

# WELCOME

## Welcome to the 17th Baltic Development Forum Summit!

The past year has brought new challenges globally. In the light of new political uncertainties, increased global economic competition and a rapidly changing business climate, it is more important than ever to look for regional solutions. Today, we will discuss how the Baltic Sea Region responds to these developments, and how it can keep its position as one of the most dynamic regions of the world.

As a leading regional think-tank, BDF is proud to publish new insightful analyses about the development of the Baltic Sea Region. We hope our publications will help to promote the region internationally and

provide decision-makers, both private and public, with new perspectives for the future. We also wish that the analyses will serve as a basis for well-informed decision-making in governments and businesses in all the eleven countries in the region and thus provide inspiration for an even closer regional cooperation.

On the Summit programme for this year, you will find BDF signature topics such as innovation and competitiveness side by side with new initiatives and perspectives. With this year's more focused Summit format, we hope that you will enjoy the discussions.

Baltic Sea cooperation is a priority for Denmark. Our goal is to tie the Baltic Sea Region together in an ever stronger cooperation between all Baltic Sea States – on all relevant political and economic issues. To achieve this, we are active in all fora dedicated to Baltic Sea cooperation such as the Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS) and the EU-strategy for the Baltic Sea region (EUSBSR).

Denmark is also engaged in other regional cooperation platforms. This year, Denmark holds the presidency of the cooperation within the Nordic Baltic group of countries (NB8). Within the four focus areas identified by Denmark: Ukraine crisis; strategic communication/Russian language media; energy security; and the Eastern Partnership – the NB8 countries have identified grounds for new initiatives and achieved concrete results.

We are happy that Baltic Development Forum (BDF) is hosting its 17th Baltic Development Forum (BDF) Summit in Copenhagen to

As the intergovernmental body for Nordic cooperation with a large number of specialised institutions; with offices in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania; and with cooperation activities also in Germany, Poland and Northwest Russia – the Nordic Council of Ministers reaches across the Baltic Sea Region.

The region is facing new common challenges. Developments in Russia and in the relations between Russia and its neighbours are of vital importance. At the same time there is a need to safeguard fundamental values and to understand the current situation from a constructive perspective based on modern and historical relationships in order to generate growth and stability in Northern Europe. Also, the largest migration flow in Europe since World War II is a source of challenges. By working together the Baltic Sea Region



**Lene Espersen,**  
Chairman of Baltic  
Development Forum

discuss "Europe-wide challenges, regional solutions". BDF is a key actor in Baltic Sea cooperation and its role as an important think tank is well known across the region. For the Summit, BDF has once again put together a program for discussions focused on the most vital issues facing the Baltic Sea region at this point in time. I would like to congratulate BDF on that.

2015 has been a challenging year in our region, like the year before. The conflict in Ukraine has altered the security situation in Europe as well as in the Nordic-Baltic region. In this context, Nordic-Baltic cooperation in the NB8 format and elsewhere has demonstrated its value in changing times. We are likeminded in a number of ways and we promote our policies and priorities.

The BDF Summit will no doubt give valuable impetus as to how we meet present and future challenges affecting the region. I wish you all a successful and productive Summit!

countries have better opportunities to tackle this human and societal uncertainty.

Our region has come far in terms of achieving economic, social and environmental development. However, the region could come even further. One priority for the Nordic Council of Ministers is to improve the overall business environment through efforts that level remaining cross-border barriers. Furthermore we should build on the region's strengths and complementarities in innovation and cultural approaches. We should also pursue to accelerate growth in an advanced bioeconomy based on our rich natural resources, in the digital economy and in the health and welfare economy.

I wish you a successful summit.

# PROGRAMME

## 17th Baltic Development Forum Summit November 23, 2015

> 9:00 **Registration**

> 9:30 **Welcome**

**Lene Espersen,** *Chairman, Baltic Development Forum*

**Moderator for the 17th Baltic Development Forum Summit:**  
**Emily Wise,** *Research Fellow, Lund University*

> 9:50 **State of the Baltic Sea Region:  
Striving for Direction in a Complex  
Environment**

We will take stock of the current economic climate in the Baltic Sea Region. How has prosperity developed, and what are the most recent trends with regards to the Region's position on global markets for trade and investment? What are the patterns of competitiveness across the Region, and what message do they hold for our future prosperity? We will also discuss the current economic policy stance in the Region, including the context for regional collaboration.

**Presentation: State of the Region Report 2015**

**Christian Ketels,** *Senior Research Fellow Stockholm School of Economics and Faculty Member, Harvard Business School*  
**Helge Pedersen,** *Group Chief Economist, Nordea*

**Q & A with the authors:** **Emily Wise,** *Research Fellow, Lund University*

> 10:30 **Coffee**

> 11:00 **The Juncker Investment Plan -  
A Boost for the Baltic Sea Region?**

The Juncker Investment Plan will release 315 billion EUR in the EU over the course of three years, with the aim of supporting local businesses, investing in infrastructure and boosting science and innovation. How can companies take advantage of this opportunity, and what implications will it have for the Baltic Sea Region as a whole?

**Presentation:**

**Jan Vapaavuori,** *Vice-President, European Investment Bank, former Minister of Economic Affairs of Finland*

**Panel discussion:**

**Andris Piebalgs,** *former European Commissioner*

**Carsten Stendevad,** *CEO, ATP Group*

**Harro Pitkänen,** *Head of Business Development and Control, Nordic Investment Bank*

**Henning Kruse,** *Director Governmental Affairs, Siemens*

**Moderator:** **Emily Wise,** *Research Fellow, Lund University*

> 12:00 **KPMG Global CEO Outlook Survey:  
Global business trends**

Key findings from KPMG's Global CEO Outlook 2015: The growth imperative in a more competitive environment. The Outlook which is based on interviews with more than 1,200 CEOs covering ten key markets and 9 industries depicts global growth, but also profound change on the horizon. The insights will put the trends observed in the Baltic Sea Region into a global context.

**Thomas Hofman-Bang,** *CEO, KPMG Denmark*

> 12:15 **Business as Usual, or Need for a  
New Thinking?**

In today's global world, is the Baltic Sea Region still attractive for business? What are the key competencies and market opportunities in the region, and what are the barriers for business to invest and innovate? How can the region stay in the lead and reap the benefits of being a front-runner? This session provides some inspiration and insights from the private sector.

**Panel discussion:**

**Milda Dargužaitė,** *Head of Barclays Technologies Center Lithuania*

**Veikko Toomere,** *Founding Partner, NJORD Law, Tallinn office*

**Micah Gland,** *Deputy CEO, Helsinki Business Hub*

**David Skilling,** *Director, Landfall Strategy Group*

**Moderator:** **Emily Wise,** *Research Fellow, Lund University*

> 13:00 **Lunch**

> 14:00 **The Digital Pioneer**

The Baltic Sea Region is a global front-runner in the ICT sector with a huge potential to inspire the European digital agenda, providing good examples of cross-border, public-private initiatives. But the region needs to keep up pace to maintain a global lead. Cross-border barriers must be turned into growth drivers. How can we empower regional collaboration and show the way to a digital single market? How can regional experience feed into EU and national actions?

**Key Note: How can the Baltic Sea Region inspire EU in pursuing the Digital Single Market?**

**Roberto Viola,** *Director-General DG Connect, European Commission*

**Launch of new "Top of Digital Europe" reports,** introduced by **Martin Andersson,** *Professor of Innovation Studies, Lund University*

**Panel discussion:**

**Mark Lange,** *Director, EU Institutional Relations, Microsoft*  
**Natasha Friis Saxberg,** *entrepreneur, author and digital advisor, Founder of Gignat*

**Jørgen Abild Andersen,** *Chair of OECD Committee on Digital Economic Policy, Chair of "Top of Digital Europe" Advisory Board*

**Roberto Viola,** *Director-General DG Connect, European Commission*

**Moderator:** **Adam Lebech,** *Director, DI Digital, Confederation of Danish Industry*



**Kristian Jensen,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
Denmark



**Dagfinn Høybråten,**  
Secretary General,  
Nordic Council of Ministers

> 15:10 **Baltic Sea Region today and in the future**

**Video message** from **Uffe Ellemann-Jensen**, Honorary Chairman, Baltic Development Forum

**Interactive session** with the audience. What are your visions for the Baltic Sea Region?

> 15:30 **Coffee**

> 16:00 **Challenges and Game Changers**

What defines the Baltic Sea Region in 2015, and where will it be in ten years' time? We will look closer at the region's biggest challenges and game changers that pave the way for the future.

**Presentation:**

**Pawel Świeboda**, Deputy Head, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission

**Panel discussion: The Baltic Sea Region today and in the future**

**Jüri Luik**, Director, International Center for Defense and Security, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Estonia

**Robert Nurick**, Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council

**Arkady Moshes**, Programme Director, The EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia Research Programme, Finnish Institute of International Affairs

**Moderator: Per Carlsen**, Senior Advisor BDF

> 17:00 **Conclusions and Reflections**

How can we keep the political commitment to the Baltic Sea cooperation? How will the regional organisations follow up on challenges and opportunities for the future?

**Dagfinn Høybråten**, Secretary General, Nordic Council of Ministers

**Henryka Moscicka-Dendys**, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the Kingdom of Denmark, CBSS Polish Presidency

**Kaspars Ozoliņš**, Latvian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Denmark, NB8 Latvian Chairmanship 2016

**Lena Andersson Pench**, Director DG Regio, European Commission

**Moderators: Emily Wise**, Research fellow, Lund University, **Lene Espersen**, Chairman, Baltic Development Forum

> 17:30 **Mingle**

After the formal programme ends, join us for a drink and some food at an evening mingle at Eigtveds Pakhus.



**Wifi:** Eigtved  
**Password:** 33921601

**#17BDFSummit**

17TH  
BALTIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM  
SUMMIT

**EUROPE-WIDE  
CHALLENGES,  
REGIONAL  
SOLUTIONS**



NOVEMBER 23,  
2015

**VENUE**

Eigtveds Pakhus,  
Copenhagen

PRO  
GRAMME

ORGANISER:



PARTNERS:

