

Newsletter 2017/2



EUSBSR POLICY AREA SECURE



Photo: courtesy HAZARD project



Dear Friends,

PA Secure team at the Secretariat of the Council of the Baltic Sea States presents the second issue of the Newsletter in 2017. We would like to share with you some news on key developments in the EUSBSR Policy Secure Area (co-coordinated by the CBSS and the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, MSB). This newsletter also provides a broader overview of key events (meetings, conferences, seminars, exercises), projects and developments within the fields of civil protection and law enforcement, regardless of the institutional affiliation of the actors involved.

We would like to thank our colleagues who shared their stories with us! Make sure you do not miss an opportunity to show the results of your work to a wide network of professionals in the BSR. Please do not hesitate to contact us in case you want to find out more details about any of the newsletter items.

Stay safe and secure!

PA Secure team

Directors General adopted the Joint Position on Enhancing Cooperation in the BSR



The Directors General for the Civil Protection in the Baltic Sea Region held their 15th meeting, which took place in Iceland on 11 May 2017. The meeting, organised by the Icelandic Presidency of the CBSS, and chaired by Hjálmar Björgvinsson, Superintendent at the National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police, resulted in an adoption of a historic Joint Position on Enhancing Cooperation in Civil Protection Area. The joint position encourages all expert networks, working in the field of civil protection to increase cooperation within 8 priority areas, including building a common societal security culture; combining national efforts in implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction; making better use of research and project results; increasing involvements of the local authorities and NGOs and strengthening cross-sectorial cooperation in CBRN(E) preparedness. [Read the full text of the Joint Position](#)

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PA Secure Steering Group meeting – better cooperation, more Flagships, new members



15-16 June 2017, the 7th Meeting of the PA Secure Steering Group, was held in Hamburg, Germany. During the meeting the state of play in the field of civil protection in the Baltic Sea Region was reviewed, as well as the status of projects and processes. The member states, present at the meeting, agreed to nominate three projects for EUSBSR Flagship status: The 'BALEX DELTA 2018' exercise; 'ECoHuCy – Enablement besides Constraints: Human Security and a Cyber Multi-Disciplinary Framework in the European High North', and 'FIRE-IN – Fire and Rescue Innovation Network'. In the light of the recent

Crisis Preparedness Week 2017 in Sweden



During the week 8th -14 of May 2017 Sweden ran its first national information campaign to strengthen and increase public preparedness for crisis. The purpose of the campaign, which has an all-hazard approach, is to make the public reflect upon ways in which one would handle everyday life in case the reality turns upside down, in case suddenly there would be no electricity, drinking water, heating, or communication, etc. Local municipalities have arranged different activities to engage inhabitants during the campaign week to raise awareness regarding these issues.

'Joint Position on Enhancing Cooperation in Civil Protection Area' the Steering Group presented their view on translating the document's priority areas into a concrete set of actions. The participants stressed the growing need to involve new stakeholders in the work of PA Secure, and the decision was made to grant the Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC) [Safe Cities Commission](#) a full membership in the Steering Group, to diversify the cooperation at the local level.

The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) has produced information material which all municipalities can use for free. Example: [Campaign Manual](#) (in Swedish). The national information campaign also embraced lessons learned from the terrorist attack in Stockholm on 7th of April.

Baltic Leadership Programme 2017 in Sweden: critical infrastructure and Sendai



WISLANDIA 2017: Polish-German flood exercise



The recruitment process for 2017 Baltic Leadership Programme in societal security has started. This year BLP will take place in Sweden in November 2017. Baltic Sea Region professionals, working with strategic issues within civil protection and law enforcement as well as representatives from the local governments, will get an opportunity to network, exchange knowledge and experiences. This year's focus is critical infrastructure and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. [Read interviews from the participants of previous programmes.](#)

The State Fire Service of Poland along with the Federal Technical Rescue Service (THW) from Germany participated in "Wislandia 2017" exercises, which were conducted on 24-26 of April 2017 in Kuyavian-Pomeranian Province on Vistula river, near the dam in Wloclawek, north of Warsaw. The exercises scenario included flood events, accidents resulting in contamination of the surrounding waters with chemical substances, and the evacuation of people. The main objective was to test the efficiency of the high capacity pump modules and cooperation between Polish rescue services and THW.

Nordic – Russian workshop: “Societal Security – A Discipline in the Making?”

PA Secure, HA Climate and PA Energy explore Climate Challenges for Energy Supply

On the 28th of April 2017 a Nordic-Russian workshop was held within an international project "Discipline in the making: Let's do it together". The project, financed by the Nordic Council of Ministers, and led by the Arctic University of Norway, Department of Engineering and Safety, aims to launch an institutionalised cooperation between educational and research institutions from the Nordic countries and the Russian Federation in the field of societal security.

PA Secure and HA Climate jointly organised a panel discussion with PA Energy and Baltic Development Forum, during the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Berlin on 13 June 2017. The seminar was focused on Climate Challenges for Energy Supply. Seminar participants discussed different aspects of EU joint climate and energy policy implementation and representatives of policy makers, business and academia addressed key problems caused by the

The workshop was hosted by the Faculty of International Relations of the St.Petersburg State University and included researchers from Russia and the Nordic countries, sharing their perspectives on societal security and exploring the state of the art in each country. CBSS Secretariat was represented by civil security PA Secure Adviser Jacek Paszkowski, who stressed that “ a macro-regional scientific network, focused on societal security would be a valuable addition to the process of making the Baltic Sea Region safer and more secure.”



climate change to energy supply and discussed how climate resilient technology and improved interconnections ensure affordable and secure supply of carbon neutral energy to the Baltic Sea Region. Seminar panellists concluded that complex problems related to increasing the resilience against negative impacts of long-term climate change could be solved effectively only in close cooperation of relevant sectors and with engagement of major stakeholder groups.



Project News

Partnership to develop CBRNE cooperation granted with funding



The partnership for the project 'STAC-CBRNE: Strengthening the Transnational Capacity of the Management of CBRNE agents related Emergencies' has been granted funding from the Swedish Institute's Seed Funding Facility, and the kick-off meeting will be held in Helsinki, Finland, in September. The initiative is based on the identified need,

FIRE-IN Project: CBSS helps bringing State-of-the-Art Fire and Rescue Technologies to the Region



CBSS Secretariat and MSB are partners in a new project, FIRE-IN, which had its kick-off meeting on 22-24 May 2017 in Aix-en-Provence, France. The project is set to improve national and European fire and rescue capability development. FIRE-IN has received funding from the EU Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme and consists of 16 partners

both at the national level among the states in the BSR and the EU level, to address the issue of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives (CBRNE) agents related emergencies. The aim of the project is to strengthen the operational management of CBRNE in the Baltic Sea Region by identifying potential areas in need for increased cooperation to address the challenges at play, through reviewing operational capacities and responsibilities, and through structured discussions among experts in the field. The project will build a consortium that will undertake more practical cooperation in the future, through either a larger scale project, or a large-scale exercise. The STAC-CBRNE project includes organizations from Sweden, Estonia, Poland, Latvia, Norway, Finland and Lithuania, as well as the Civil Security team at the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) Secretariat, and the local, regional, national and international levels are represented as well as the academia and the civil society.

from 8 European countries, representing research, practitioners, governmental agencies and business. Within the next 5 years the project will identify fire and rescue practitioners' requirements and needs to connect them with relevant innovative technologies. The results will be shared among hundreds of experts and professional networks from the whole Europe through an innovative e-FIRE-IN platform. MSB contributes to the project by offering the first-responders perspective. The task of the CBSS is to build a bridge between the Baltic Sea Region fire and rescue services and the project and to devise FIRE-IN communication tools. The expectations for the project are high: sound project method and the joint expertise of the partners will help saving costs and optimize R&D investments, reduce implementation time of the new technologies, simplify international collaboration between the practitioners, and ultimately make Europe and the Baltic Sea Region a safer place.

Radioactive cloud, oil spill from a tanker collision and injured crew members – just another day in the HAZARD project



Material testing of pipelines is being conducted at the premises of a company, when a radioactive source indicates high activity. At the same time, an inland waterway vessel collides with a tanker. The tanker strands and heavy fuel oil is leaking out. The inland water vessel is badly damaged, and a damaged containment of a gas container, sulfur dioxide, breaks open, releasing huge quantities of aerosol, which is spread by the wind. About 75 staff members doing inspection work at the pipeline systems are being contaminated. The radioactive cloud is threatening thousands of citizens of Hamburg...

This was one of the large-scale exercise scenarios of the Flagship project HAZARD. The project aims at making seaports in the BSR safer for the citizens living close to port areas. Seaports are often located close to residential areas, thus potentially exposing a large number of people to the consequences of accidents.

In the HAZARD project port authorities work closely together with fire and rescue services as well as with other authorities and logistic operators in the port area. The project provides a unique transnational learning platform, where rescue services and seaports can evaluate and improve their procedures and practices in emergencies supported by strong knowledge partners. All this combined will enable better preparedness in case of an accident.

The above-mentioned scenario was practiced last May in Hamburg. Around 400 people took part in the exercise which was organized by the Hamburg Fire and Rescue Service. The objectives of this exercise were i.e. co-operation and communication between authorities, decontamination of affected persons and to review the work of the command centre. This was already the second large-scale multi-authority exercise arranged in Hamburg during the project. Exercises have been and will be arranged also in Turku, Naantali and Klaipeda, where the project partners will practice for situations like leakages of hazardous material, oil spills in the port areas or explosions of gases or chemicals. The project will last until March 2019. [More about the HAZARD project](#)

News – Law Enforcement

BSR Border Control Cooperation: Documents Experts in the BSR shared experiences in combating forgery



26 participants from 9 countries in the BSR joined forces in Oslo on 25-27 April 2017. This workshop for Documents Experts was the fourth event under the Norwegian Presidency in BSRBCC for 2017. The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) supported the workshop financially and gave the participants an update on the latest forgeries detected in Frontex' joint operations. The participants also shared experiences from their daily line of work to combat irregular migration and cross-border crime in this constantly evolving field. Read more about BSR Border Control Cooperation [on their web site.](#)

PROMISE: Supporting child victims of violence



Conference in Helsinki: Soft Security and Migration in the Baltic Sea Region



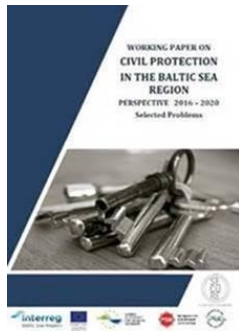
The final conference of the PROMISE Project took place 14 June 2017 at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels. Almost 100 participants from 30 European countries and other regions took part in the conference, which formally launched the European Barnahus Movement and a range of new tools. The speakers showcased the development in the pilot countries and illustrated good practices. High level speakers gave their support to the European Barnahus Movement, including Ms Věra Jourová, European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, and Ms Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative to the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children. The Barnahus is an important point of reference for the growing interest in multi-disciplinary and interagency services for child victims and witnesses in Europe. Child victims or witnesses of violence are received in a child-friendly environment in the Barnahus, where relevant disciplines and agencies cooperate under one roof to safeguard the needs of the child and avoid retraumatisation. The project will continue into phase two, which provides technical support for national level implementation in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Poland, Romania and the UK. For more information please visit www.childrenatrisk.eu/promise

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, in close cooperation with the Icelandic Presidency of the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) and the CBSS Secretariat organised a conference on Soft Security and Migration in the Baltic Sea Region on 30-31 May 2017.

Three main topics of discussions at the conference were: irregular migration in a soft security perspective – new migration management challenges; impact of migration on host societies and the challenge of early integration – lessons learned at the national and local level; safeguarding the rights of migrants – reducing the risk of exploitation and trafficking. Experts participating in the conference represented a broad spectre of institutions and agencies dealing with different aspects of migration management, i.e. border guards (incl. FRONTEX), immigration services, ministries of interior, local governments, NGOs, watchdog organizations, educational and training centers. Based on the results of debates experts will elaborate final report to present best practices in migration policy as well as recommendation for future migration management and integration policies in the BSR.

Publications

[Working Paper on Civil Protection in the Baltic Sea Region. Perspective 2016-2020. Selected Problems.](#)



The report has been commissioned by PA Secure, authored by Professor Jerzy Wolanin from Main School of Fire Service, Warsaw, with contributions and editing provided by the PA Secure Team at the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) Secretariat. The report presents a comprehensive set of recommendations regarding the implementation of a common societal security paradigm, and a 'common security culture', as a base for facilitating collaboration on civil security issues in the Baltic Sea Region.

Calendar of events

Meeting for flagship project in Policy Area Secure – EVAPREM	16-17 August, Riga, Latvia
Baltic Sea Task Force on Organised Crime, Operational Planning Meeting (BSTF-OC OPC)	19-20 September, place TBC
Kick-off meeting for STAC-CBRNE project	Date TBC, September, Helsinki, Finland
The Baltic Border Committee (BCC) II Meeting	11-13 October, Oslo, Norway
ECoHuCy (ECoHuCy – Enablement besides Constraints: Human Security and a Cyber Multi-Disciplinary Framework in the European High North) project meeting	13 October, Stockholm, Sweden
Expert Group for Nuclear and Radiation Safety (EGNRS) meeting	16-17 October, Freiburg, Germany

Steering Group Meeting

13-14 November, Stockholm, Sweden

Policy Area Secure

The XIX BSRBCC Heads Conference

27-29 November, Oslo, Norway

**The Baltic Leadership Program:
Building leadership for implementing
the UN Sendai Framework for Disaster
Risk Reduction**

27-30 November, Sigtuna, Sweden

**Baltic Sea Task Force on Organized
Crime (BSTF-OC), Annual Strategic
Meeting.**

**30 November – 1 December, Riga,
Latvia**

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