

Year 2017 for UBC Safe Cities Commission started with the Commission meeting in Kaunas, Lithuania on January 11–13. Kaunas welcomed participants from Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Lithuania with real winter conditions. During three days safety specialists from different fields – municipal police, fire and rescue services, civil protection and other municipal institutions – discussed various issues, including safety, upcoming project ideas, gender equality etc.

Kaunas City Council and UBC Executive Board member **Mantas Jurgutis** welcomed everyone with insight into Kaunas city and possible safety issues in Kaunas. UBC Safe Cities Commission Chairman **Kaspars Vārpiņš** informed about latest information regarding UBC and other issues including project “Cities Resilient to Climate Change”. UBC Safe Cities Commission Vice-Chairman **Torbjörn Lindström** informed about upcoming project “FiRe Concept”.

Meeting was followed by planning of project initiative about data collection principles for civil protection prevention activities with following workshops organized by Head of Jelgava City Municipality Strategic Information Centre **Gints Reinsons**. All UBC Safe Cities Commission meeting participants agreed that data collection principles for civil protection prevention activities are important even in everyday life. It was decided, that this issue has to be investigated and discussed more amongst the commission.

During the whole UBC Safe Cities Commission meeting, meaningful discussions about various safety topics took place. The main outcome of these discussions were, that for the next meeting, the civil protection topic should be chosen as a main topic. Next UBC Safe Cities Commission meeting will take place in **Tallinn (Estonia), June 7-9, 2017**, so save the date.

P.S. UBC Safe Cities Commission has produced three short animation movies about safety at home. As the UBC includes around 100 cities from the Baltic Sea Region, these animation movies were made without an actual word spoken, so that they can be clear and easy to understand for everyone.

These animation movies teach how to ensure your property, so you know who is coming to visit you and that you don't have to open your door to everyone, as well, that you don't need to show off to your friends with the valuables you have at your home.

Please enjoy the movies, download and share them through your available channels. Movies are available at <http://ej.uz/2tqy>

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