

14/02/2020

**Meeting of the Education, Science and Culture Committee
of the Baltic Assembly**

31 January 2020, Vilnius

Based on the discussions in the meeting, the following recommendations to the governments of the Baltic States have been proposed:

in regard to new partnerships in education, science and research:

- to start negotiations about conclusion of the **new Memorandum of Understanding** between the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Estonia, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia by elaborating a new cooperation vision and strategy by formulating priorities and objectives, areas and topics for the cooperation of the Baltic States in education, research and innovation for a period of 2021 – 2027, improving academic recognition and removing regulative obstacles;
- to explore the possibility of concentrating the resources and expertise of scientists and PhD students of the Baltic States and **strengthening existing joint initiatives** to enhance the quality of research, improve academic recognition, encourage cooperation between institutions and boost mobility, thus increasing the overall scientific competitiveness of the region;
- to develop coordinated approach of the Baltic States for common challenges in **increasing scientific capacity** and excellence in the Baltic research area;
- to enable potential the cooperation with the CERN provides to the development of science, research and technology in the Baltic States and allocate corresponding financial support within the State budgets which should be equal on the national level to the amount of membership paid to the CERN;
- to consider possibility to establish CERN Internship Programme for the students of the Baltic States.

in regard to cultural cooperation and minimizing environmental footprint:

- welcoming positive developments in the cultural cooperation of the Baltic States and appreciating implemented and ongoing cross-cultural projects, to establish joint web-based platform about cultural events of the Baltic States in national languages and English thus facilitating cultural exchange, international branding and cultural communication of the Baltic States;
- considering impact of the climate change, underlining the importance of joint approach and emphasizing the need to promote environmental awareness-raising among the public, to agree about set of principles and requirements to be applied when organising joint bilateral or trilateral cultural events of the Baltic States to minimize environmental footprint;
- to agree about common approach of the Baltic States by moving towards refusal of fireworks, balloons, plastic confetti and other environmentally harmful activities;

- based on the approach of the Nordic countries, to explore possibilities to apply international marketing and communication strategy for the Baltic Region.