

Decision on Priorities of Cooperation between the Baltic Assembly and the Nordic Council 2024 – 2026

The Presidiums of the Baltic Assembly and the Nordic Council,

emphasizing the importance of the cooperation of the Baltic Assembly and the Nordic Council that is based on mutual trust and common understanding of the values that the Baltic-Nordic region represents such as democracy, rule of law and human rights;

acknowledging that the Russian invasion of Ukraine is a clear danger to peace and stability not only in Ukraine but also in the Baltic-Nordic region and the whole of Europe and thus **reiterating** the readiness of the Baltic and Nordic states to strongly support Ukraine and to be united on demonstrating a firm incentive to bring an end to the aggressive behaviour of Russia;

drawing attention to the social and economic consequences of the Russian aggression and the importance of the Baltic and Nordic states working together to support Ukraine but also mitigate the impacts of the war on the region;

highlighting the significance of cooperation and exchange of information between the Baltic and Nordic states to ensure transport, energy and infrastructure interconnections, digital interoperability, and compatibility of the education systems where one of the next possible steps is mutual recognition of higher education diplomas in the Baltic-Nordic region;

underlining the need to cooperate to overcome the challenges caused by climate change, global inequality and anti-democratic sentiments and the readiness of the Baltic and Nordic countries to jointly contribute to addressing these issues;

have **agreed** on the following priorities of cooperation for 2024 – 2026:

- 1) support for Ukraine in repairing the damage of war;
- 2) comprehensive foreign and security policy, including cybersecurity and increased resilience of the Baltic and Nordic societies to disinformation, fake news and propaganda of authoritarian regimes;
- 3) supporting democracy and democratic transitions, especially in the Eastern Partnership countries;
- 4) energy security and sustainability in the Baltic-Nordic region;
- 5) transport, energy and infrastructure interconnectivity and digital interoperability;
- 6) climate change mitigation and sustainable, resource-efficient and circular economies in the region;
- 7) interconnectivity of education systems of the Baltic and Nordic states, including mutual recognition of higher education diplomas in the Baltic-Nordic region.

Timo Suslov
President
Baltic Assembly

Jorodd Asphjell
President
Nordic Council

Tallinn, 22 September 2023