Commissioner

11.55 Closing Remarks
  • Flemming Stender, Director, Baltic Development Forum
Sessions at the 7th Strategy Forum of the EUSBSR, 8–9 November

BDF organises a number of sessions within the programme of the 7th Strategy Forum of the EUSBSR. To attend these, registration for the Strategy Forum is necessary.

8 November, 15.00–16.20 Connecting for a Digital Market in the Baltic Sea Region
Venue: Mässhallen

Inspired by the ‘State of the Digital Region Report 2016’, to be launched at this main session, a high level panel of government, industry, city and entrepreneurs will discuss how cities can be drivers for a digital single market in the Baltic Sea Region by offering attractive environments for digital startups and by supporting and connecting digital ecosystems. The session is co-organised with Swedish Agency of Economic & Regional Growth and Nordic Council of Ministers.

Speakers:
- Martin Andersson, Professor, Blekinge Institute of Technology & Lund University
- Joakim Wernberg, PhD student, Lund University
- Jan Tore Sanner, Minister of Local Government & Modernisation, Norway
- Niklas Zennström, co-founder of Skype and Atomico
- Damon Knight, Chief Architect, Microsoft
- Pauliina Smeds, Development and Communication Director, Forum Virium Helsinki
- Rokas Tamciūnas, partner Robos Capital, Lithuania

8 November, 16.30–17.30 Internationalisation Models for Digital Start-ups in the Baltic Sea Region
Venue: Riddarsalen

A workshop focusing on the concrete opportunities in supporting digital ecosystems within the Baltic Sea Region, with a specific focus on connecting environments for digital start-ups & entrepreneurs. Three projects with scale up potential will pitch their ideas for pan Baltic activities, to be evaluated by a panel of key stakeholders from government, ICT business and digital entrepreneurs. The workshop is co-organised with Swedish Agency of Economic & Regional Growth and Nordic Council of Ministers.

Speakers:
- Frida Johansson, Recruiting Lead, Supercell
- Leif Renström, CEO, Hello Future
- Sandra Steinhauer, Policy Officer, European Commission DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
- Mikk Vainik, Expert, Estonia’s Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications (tbc)
- Monika Zamachowska (moderator)

9 November, 14.00–14.50 Achieving Knowledge-driven Innovation and Growth in the Baltic Sea Region
Venue: Galleriet

Investments in research-industry collaboration help to boost growth in the Baltic Sea Region: investments in innovative capacity boost competitiveness and growth. This session explores how public and private sectors in the region can pool together for joint innovation and regional prosperity, and examines the structures and funding needed to stimulate a knowledge-driven economy. Organised in collaboration with Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY), Region Skåne, Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht (GEMS).

Speakers:
- Uwe Sassenberg, Coordinator, DESY and Lead Partner of BalticTRAM (Transnational Research Access in the Macrowregion)
- Tobias Krantz, Director for Education, Research and Innovation, Confederation of Swedish Enterprise
- Thomas Hansson, Chair of Region Skåne Regional Development Committee
- Antonio Di Giulio, Head of Unit, Research Infrastructure B4, DG Research and Innovation, EU Commission

8 November, 15.10–16.00 The Political State of the Baltic Sea Region – Facing a New Reality
Venue: Creative Lounge

How can we work together in the Baltic Sea Region in the current difficult political environment? Using the 2016 BDF Political State of the Region Report as a starting point, this hot seat will allow a senior researcher to reflect on the current situation in the Baltic Sea Region. How are we impacted by international events such as the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, Russian domestic policy and East West relations?

Speakers:
- Andrei Kolesnikov, Senior Associate, Carnegie Moscow Center
- Per Carlson, Senior Advisor, Baltic Development Forum (moderator)
Baltic Development Forum (BDF) is a think-tank and network for high-level decision makers from business, politics, academia and media in the Baltic Sea Region. BDF is the platform that brings together actors across sectors, borders, regions, and levels of decision-making to facilitate collaboration, develop regional policy, and advance growth and competitiveness in the Baltic Sea Region. Our annual Summits have provided a high-level meeting place for regional cross-sectoral dialogue since 1999.

www.bdforum.org