

CIVIL SECURITY

ABOUT CBSS

The Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) is the political forum for regional inter-governmental cooperation and dialogue between the Member States: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, Sweden and the European Union.

ABOUT CIVIL PROTECTION

Forest fires, floods and droughts know no borders. Coordinated cross-border actions can save lives and money. We use our extensive expert networks to help national emergency services stay informed about the common threats and state-of-the-art countermeasures. Every year we gather the Directors General for Civil Protection from all 11 CBSS member states to exchange views on ongoing activities and to coordinate joint measures in the field of civil protection, critical infrastructure protection and other emergency preparedness issues in the Baltic Sea Region. Civil Protection Network members are emergency agencies, fire and rescue services and ministries of interior.

WHAT GUIDES OUR WORK

Based on an extensive expert analysis of the situation and consultations among all member states, the Directors General for Civil Protection in the Baltic Sea Region adopted the **Joint Position on Enhancing Cooperation in the Civil Protection Area**. It outlines areas in need of increased cooperation to strengthen resilience and preparedness for various types of risks and threats.

IMPROVING INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON BORDER CONTROL AND ORGANISED CRIME

The CBSS Secretariat closely cooperates with the **Baltic Sea Region Border Control Cooperation (BSRBCC)** – a network of border guards, police and coast guards working on strengthening border security. The CBSS has observer status in the **Baltic Sea Task Force on Organised Crime (BSTF-OC)**, which consists of high-level representatives of police and customs from all the CBSS member states. The BSTF aims at combating the most threatening forms of cross-border crime in the Baltic Sea region.

PRIORITIES

Building a common societal security culture - building common attitudes towards societal security threats and creating a shared understanding of prevention, preparedness, and response as well as recovery processes in connection with disasters.

Combining national efforts in implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – making countries, regions, cities and towns ready for the consequences of climate change.

Increasing involvement of the local authorities and civil society organisations in making the region safer – when a crisis strikes we need all hands on deck.

Strengthening cross-sectorial cooperation in CBRNE preparedness (Chemical, Biological, Radioactive, Nuclear and Explosive substances) - protecting the Baltic Sea Region from dirty bombs, chemical leaks and radiation.

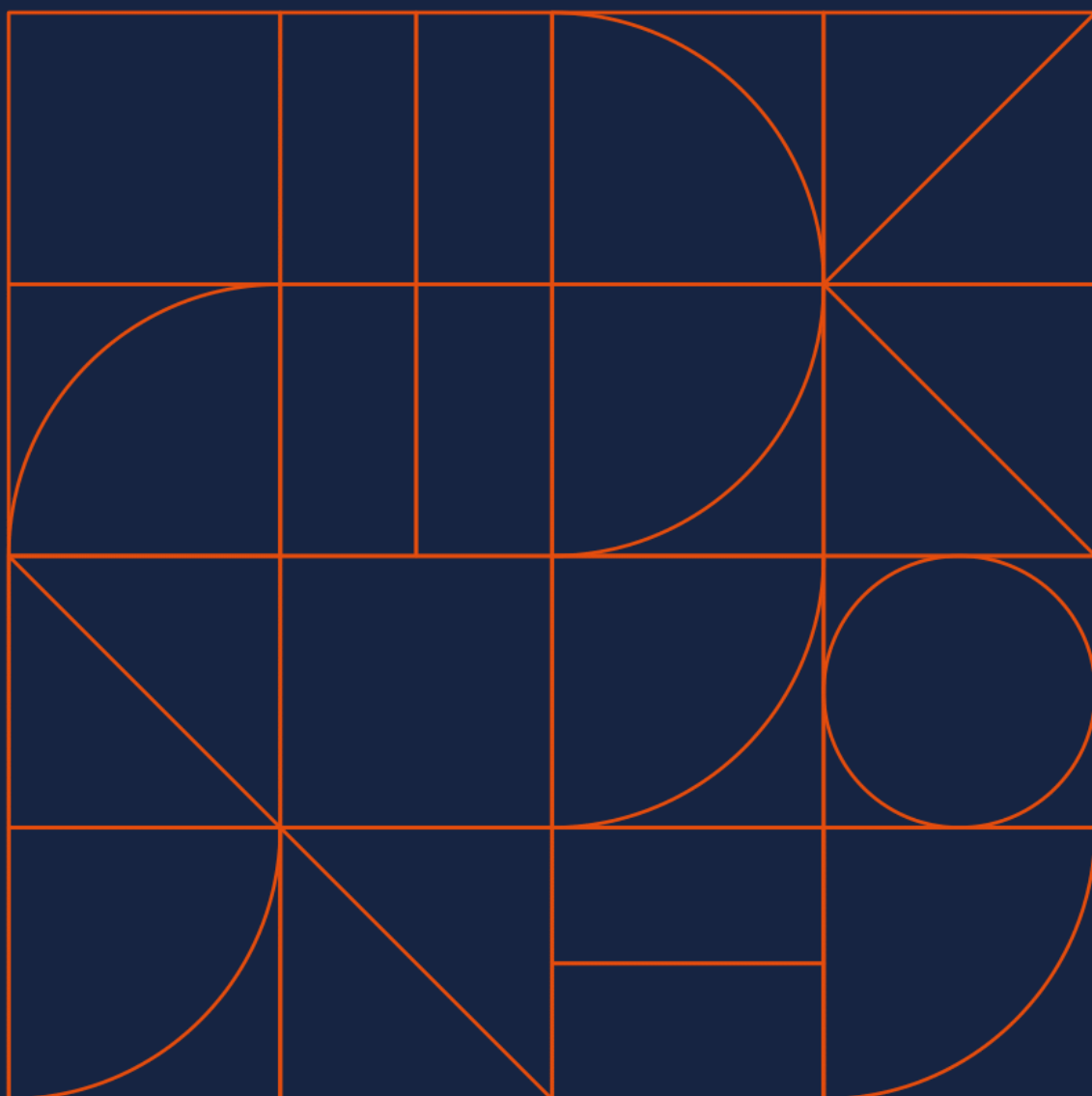
Seeking more funds for macro-regional civil security cooperation from a broad range of funding sources – bringing the tax-payers money where they have the most impact for the whole region.

Initiating joint projects as platforms for innovation and cooperation – getting the right mix of specialists around the table and in the field.

Ensuring better utilisation and coordination of research and project results – making sure researchers and practitioners communicate with each other.

Developing demand-driven and well-tailored training and education for civil security professionals – creating courses where fire fighters, police and rescue specialists from the whole region can meet and learn from each other.





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