

## 9<sup>th</sup> Strategy Forum of the EUSBSR in Tallinn 4 – 5 June

---

### Nothing about us without us – digital tools for better youth involvement and dialog

**Time:** Monday 4 June, 17:30 – 19:00

**Venue:** Woodblock Hall

#### **Description**

The youth of the Baltic Sea Region are important stakeholders when discussing the BSR today and tomorrow. Youth are engaged, interested and open to share their opinions – but they are many, busy and not always available for joining meetings and conferences. We need to make use of digital tools and find ways, means and platforms for youth to give their input. In addition, it is essential to increase the knowledge of the decision-makers and PAC/HACs of youth work and how to involve youth. In the seminar, we will facilitate presentation and dialog on better involvement – putting youth and their proposals at the centre. A “top-ten list” of digital tools for more and better youth involvement will be presented.

Digital tools are a way to engage more young people as it opens up for participatory processes not dependent on physical meetings - but it can also channel the ‘people’s court’ / hate speech etc. The seminar will take into account the pros and cons aspect of using digital communication.

#### **Programme draft (per 02.05.18) (speakers, panellists, moderators):**

*Digital tools like “Mentimeter” and “Kahoot” will be used to interact with the seminar participants during the whole seminar - to collect points of views, reactions and questions for panel discussions.*

Welcome and opening of the workshop by the moderators

Keynote intervention by Mikk Tarros, Vice President, Estonian National Youth Council (ENL)

Videos – presentation of youth reflections and input to the seminar

#### **Panel 1 – youth involvement – new possibilities using digital tools – what can it give?**

- Three youth representatives
- A representative from the Board of BSSSC/UBC/ERB – *name to be confirmed*
- Mr. Anders Bergström, PA Education
- Mr. Tomasz Jalukowicz, PA Innovation

#### **Panel 2 – engaging youth via digital tools - what to do and how to do it?**

- Two youth representatives
- Ms. Kristina Pingoud, CBSS-CSO, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland (*tbc*)
- Ms. Olga Zuin, HA Climate
- Mr. Stefan Musiolik, PA Culture

Youth statement

Summing up - end of seminar by the moderators

The seminar will be moderated by Peter Wolkowinski and Franziska Ehlert

The message from the seminar will be: We are the future you are planning for and WE – the young change-makers - are ready to contribute through digital channels!

**Organiser(s) & contact details:**

The seminar will be organised by Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation (BSSSC) (coordinator), Union of Baltic Cities (UBC), EuroRegion Baltic (ERB) and Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) in close cooperation with the national youth councils in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden.

Contact person: Ms. Ann Irene Saeternes, Secretary General of BSSSC

Mobil: +47 958 32 758

E-mail: [ais@oppland.org](mailto:ais@oppland.org)

**Elaboration**

The seminar is a follow up from Stockholm and Berlin forums. We will explore good practices and show ways of better involvement of BSR youth in the work of the PAC, HAC and the different organisations using digital channels. In Stockholm, youth of the BSR presented a vision towards 2030:

- REAL INCLUSION OF YOUTH – WHATEVER LEVEL, WHETHER IT BE LOCAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL OR MACROREGIONAL - WHATEVER KIND OF POLITICS IS BEING MADE. YOUTH OF THE BSR HAVE REAL OPINIONS AND WANT TO SHARE THEIR IDEAS AND BE PART OF THE DISCUSSION

Youth are more sensitive to many questions - and through the way they live and communicate, they are very aware of changes taking place in the society. They are change-makers! This workshop will bring the voice of the youth of the Baltic Sea Region – their views and expertise - into the dialog on implementation of the EUSBSR. The focus will be on “Moving forward and deciding better with the help of youth!”

**A youth conference in Tallinn 3 June**

We will also arrange a youth conference in Tallinn the day before the opening of the Annual Forum. As part of this youth event, we will facilitate dialog and discussions with politicians from our organisations as well as with PAC/HACs of the EUSBSR - to prepare for the EUSBSR forum and seminar. We will bring young participants (approx. 40) to the annual forum 4-5 June. Seminar preparation will involve youth.

An application is sent to Erasmus+ programme for the youth conference and seminar preparations.