The 33rd Session of the Baltic Assembly and 20th Baltic Council
23 – 24 October 2014, Tallinn
Riigikogu of the Republic of Estonia

Thursday, 23 October

Arrival and accommodation of participants
Nordic Hotel Forum
Viru väljak 3, www.nordichotels.eu

16:00–19:00 Registration in the hotel lobby

17:30–18:30 Internal meetings of the Presidium and committees of the Baltic Assembly
At the Nordic Hotel Forum
- Meeting of the Presidium, meeting room Capella
- Meeting of the Education, Science and Culture Committee, Altair
- Meeting of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee, Miitsar
- Meeting of the Legal Affairs and Security Committee, suite
- Meeting of the Natural Resources and Environment Committee, Vega
- Meeting of the Welfare Committee, Arcturus

18:30 – 19:00 Meeting of the Budget and Audit Committee, Miitsar

18:45 – 19:00 Welcome of winners of the essay competition by the Presidium and other Members of the Baltic Assembly
At the Nordic Hotel Forum, meeting room Capella

20:00 Baltic Assembly Medal Awarding Ceremony
Baltic Assembly Prize Awarding Ceremony
Baltic Innovation Prize 2014 Awarding Ceremony
Reception hosted by the Presidium
Estonian Concert Hall, Estonia blv 4, www.concert.ee
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| 08:00–12:30     | **Registration**  
*In the lobby of the Riigikogu, Lossi plats 1A* |
| 08:00 – 09:30   | **Meeting between the Presidium and chairpersons and vice chairpersons of the committees** *(acting as the Drafting Committee)*  
*Small Conference Halls of the Riigikogu L333* |
| 10:00 – 10:30   | **Opening of the 33rd Session of the Baltic Assembly**  
**Awarding of the Winners of the Baltic Way 25th Anniversary Essay Competition**  
*Riigikogu Plenary Chamber, Lossi Plats 1A*  
*Chaired by:*  
- Mrs. Laine Randjärv, President of the Baltic Assembly  
- Mrs. Giedrė Purvaneckienė, Vice President of the Baltic Assembly  
- Mr. Jānis Vucāns, Vice President of the Baltic Assembly  
- H.E. Mr. Eiki Nestor, President of the Riigikogu of the Republic of Estonia  
- H.E. Mrs. Loreta Graužinienė, Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania  
- H.E. Mrs. Solvita Āboltiņa, Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia |
| 10:30–13:00     | **20th Baltic Council**  
*Riigikogu Plenary Chamber, Lossi Plats 1A*  
*Chaired by:*  
- Mrs. Laine Randjärv, President of the Baltic Assembly  
- H.E. Mr. Urmas Paet, Chairman of the Cooperation Council of the Baltic Council of Ministers, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia  
- Mrs. Laine Randjärv, President of the Baltic Assembly  
- H.E. Mr. Urmas Paet, Chairman of the Cooperation Council of the Baltic Council of Ministers, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia  
- Mr. Neris Germanas, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania  
- Ms. Dace Melbārde, Minister for Culture of the Republic of Latvia |
| 12:00–12:15     | *Questions and answers*  
*Debate*  
*Press point of the Speakers*  
*White Hall of the Riigikogu* |
| 12:15           | **Signing of the Joint Statement of the 20th Baltic Council**  
*White Hall of the Riigikogu* |
| 12:15 – 12:45   | **Press conference**  
*White Hall of the Riigikogu* |
| 12:30 – 14:00   | **Lunch break**  
*At Riigikogu* |
13:00 – 15:00  Working lunch for the Speakers of the parliaments of the Baltic States and the chairpersons of the national delegations to the Baltic Assembly  
*Restaurant in the Old Town*

**14:15–18:30**  Continuation of the 33rd Session of the Baltic Assembly  
*Riigikogu Plenary Chamber, Lossi Plats 1 A*

14:15 – 14:45  **Session 1**  
Digital signatures – as a tool of removing borders in the Region  
*Chaired by: Mr. Sven Sester*, Chairman of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee of the Baltic Assembly

- **Mr. Hannes Kiivet**, Head of Interoperability Section, Architecture Department, Estonian Information System Authority

**Debate**

14:45 – 15:15  **Session 2**  
Development of transport and infrastructure in the Region  
*Chaired by: Mr. Rytas Kupčinskas*, Vice Chairman of the Lithuanian delegation to the Baltic Assembly

- **Mr. Arenijus Jackus**, Director of Development and International Relations Department, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Lithuania

**Debate**

15:15 – 15:45  **Session 3**  
EU Eastern Partnership  
*Chaired by: Mr. Atis Lejiņš*, Vice Chairman of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee of the Baltic Assembly

- **Mr. Ojārs Ėriks Kalniņš**, Chairman of the Saeima Foreign Affairs Committee, Latvia

**Debate**

15:45–16:15  **Coffee break**

16:15 - 17:30  **Safe societies and regional security**  
*Chaired by:*

- **Mrs. Laine Randjāru**, President of the Baltic Assembly
- **Mrs. Giedrė Purvaneckienė**, Vice President of the Baltic Assembly
- **Mr. Jānis Vucāns**, Vice President of the Baltic Assembly

**Session 1**  
10 years of the Baltic States in NATO: defence capabilities,
pooling and sharing

- Mr. Raimonds Vējonis, Minister of Defence of Latvia
- Mr. Sven Sakkov, Undersecretary for Defence Policy, Estonian Ministry of Defence

Debate

Session 2
Defence and security at a time of fiscal, operational and strategic transition

- Mr. Antanas Valys, Vice-Minister of National Defence, Lithuania

Debate

Session 3
Soft power – can we jointly respond to it?

- Mr. Jānis Kārkliņš, Director of the NATO STRATCOM Centre of Excellence

17:30
Continuation of the 33rd Session of the Baltic Assembly

Addresses by foreign delegations and guests

Report of the Presidium
- Mrs. Laine Randjärv, President of the Baltic Assembly

Debate

Report of the Budget and Audit Committee
- Mr. Sven Sester, Chairman of the Budget and Audit Committee

Debate

Adoption of the Final Document of the 33rd Session of the Baltic Assembly

Election of the President and Vice Presidents of the Baltic Assembly for 2015

Election of the chairpersons and vice chairpersons of the committees

Address by the newly elected President of the Baltic Assembly

18:30
Signing of the Final Document of the 33rd Session of the Baltic Assembly
White Hall of the Riigikogu

19:00
Reception hosted by the Presidium
At the parliament