



**Baltic Sea Region Ministers of Foreign Affairs to meet in Reykjavik
Reykjavik Ministerial 2017**

**#CBSS25
#CBSSReykjavik**

On 20 June 2017, the Foreign Ministers of the CBSS Member States and a High Representative of the European Union gathered in Reykjavik, Iceland, to mark the 25th anniversary of the CBSS. The vision of a unified Baltic Sea Region was revived with the founding of the CBSS back in 1992, by Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the previous Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark and the late Hans-Dietrich Genscher, previous Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany. The meeting of Foreign Ministers took place in Silfurberg at Harpa Concert Hall, followed by a press meeting recorded by Icelandic media.

H.E. Guðlaugur Þór Þórðarson, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, opened the anniversary meeting by highlighting it as an important contribution to the political dialogue within the Council. The possibilities and challenges for the future cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region were addressed, whereas the topics for discussion concerned, amongst others, the regional approach towards the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, a common civil protection area and the collaboration on innovation and scientific research.

The Ministers and the high-level representatives adopted the Reykjavik Declaration, which included an agreement to appoint an Independent Group of Wise Men and Women to provide recommendations for the direction of the future cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region.

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the CBSS, the publication named “°N 52 Degrees and Above” was launched. This is the first travel guide that groups the CBSS Member States and captures the potential of the Baltic Sea Region as a whole. The guidebook also introduces locals in each of the eleven member state capitals and portrays their personal vision of their hometown.

See images from the Ministerial on our [Flickr account](#).

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