



**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)

Friday, 25 March	
09:00-11:00	<p>STEM field of the Baltic states: challenges and a way forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Supporting Ukrainian students in the Baltic States: hosting students and providing distance learning — Labour shortage in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields: problems and possible solutions — Addressing the insufficient supply of higher education graduates in STEM fields and focusing on supporting STEM subjects — Modern, attractive and balances teaching secondary education methods for the needs of the 21st century and their development in the Baltic states — STEM educational centres in the Baltic states and their role in motivating the children and youth in STEM education — Women and girls in the STEM field: opportunities and challenges <p><i>Chaired by Chair of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee Mr Reinis Znotiņš</i></p> <p><i>Introductory report</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr Geert Asselbergs, Programme Director at the EU STEM Coalition <p><i>Governmental positions of the Baltic states</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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 <p><i>Best practices</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Dr. oec., MBA Artūrs Zeps, Vice-Rector for Strategic Development of the Riga Technical University — Ms Anna Andersone, CEO of the “Riga Tech Girls” <p><i>International experience</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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

	<p>Debates</p> <p>Conclusions for the BA recommendations</p>
11:30-12:15	<p>Status report on the Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the Baltic states</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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 <p><i>Chaired by Chair of the Education, Science and Culture Committee Ms Dagmāra Beitnere-Le Galla</i></p> <p>Introductory report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Ms Maki Katsuno-Hayashikawa, Director of the Division for Education 2030, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) <p>Governmental positions of the Baltic states</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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 <p>International experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr Himanshu Gulati, Member of the Committee for Knowledge and Culture of the Nordic Council, Norway <p>Debates</p> <p>Conclusions for the BA recommendations</p>
13:15-14:15	<p>The Baltic States supporting Ukrainian children and youth arriving in the Baltic States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — <i>Joint initiatives to support children and youth arriving in the Baltic States</i> — <i>Providing pre-school, elementary and secondary education for the Ukrainian refugees</i> — <i>Common approach to ensuring higher education for Ukrainian students</i> <p><i>Chaired by Chair of the Education, Science and Culture Committee Ms Dagmāra Beitnere-Le Galla</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Ms Līga 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 <p>Best practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Ms Lidija Kravčenko, Director of the Riga Ukrainian Secondary School TBC <p>Debates Conclusions for the BA recommendations</p>
14:15-14:45	<p>Governmental report: Implementation of the recommendations of the Baltic Assembly in 2021 and plans for 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — <i>Boosting investments in digital transformation aimed at scaling up the unicorn start-ups of the Baltic states</i> — <i>Creating a format for regular exchange of experience and knowledge about digital transformation in the Baltic states</i> — <i>Enhancing the usage of electronic signature between the Baltic states</i> — <i>Facilitating moving towards a digital single market of the Baltic states by identifying and eliminating legislative and administrative obstacles</i> — <i>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</i> <p><i>Chaired by Chair of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee</i> Mr Reinis Znotiņš</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr Indrek Õnnik, Global Affairs Director at the Digital State Development Department, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Estonia
14:45-15:15	<p>Governmental report: Implementation of the recommendations of the Baltic Assembly in 2021 and plans for 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — <i>Attracting financial support for the Baltic Innovation Fund 2 from private investors</i> — <i>Starting negotiations about the development of the Baltic Innovation Fund III</i> <p><i>Chaired by Chair of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee</i> Mr Reinis Znotiņš</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Ms Erika Kuročkina, Adviser to the Minister of Economy and Innovation, Lithuania
15:15-15:45	<p>Follow-up on the implementation of the Rail Baltica project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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

	<p><i>Chaired by Chair of the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee Mr Reinis Znotiņš</i></p> <p><i>Report about the implementation of the project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr Tālis Linkaits, Minister of Transport, Latvia — Mr Gytis Mažeika, Head of the Development and International Cooperation Group, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Lithuania <p>Debates</p>
15:45	Internal meeting of the Education, Science and Culture Committee and Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee

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