



## RESOLUTION of the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Baltic Assembly

**The Baltic Assembly,**

**having convened** for its 45<sup>th</sup> Session on 22-23 October 2026 in Tallinn, the Republic of Estonia,

**having discussed** the results of the Estonian presidency of the Baltic Assembly, current affairs, and cooperation of the Baltic States, as well as security in the region,

**celebrating** the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baltic Assembly as a testament to the lasting unity, solidarity and shared determination of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and **honouring** the vision and courage of those who established the Baltic Assembly at a historic moment when the Baltic States had only just restored their rightful place among the free and democratic nations of Europe,

**acknowledging** that this anniversary is marked by profound geopolitical uncertainty, with war in Europe and renewed threats to democracy and freedom, and **reaffirming** the Baltic Assembly's responsibility to carry forward its legacy and strengthen Baltic cooperation in safeguarding democracy, security and a free and resilient future;

**reiterating** its unequivocal condemnation of Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against democratic Ukraine and **underscoring** that Russia's continued war shamelessly violates international law, inflicts immense human suffering, and gravely threatens lasting peace and security in Europe,

**urging** the Member States of the European Union and NATO to strengthen and coordinate all necessary support for Ukraine to stop Russia's ongoing aggression, safeguard Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and protect its people from further devastation and suffering,

**emphasising** the imperative of deeper defence cooperation among the Baltic States and their Baltic Sea, Benelux and Nordic partners in confronting conventional, cyber and hybrid threats, and **reaffirming** that robust Allied deterrence and forward defence, underpinned by a permanent U.S. military presence, remain indispensable to the security of the region,

**underscoring** the importance of even closer Baltic cooperation in responding to increasing hybrid threats against the region with vigilance, resilience and smart, coordinated solutions, while **underlining** that countering hostile activities has become part of the daily security reality in the Baltic States and must be met with preparedness and resolve rather than fear or overreaction,

**welcoming** the Common Declaration of the Baltic States on *Rail Baltica* of 22 September 2026, which reaffirms *Rail Baltica* as a common strategic project and a major European investment in security, military mobility, connectivity and competitiveness, and underscores the shared commitment of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to its coordinated implementation within a realistic delivery schedule, and **encouraging** further coordinated and joint actions to strengthen regional connectivity, security, resilience and competitiveness of the Baltic States;

**stressing** the strategic imperative of sustained engagement with the Eastern Partnership and other countries advancing their democratic aspirations, and **underlining** that empowering their democratic resilience and European future is an investment in a more secure, stable and democratic Europe,

**welcoming** the memorandum of understanding signed by the Baltic States on the establishment of the “House of Baltics” at the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles,

**noting** the significant progress achieved in cooperation between the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers, which has contributed to stronger coordination and greater visibility of shared Baltic interests, while **highlighting** the value of further deepening regular political dialogue, enhancing coordination and ensuring that common priorities continue to be effectively advanced at the regional, European and international levels,

**calls on the parliaments and governments of the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia, and the Republic of Lithuania, as well as the Baltic Council of Ministers:**

**regarding advancing Baltic defence capabilities and industrial development:**

- to prioritise the development and localisation of defence production within the European Union, particularly in the Baltic States, to strengthen regional security and strategic resilience;
- to engage national defence industry associations in discussions with the governments of the Baltic States to identify what forms of support, beyond direct financial assistance, are needed to strengthen the resilience, competitiveness, and development of the defence sector;
- to strengthen cooperation of the Baltic States in utilising the Security Action for Europe, the European Defence Industry Programme, and other programmes to advance joint defence capability projects;
- to find a common solution of the Baltic States for receiving and treating soldiers wounded on the battlefield;

**regarding cybersecurity and digital defence capabilities:**

- to initiate work towards the establishment of a Baltic cyber command to strengthen cyber defence capabilities and coordination in the region;
- to initiate planning a synchronised cybersecurity threat hunting exercise to strengthen coordination, preparedness, and collective cyber defence capabilities of the Baltic States;
- to strengthen regional cyber defence cooperation by supporting the development of a joint team of the Baltic States for participation in the Locked Shields and Crossed Swords exercises from 2028;
- to enhance cyber defence cooperation of the Baltic States through the joint procurement and shared use of commercial cyber threat intelligence capabilities;
- to initiate work towards the development of a cyber data sharing platform to enhance information exchange, situational awareness, and coordinated cyber defence in the Baltic States;
- to jointly find a solution for providing specialised training for civil educators and professionals to enhance their expertise in Artificial Intelligence and cybersecurity to promote their understanding of various emerging challenges;

**regarding civil defence, crisis management, and border security:**

- to continue work on creating a joint civil defence mechanism for the Baltic States that includes practical planning, exchange of best practices and cross-border cooperation among the municipalities in the Baltic States;
- to establish coordinated and standardised border crossing procedures for third-country nationals to improve the detection of unauthorised crossings and potential threats across all entry points in the Baltic States;

- to prepare a plan for the Baltic States for effective implementation of border checks during both crises and periods of relative peace and implement the plan, including developing similar levels of standardised border checking procedures, as well as finding ways of solving such issues as inadequate road infrastructure in the border regions and insufficient human resources;
- to continue implementing common standards for improving situational awareness and increasing response capability at the external borders of the Baltic States based on the requirements of the European Border Surveillance System;
- taking into account regional vulnerabilities and specificities, to agree on a common response to hybrid threats in the Baltic States;
- to support the development of programs to cultivate future leaders equipped with skills for civic engagement and participation, encouraging leadership roles in military, governmental and societal sectors;

**regarding cooperation in military education, training, and research:**

- to initiate discussions on establishing a pan-Baltic centre of excellence for defence research, strategic observation, analysis of best practices, and surveillance;
- to jointly identify priority security and defence research areas relevant for regional cooperation;
- to establish a framework for joint military research cooperation among the Baltic-Nordic countries;
- to support joint research projects between government agencies and educational institutions to explore innovative defence solutions and strategies;
- to encourage joint educational training sessions and workshops between governmental, parliamentary and civilian agencies in the Baltic States to foster a unified approach to national defence;
- to foster cooperation between military and education institutions, as well as among the ministries and national defence academies between the Baltic States to build unified frameworks for comprehensive defence;
- to establish programmes for the exchange of students in national defence courses;
- to develop a platform for consistently comparing and discussing the comprehensive defence education and conscription systems in the Baltic States and Nordic Countries;
- to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the conscription systems of the Baltic States and the Nordic Countries to identify areas for improvement and harmonisation;
- to work towards enhancing the mobility of students within the Baltic military education institutions;
- to work towards removing barriers to creating joint military study programmes and other joint educational activities of the Baltic States;
- to start discussions about aligning the curricula of military education in the Baltic States;
- to create a Baltic defence education platform for sharing materials and experiences between Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;

**regarding the creation of the Baltic Energy Strategy:**

- given geopolitical risks in the region, to carry out joint threat assessments and coordinated resilience measures in the energy sector of the Baltic States;
- to work towards more coordinated transmission investments, common contingency plans, and shared balancing reserves to exploit synchronisation benefits in the Baltic States;
- to pool financing and prioritise High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) links and regional reinforcements under the Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan;
- to prioritise harmonised congestion management, capacity allocation, and intraday markets to enable efficient cross-border trade in the Baltic States;

- underlining the need for sustained regional cooperation in the post-BRELL synchronisation period, to elaborate joint activities for capacity building for the protection of Baltic electricity market within the framework of the Baltic Energy Strategy;
- to strive for establishing shared LNG terminals, floating storage, and pipeline interoperability to secure supply and lower costs in the Baltic region;
- within the framework of the Baltic Energy Strategy, to include and elaborate a joint plan of activities to lower gas import dependence, including the repurposing of the existing gas infrastructure and understanding the future role of hydrogen in the current gas infrastructure, while also ensuring that gas storage operations incorporate security considerations, preventing commercial interests from undermining strategic resilience;

**regarding cooperation in the implementation of the Rail Baltica project:**

- to intensify work for ensuring predictable EU funding under the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2028–2034 that is essential to safeguard the delivery of the *Rail Baltica* project;
- taking stock of the *Rail Baltica* project, to create an exclusive digital backbone of a fibre network that connects the entire military and civil defence infrastructure in the Baltic States;

**regarding strengthening digital cooperation, interoperability and innovation:**

- to work towards improving the effectiveness of cross-border data exchange in the Baltic States;
- to agree on 3B common data standards, lists of data to exchange and ensuring digital data exchange and interoperability via already existing different platforms or seeking a common platform, leveraging the *Rail Baltica* project as a testbed for digital interoperability;
- to use the Baltic Digital Development Agencies Forum as a platform for strategic dialogue and experience exchange on the development of digital public services, cross-border data exchange, cloud service strategies, and cybersecurity considerations;
- to promote the effective implementation of the Once-Only Technical System (OOTS) through the development of successful pilot projects, structured evidence exchange mechanisms, and the establishment of common scenarios based on real cross-border Baltic e-service use cases;
- to enhance cooperation of the Baltic States on electronic identification (eID) and the European Digital Identity (EUDI) Wallet, including by exploring opportunities for a joint implementation project;
- to strengthen the Nordic-Baltic eID cooperation under the Nordic-Baltic eID Project (NOBID) to achieve technological interoperability of electronic identification (eID) and related solutions;
- to identify common needs and priorities in relation to AI gigafactories and relevant EU projects;

**regarding healthcare access, research and innovation:**

- to establish a Baltic Working Group on joint medical procurements with designated national coordinators in each Baltic country, tasked with developing a common list of essential medicines, medical supplies and procedural guidelines;
- to agree on a single Baltic position and to join efforts in securing affordable and sustainable access to treatments for rare diseases in small populations under the EU Critical Medicines Act;
- to enhance cooperation among the Baltic States to advance and align hospital reforms, improving efficiency, quality of care, and system resilience across the region;
- to work towards ensuring comprehensive exchange of health data, introducing new data categories, and developing joint solutions under the European Health Data Space Regulation, including through Baltic-level pilot projects and coordinated efforts to secure funding and reduce the financial burden on individual countries;
- to start discussions about developing a joint Master's or PhD programme in health economics in the Baltic States to address the shortage of specialists at the university level and strengthen regional expertise through academic cooperation;

- to harmonise biobank standards across the Baltic States to address research barriers, improve data comparability, and enable more effective cross-border scientific collaboration;
- to allocate the necessary funding for the timely implementation of a comprehensive feasibility study for the joint initiative of the CERN Baltic Group and CERN on the establishment of the Advanced Particle Therapy Centre for the Baltic States;

**regarding promoting health, well-being and prevention:**

- to adopt a coordinated policy approach of the Baltic States on the availability, advertising, and pricing of alcohol, tobacco, and other addictive substances to reduce harmful consumption and improve public health outcomes;
- to strengthen cooperation for improving mental health in the region, including embracing the adoption of a human rights based approach, prioritising effective psychosocial interventions and stopping investments in segregated psychiatric institutions, by coordinating cross-border activities, actively exchanging best practices, and advancing aligned legislative cooperation between the Baltic States;
- to address the gender gap in mental health by identifying and tackling key risk factors affecting women and girls across the Baltic States;
- to develop a joint Baltic approach to regulating and restricting the use of social media by children under the age of 16 to better protect their mental health and well-being;
- to prioritise early childhood health and development, based on the internationally proven fact that this is an investment with the highest social and economic return, encouraging investments covering screening, vaccination, nutrition, mental health, developmental monitoring, and parental support to ensure fair and sustainable opportunities for every child in the Baltic States;
- to jointly research and assess the feasibility of establishing Healthy Life Years (HLY) as a key regional development indicator, and of setting shared targets to increase HLY, considering that this indicator combines the effectiveness of health, education, social, and economic policies and reflects the long-term resilience of the region;
- to introduce the principle of health as a societal value, ensuring that all health policy and funding decisions, including on new medicines and health technologies, are assessed in terms of their long-term social and economic return in the Baltic States by using the framework based on specific indicators, such as HLY, labour force participation and productivity, maternal and child health indicators, avoidable hospitalisations, and reduction of regional health inequalities;

**regarding demographic resilience, social policy and inclusion:**

- to identify priority areas for regional cooperation of the Baltic States to support and enhance fertility rates through coordinated policy approaches and shared initiatives;
- to address child penalty in the Baltic States through coordinated research and policy measures to reduce its impact on employment, income, and gender equality;
- to discuss and identify areas for possible cooperation of the Baltic States to mitigate the impacts of the current crises on poor and vulnerable groups, with a particular focus on strengthening emergency preparedness and resilience, sharing information and best practices, and establishing a regular framework for coordination and exchange;

**regarding mitigating public health impacts of climate change:**

- to establish a shared Baltic climate and health data system to identify available and missing priority data, support science-based actions to reduce environmental health risks, and provide timely warnings on heatwaves and other climate-related threats;
- to strengthen regional cooperation in monitoring and research on climate-related health risks to support evidence-based policymaking and improve protection of vulnerable populations;
- to establish a joint intersectoral climate and health working group in the Baltic States by bringing together and coordinating existing relevant groups and networks to strengthen cooperation, align priorities, and develop coordinated responses to climate-related health challenges;

- to harmonise climate-related public health guidance across the Baltic States to ensure consistent, science-based communication on heat safety, vector-borne disease prevention, and extreme weather preparedness;
- to develop common Baltic standards and best practices to strengthen hospital preparedness, critical infrastructure resilience, and coordinated emergency response to heatwaves, flooding, and energy disruptions;
- to adopt a common Baltic position requiring health impact assessments for Green Deal and infrastructure investments, and strengthen coordination between environmental and health ministries to integrate health considerations into policymaking;
- to conduct joint Baltic research on regional groundwater management to strengthen water security, support sustainable resource use, and improve resilience to climate change;

**regarding biodiversity, circular economy, and green transition:**

- to create a format for ensuring regular cooperation of the Baltic States in the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, including the Nature Restoration Regulation;
- to agree on shared priorities and feasible areas of cooperation in peatland conservation, restoration and management in the Baltic States;
- to jointly develop proposals on shifting the implementation of the green transition from a mostly industry-centred approach to a more human-centred approach in the Baltic States, paying more attention to educating societies;
- to create a financially sustainable recycling solution for collected textiles in the Baltic States;
- to introduce a harmonised approach of the Baltic States for reusing and repairing products and using them again in the regional market;

**regarding cooperation in environmental monitoring and research:**

- to promote the use of comparable and compatible environmental monitoring data to enhance situational awareness in the Baltic States;
- to establish joint monitoring mechanisms and a Baltic-level early warning and forecasting system by integrating environmental monitoring and forecasting capacities to enable earlier detection of risks and improve preparedness and response to transboundary pollution in the Baltic States;
- to establish shared Baltic monitoring capacity by developing joint infrastructure, common methodologies, and pooled technical expertise to address the challenges of monitoring emerging hazardous substances and conducting real-time monitoring in rivers and lakes;
- to expand joint research programmes and pilot initiatives in the Baltic States to test innovative environmental monitoring approaches while supporting the development, deployment, and scaling of advanced monitoring technologies;
- to establish a harmonised Baltic approach to forest health monitoring by aligning methodologies, creating a shared platform for forest health indicators, and setting up a permanent regional cooperation structure;
- to strengthen coordinated Baltic approaches and joint research to better integrate freshwater and marine monitoring, including improving data consistency on emerging pressures such as underwater noise and microplastics;
- to develop a joint action plan of the Baltic States to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals;

**regarding coordinated and sustainable urban development:**

- to strengthen coordination between the Baltic States on strategic territorial challenges by developing shared tools, data systems, and evaluation frameworks to support sustainable mobility, climate adaptation, and integrated land–sea planning;
- to strengthen cooperation of the Baltic States to align compact city development strategies with EU regulatory frameworks and policy objectives;

- to accelerate cooperation under the Vision and Strategies Around the Baltic Sea (VASAB) Vision 2040 and the Union of Baltic Cities by updating the VASAB framework and strengthening integration with Nordic partners;
- to initiate a Baltic-level discussion on establishing a regional training and cooperation platform for urban planning to strengthen knowledge exchange, capacity building, and coordinated city development in the region;

**regarding education, research, innovation and skills development:**

- to establish the Baltic Science Fund as a central instrument for advancing regional research cooperation;
- to develop a common Baltic framework for responsible AI use in education, with shared principles on human oversight, transparency, integrity, privacy, security and inclusion;
- to develop common Baltic AI literacy and competence standards for students and educators, combining practical skills with critical thinking, ethics and academic integrity;
- to prioritise educators in AI adoption through joint training, professional networks and exchange of best practices of the Baltic States;
- to create a joint Baltic AI competence and research platform to advance research, evaluate AI tools and strengthen regional innovation capacity;
- to strengthen Baltic languages and cultural values in AI through joint development of language technologies, datasets and culturally relevant AI tools;
- to develop common positions on AI in education and research and cooperate more systematically with Nordic and Central European partners and the European Commission, using Baltic experience to contribute to European standards while learning from approaches of neighbouring countries;
- to prioritise the continuation and expansion of existing joint EU Horizon research projects to ensure continuity, maximise impact and strengthen long-term regional research cooperation;
- to initiate a joint research project aimed at understanding how to effectively promote science and its societal value to the general public in the Baltic States;
- to hold an annual meeting between the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Estonia, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia, and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania to exchange information regarding vocational and secondary education, as well as to coordinate the implementation of policy initiatives to address the shortage of graduates, skills mismatch, and gender imbalance in the STEM field;
- to jointly identify workforce shortage areas in the Baltic States and develop regional solutions for vocational and technical education development to address them;

**regarding strengthening Baltic identity and international visibility:**

- to promote the essence and significance of culture as a cornerstone of national security and resilience of the Baltic States by developing policies that position culture as a central element, ensuring its integration across all state structures;
- to organise annual conferences dedicated to the legacy and significance of the Baltic Way, addressing diverse themes aimed at strengthening Baltic cooperation and identity through shared historical memory;
- to allocate the necessary funding for the preparation and organisation of cross-sectoral events marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baltic Way in 2029;
- to implement a joint initiative of the Baltic States aimed at ensuring engaging access to Baltic historical memory for younger generations;
- to support the “House of Baltics” – the joint pavilion of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania at the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles in 2028 – as a shared platform for presenting

the culture, sports and innovation of the Baltic States to a global audience, and to promote its visibility in the international activities of the Baltic States;

- to strengthen coordinated international promotion of the Baltic States in priority markets through a shared narrative, positioning the Baltics as one accessible destination with three distinct national experiences;
- to encourage greater mobility and tourism among residents of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania by promoting neighbouring Baltic States as attractive and easily accessible destinations, developing joint cultural and tourism offers, and strengthening people-to-people contacts and awareness of the shared Baltic cultural space;
- to intensify practical cooperation of the Baltic States in tourism by expanding joint marketing activities, cross-border tourism products and routes, events and cooperation with international tour operators;
- to deepen cooperation with the Nordic Countries, Poland and other Baltic Sea partners in tourism, culture and creative industries, including through the exchange of good practices, development of joint projects and products, and coordinated international promotion.

Tallinn, 23 October 2026