



EU's post-2020 Smart Specialisation Agenda Challenges and Opportunities for the Baltic Sea Region

Invitation by MEP Janusz LEWANDOWSKI, former Commissioner for Budget
and MEP Miapetra KUMPULA-NATRI

Moderator: Alison HUNTER, Director Economic and Public Policy Consultancy

19 November 2019, 14h30 -18h30

European Parliament, room PHS 4B1, Brussels

The European Commission's proposals for the next generation of Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) set out a clear expectation for innovation performance underpinned by interregional investments. The Baltic Sea Region has benefited from a S3 logic in the current programming period, with significant regional efforts, across the macro-region and beyond, the macro-region's innovation ecosystems. The post-2020 S3 proposals offer new momentum to build on this performance, and to strengthen collaboration efforts to deliver new industry-driven investment. Furthermore, this builds on the Baltic Sea's ambitions to deliver both inclusive and clean growth. The event seeks to bring together our political and innovation ecosystem partners to share ideas and to set out a clear pathway for the Baltic Sea's innovation agenda. Key questions and themes to support this event include:

- How do we position the Regions of the Baltic Sea at the forefront of the EU's industrial innovation ambitions?
- What are the necessary steps for us to create further ownership and commitment to deliver this?
- What tools and actions are required to future-proof our skills and competences, to identify and prioritize the opportunities and to attract and leverage investment?

The seminar will also review how EU policies and instruments can add value to the BSR's innovation ambition, revitalizing our Baltic competitiveness and enhancing our performance through innovation collaboration.

PROGRAMME

14.30-14.50 Welcome Addresses

- MEP Janusz LEWANDOWSKI
- MEP Miapetra KUMPULA-NATRI

14.50-15.30 Showcasing of best practices

- Tiina PERHO, Member of Managing Board, Regional Council of Southwest Finland
Sustainable Growth from the Sea – Blue Growth as the Spearhead of Southwest Finland's S3
- Hendrik PAAPE, Ministry for Economics Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
The Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Innovation Strategy – Pathways to the future
- Mantas VILYS, Director at Lithuanian Innovation Centre
Baltic Games as Innovation driver within S3

15.30-15.45 Q&A session

15.45-16.20 Vision for the Baltic Sea Region

- MEP Erik BERGKVIST (REGI, S&D)
- MEP Niklas NIENAU (REGI, Greens)
- MEP Delara BURKHARDT (ENVI, S&D)

16.20-16.30 Key note: Towards a renewed macro-regional context in the post 2020 period

- Lena ANDERSSON PENCH, Director in European Territorial Cooperation, Macro-regions, Interreg and Programmes Implementation, DG REGIO

16.30-16.50 Q&A session

16.50-17.50 Panel discussion: Challenges and opportunities (Insights)

- Alasdair REID, Policy Director, European Future Innovation System (EFIS) Centre: Necessity of interregional value chains (S3 Ecosystem)
- Jonas LUNDSTRÖM, Head of Enterprise, Innovation and Social Development, Region Västerbotten, BSR S3 Directors Network
- Antti KARJALUOTO, Disruptive Renewal Officer, DIMECC Ltd
- Carina ÅKERBERG, Strategic Advisor Regional Development, Region Gävleborg
- Kati MANSKINEN, Research, Development and Innovation Director, Lahti University of Applied Science
- Adam MIKOLAJCZYK, Director at the Marshall Office of Pomorskie Region, Department for Regional Development

17.50-18.00 Key note: Shared ambition for the EU's post-2020 Smart Specialisation

- Katja REPPPEL, Deputy Head of Unit for smart and sustainable growth, DG REGIO

18.00 Conclusion

- Alison HUNTER and hosts

18.10 End