Joint meeting of the Education, Science and Culture Committee and Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee of the Baltic Assembly
25 March 2022, Riga (Latvia)

**Preliminary programme**
(18/03/2022)

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<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-11:00</td>
<td><strong>STEM field of the Baltic states: challenges and a way forward</strong></td>
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<td>— Supporting Ukrainian students in the Baltic States: hosting students and providing distance learning</td>
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<td>— Labour shortage in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields: problems and possible solutions</td>
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<td>— Addressing the insufficient supply of higher education graduates in STEM fields and focusing on supporting STEM subjects</td>
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<td>— Modern, attractive and balances teaching secondary education methods for the needs of the 21st century and their development in the Baltic states</td>
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<td>— STEM educational centres in the Baltic states and their role in motivating the children and youth in STEM education</td>
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<td>— Women and girls in the STEM field: opportunities and challenges</td>
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<td><em>Chaired by Chair of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee Mr Reinis Znotiņš</em></td>
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**Introductory report**

— *Mr Geert Asselbergs*, Programme Director at the EU STEM Coalition

**Governmental positions of the Baltic states**

— *Mr Jānis Paiders*, Deputy Director of Science, Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia
— *Ms Liga Lejiņa*, State Secretary, Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia
— *Mr Margus Haidak*, Head of the Higher Education, Vocational Education and Training Policy and Lifelong Learning Department, Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia
— *Mr Gintautas Jakštas*, Vice-Minister of Education, Science and Sport, Lithuania

**Best practices**

— *Dr. oec., MBA Artūrs Zeps*, Vice-Rector for Strategic Development of the Riga Technical University
— *Ms Anna Andersone*, CEO of the “Riga Tech Girls”

**International experience**

— *Mr Himanshu Gulati*, Member of the Committee for Knowledge and Culture of the Nordic Council, Norway
— *Prof Toms Torims*, Chair of the CERN Baltic Group
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| 11:30-12:15 | **Status report on the Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the Baltic states**  
|           | — Status report on the Baltic states joining the Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education: possibilities and challenges  
|           | — Facilitating international academic mobility and promoting the right of individuals to have their higher education qualifications evaluated through a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory manner in the Baltic states through the Convention  
|           | — Expanding the access to higher education and strengthening research cooperation by facilitating international exchanges of students, teachers, researchers and job-seekers in the Baltic states via the Convention  
|           | **Introductory report**  
|           | — **Ms Maki Katsuno-Hayashikawa**, Director of the Division for Education 2030, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
|           | **Governmental positions of the Baltic states**  
|           | — **Ms Dace Jansone**, Deputy Director of Higher Education, Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia  
|           | — **Mr Margus Haidak**, Head of the Higher Education, Vocational Education and Training Policy and Lifelong Learning Department, Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia  
|           | — **Mr Gintautas Jakštas**, Vice-Minister of Education, Science and Sport, Lithuania  
|           | **International experience**  
|           | — **Mr Himanshu Gulati**, Member of the Committee for Knowledge and Culture of the Nordic Council, Norway  
|           | Debates  
|           | Conclusions for the BA recommendations  
| 13:15-14:15 | **The Baltic States supporting Ukrainian children and youth arriving in the Baltic States**  
|           | — Joint initiatives to support children and youth arriving in the Baltic States  
|           | — Providing pre-school, elementary and secondary education for the Ukrainian refugees  
|           | — Common approach to ensuring higher education for Ukrainian students  
|           | **Introductory report**  
|           | **Governmental positions of the Baltic states**  
|           | **International experience**  
|           | Debates  
|           | Conclusions for the BA recommendations  

*Chairing the session was Ms Dagmāra Beîtnere-Le Gallà.*
— **Ms Liga Lejiņa**, State Secretary, Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia
— **Mr Gintautas Jakštas**, Vice-Minister of Education, Science and Sport, Lithuania
— **Mr Margus Haidak**, Head of the Higher Education, Vocational Education and Training Policy and Lifelong Learning Department, Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia

**Best practices**
— **Ms Lidija Kravčenko**, Director of the Riga Ukrainian Secondary School TBC

### Debates

**Best practices**
— **Ms Lidija Kravčenko**, Director of the Riga Ukrainian Secondary School TBC

#### 14:15-14:45

**Governmental report: Implementation of the recommendations of the Baltic Assembly in 2021 and plans for 2022**

— **Boosting investments in digital transformation aimed at scaling up the unicorn start-ups of the Baltic states**
— **Creating a format for regular exchange of experience and knowledge about digital transformation in the Baltic states**
— **Enhancing the usage of electronic signature between the Baltic states**
— **Facilitating moving towards a digital single market of the Baltic states by identifying and eliminating legislative and administrative obstacles**
— ** Agreeing 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**

*Chair*ed by *Chair of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee Mr Reinis Znotiņš*

— **Mr Indrek Õnnik**, Global Affairs Director at the Digital State Development Department, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Estonia

#### 14:45-15:15

**Governmental report: Implementation of the recommendations of the Baltic Assembly in 2021 and plans for 2022**

— **Attracting financial support for the Baltic Innovation Fund 2 from private investors**
— **Starting negotiations about the development of the Baltic Innovation Fund III**

*Chair*ed by *Chair of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee Mr Reinis Znotiņš*

— **Ms Erika Kuročkina**, Adviser to the Minister of Economy and Innovation, Lithuania

#### 15:15-15:45

**Follow-up on the implementation of the Rail Baltica project**

— **Follow-up on the implementation of the Rail Baltica project**
— **Evaluation of the cooperation of the Baltic states within the Rail Baltica project**
— **Current challenges and opportunities for the Baltic states**
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<tr>
<td>15:45</td>
<td>Internal meeting of the Education, Science and Culture Committee and Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee</td>
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**Report about the implementation of the project**

— *Mr Tālis Linkaits*, Minister of Transport, Latvia  
— *Mr Gytis Mažeika*, Head of the Development and International Cooperation Group, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Lithuania

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