A Selection of the Scheduled Presidency Events 2018–2019*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 June</td>
<td>Western University of Stockholm, Baltic International Summer School on media literacy and democracy promotion</td>
<td>Riga</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 - 20 August</td>
<td>Parliamentary 2018 Summer Session</td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 - 25 August</td>
<td>The 24th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference</td>
<td>Riga</td>
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<tr>
<td>6,7 September</td>
<td>CBSS Working Group on Industrial Security in the Baltic Sea Region (EGSME) / CBSS Consultation with representatives of media literacy and democratic processes</td>
<td>Riga</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 – 14 September</td>
<td>First CBSS Committee of Senior Officials meeting</td>
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<td>13 – 14 September</td>
<td>CBSS Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings (TF-THB) meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 – 20 September</td>
<td>Baltic Region Heritage Committee (BRHC) meeting and conference</td>
<td>Riga</td>
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<td>6,10 September</td>
<td>CBSS SOM Meeting / CBSS SOM Consultation with representatives of media literacy and democratic processes</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 September</td>
<td>CBSS Expert Group on Sustainable Development (EGSD) meeting</td>
<td>Riga</td>
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<td>18 – 19 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 – 28 August</td>
<td>The 27th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference</td>
<td>Mariehamn</td>
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<td>18 - 20 August</td>
<td>ReGeneration 2030 Summit</td>
<td>Mariehamn</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-30 June</td>
<td>Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, &quot;Baltic International Summer School on media literacy and democracy promotion&quot;</td>
<td>Riga</td>
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For more information about the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the Baltic States, please visit http://www.cbss.org/

For information throughout the year, you can find the Council of the Baltic Sea States website: http://www.cbss.org/

VISION FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION BEYOND 2020

The Foreign Ministers and high-level representatives of the CBSS and European Union met in Reykjavik on 20 – 21 June 2017, and agreed on the need to maintain and strengthen the role of the CBSS beyond 2020 and beyond. They invited the CBSS to appoint an independent group of experts (the CBSS Vision Group) to elaborate a report with recommendations for a vision for the Baltic Sea Region beyond 2020 and on the future role of the CBSS, as well as the means to expand its impact as a forum for political dialogue and practical cooperation in the region. The CBSS Vision Group includes representatives from the 11 CBSS Member countries plus the European Union.

During the Swedish CBSS Presidency 2017 – 2018 the CBSS Vision Group met in Stockholm three times to discuss the future role of the CBSS in the region. At the Reykjavik Meeting of Foreign Ministers on 20 – 21 June 2017, and agreed on the need to maintain and strengthen the role of the CBSS beyond 2020 and beyond. They invited the CBSS to appoint an independent group of experts (the CBSS Vision Group) to elaborate a report with recommendations for a vision for the Baltic Sea Region beyond 2020 and on the future role of the CBSS, as well as the means to expand its impact as a forum for political dialogue and practical cooperation in the region. The CBSS Vision Group includes representatives from the 11 CBSS Member countries plus the European Union.

The reflections on implementation of the report’s recommendations will take place during the Latvian CBSS Presidency.

LATVIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BALTIC SEA STATES 2018–2019

**PRIORITIES:**

- **INTEGRITY AND SOCIETAL SECURITY**
- **DIAL O U G E**
- **RESPONSIBILITY**
Today more than ever the population and government agencies in the Baltic Sea Region, especially law enforcement authorities, have an increased need and responsibility to work together to establish a common societal security culture. Latvia aims to increase macro-regional coherence in approaching societal security threats.

Based on the previous results, achieved by previous presidencies, and in order to enhance this process, the Latvian Presidency will focus on the following issues:

- Enhancing cooperation in civil protection area to strengthen resilience in the region against major emergencies and disasters.
- Fighting against trafficking at human beings to prevent and mitigate consequences of this severe crime.
- Combating organised crime and strengthening border management.

In 2017, the CBSS Civil Protection Network (CPN) adopted the Joint Position on Enhancing Cooperation in Civil Protection and Defining eight priority areas for this upcoming year. The Latvian Presidency will assure the advancement in implementation of these strategic actions, and in particular: build-in Civil Protection Area that defines eight priority areas for the upcoming years. The Latvian Presidency will focus on the following issues:

- Establishing a common and integrated approach to mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in all policy areas.
- Enhancing cooperation in civil protection area to strengthen resilience in the region against major emergencies and disasters.

The notion of cultural heritage has expanded. It is no longer something exclusive to be revered, it is becoming an integral part of our societal living space. This space is constantly evolving which means that heritage systems should be flexible and able to adapt to these changes. The preservation of cultural heritage calls for an interdisciplinary approach which looks at the whole cultural context of a particular object or sector. Dialogue among experts and other stakeholders is necessary in order to discuss heritage preservation systems, identifying priorities for each cultural heritage, as well as the use of contemporary methods and technologies to find models that best serve these contexts.

The Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the UN and the Baltic 2030 Action Plan – “A Shared Vision”, depend on a responsible approach both on national and regional level. Responsibility is multifaceted – it has political, administrative, environmental, economic, social, cultural and moral aspects. For the CBSS as a regional organisation it comes naturally – to take care of our region with very different background and approaches. The Latvian Presidency of the VASAB Committee on Social Planning and Development of the Baltic Sea Region (CPF/WHO) will address gaps in the development of various types of urban areas.

The Joint Position on Enhancing Cooperation in Civil Protection and Defining eight priority areas for this upcoming year. The Latvian Presidency will ensure the advancement in implementation of these strategic actions, and in particular: build-in Civil Protection Area that defines eight priority areas for the upcoming years. The Latvian Presidency will focus on the following issues:

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