



Joint Statement of NORDTEK and BALTECH

The Baltic Sea Region, Education, Research, Innovation

The Baltic Sea Region (BSR) is the common region of 5 Nordic and 3 Baltic countries, so – called Nordic – Baltic 8(the NB8). Today it is a region with 32 million people, the fifth largest European economy and the 12th largest world economy. Alongside with cooperation on political level (eg annual NB8 meeting of ministers) cooperation on practical level is conducted through joint projects coordinated by Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM) as well as different research and educational projects with participation of BSR universities. Joint BALTECH Master programmes, Initiation of Cross Border Research projects, joint Scientific conferences etc. One of the goals of the EU Strategy for the development of BSR is the creation of a common space for scientific research, higher education and innovation.

Engineering universities should look upon themselves as bridge builders between basic research and industrial application, and provide absorptive capacity for industry to use new research based knowledge.

NORDTEK and BALTECH believe that cross border collaboration in the Baltic Sea Region will make our members more competitive and attractive.

- Together we are more attractive partners,
- Together we are stronger,
- Together we are more visible.

Proposed actions

NORDTEK and BALTECH will contribute to achieve this by collaboration in:

Education

- Development of attractive and relevant study programmes
- Establish education cooperation that competence needed by regional clusters

- Development of joint courses, particularly PhD courses
- Joint marketing BSR higher education

Research

- Cross Border University – industry collaboration within Education, Research and Innovation
- Map research groups in different fields to further collaboration
- Initiation and supporting of joint European projects
- Foster Research information exchange

Knowledge Triangle

- Foster free movement of knowledge
- Joint Social media Networking
- Seek funding instruments that can foster strong projects in the knowledge triangle

Mobility

- Mobility of students and staff in the BSR.

Working together

Partnership. Exchange of information and ideas will be fostered by tighter connections between boards and secretariats of NORDTEK and BALTECH, and initiation of joint conferences, seminars.