

RESOLUTION

On a Uniform Higher Education Policy in the Baltic States

The Baltic Assembly,

noting that investment in human resources and technologies is the basis for the EU member states' competitiveness;

taking into consideration the goals of the Lisbon Strategy and the tendency of the number of students to fluctuate,

calls on the Baltic States' governments and the Baltic Council of Ministers:

- to strengthen interstate cooperation in developing a common higher education area in the Baltic States by harmonizing normative acts and by creating common or competing institutions with equal legal power for assessing the quality of higher education;
- to make higher education more competitive and accessible to citizens of other countries because it is a service with a high added value and might be a partial solution to the problem of the deficit of a highly qualified labour force;
- to coordinate and target the use of EU funds in order to avoid duplication in the Baltic States;
- to take into consideration the need for balanced growth of our states by ensuring development of study programmes in the regions;
- to coordinate, insofar as possible, the number and location of specific study programmes requiring substantial funding and to create a uniform system for conferring academic degrees;
- to support the connection of all Baltic States' higher education institutions to the global network for transmitting academic data;
- to motivate graduates from institutions of higher education to be more actively involved in innovations and the labour market.

Riga, 24 November 2007