



Meeting of the Security and Defence Committee of the Baltic Assembly

11 – 12 May 2023, Riga (Latvia)

Preliminary programme

(02/05/2023)

Friday, 12 May

9:00-11:00

Developing well-functioning joint Baltic operational area to address current and future security challenges in the region

- Developments in the establishment of a joint Baltic operational area
- Realising the unused potential of the Baltic military cooperation
- Strengthening current trilateral initiatives and expanding cooperation in new projects
- Joint efforts in defence research and innovation for the establishment of a well-functioning joint Baltic operational area

*Chaired by Chair of the Security and Defence Committee **Ms Vilja Toomast***

Introductory report on the defence cooperation of the Baltic States

- **Dr Viljar Veebel**, Researcher at the Department of Political and Strategic Studies, Baltic Defence College

Governmental positions of the Baltic States

- **Mr Peeter Kuimet**, Director of the Department for International Co-Operation, Ministry of Defence, Estonia
- **Mr Andrius Vaivada**, Head of the Defence Policy Department, Ministry of National Defence, Lithuania
- **Mr Jānis Garisons**, State Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Latvia

International experience

- **Mr Pim Van Ballekom**, President of the Benelux Parliament

Debates

Conclusions for the BA recommendations

11:30-13:00

Baltic States joining forces in the whole-of-society approach to regional security

- Status update of the whole-of-society approach to the national security
- Joining the whole-of-society resilience efforts of the Baltic States
- Practical responses of the defence sector to increasing the resilience of the Baltic society
- National plans of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania for wartime civil defence through close consultations and coordination between the Baltic States
- Improving the procedures of the Baltic States for providing and developing a solution for accepting humanitarian aid

Chaired by Chair of the Security and Defence Committee Ms Vilja Toomast

Introductory report on comprehensive defence in the Baltic States

— **Dr Ieva Bērziņa**, Senior Researcher, National Defence Academy, Latvia

Governmental positions of the Baltic States

- **Mr Tauno Suurkivi**, Deputy Director-General, Estonian Rescue Board
- **Mr Andrius Vaivada**, Head of the Defence Policy Department, Ministry of National Defence, Lithuania
- **Mr Jānis Garisons**, State Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Latvia

Debates

Conclusions for the BA recommendations

13:00-13:30

Follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations of the Baltic Assembly on joint military procurements

- Common and well-functioning system for joint military procurements
- Analysis on the possible acquirement of a common multiple launch rocket system

Chaired by Chair of the Security and Defence Committee Ms Vilja Toomast

— **Mr Peeter Kuimet**, Director of the Department for International Co-Operation, Ministry of Defence, Estonia

Debates

Conclusions for the BA recommendations

13:30-14:00

Follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations of the Baltic Assembly on external border control and management

- Harmonizing the border systems and decision-making procedures of the Baltic States
- Plan for the Baltic States for effective implementation of border checks during crisis situations
- Common standards for improving situational awareness and increasing response capability at the external borders of the Baltic States based on the requirements of the European Border Surveillance System

Chaired by Chair of the Security and Defence Committee Ms Vilja Toomast

— **Mr Kaspars Āboliņš**, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of the Interior, Latvia

Debates

14:00-14:30

Internal meeting of the Security and Defence Committee

NOTICE:

Photographs, video and audio will be taken at the event. By taking part in this event, you grant the event organisers full rights to use the images resulting from the photography/video filming, and any reproductions or adaptations of the images. This might include (but is not limited to), the right to use them in their printed and online publicity, social media and press releases. If you do not wish to be photographed, please inform an event organiser.