

## BSSSC Annual Conference

### Workshop No. 3

#### [Next steps towards a munitions-free Baltic Sea]

**Event location:** ATLANTIC Hotel Kiel, Room  
**Date:** Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> Sep. 2024 15:15-16:45 h  
**Moderation:** **Torsten Frey** (GEOMAR)

#### ABSTRACT

**Objectives:**

The workshop will focus on working out the necessary next steps at regional and EU level based on current projects and findings in order to make the handling of dumped munitions future-proof.

**Key discussion points:**

The German immediate program for ammunition recovery - What are the current findings?

The importance of regional cooperation and the EU for a munitionsfree Baltic Sea.

Financial aspects - How do we achieve sustainable financing and how much will we need to invest?

**Expected outcomes:**

The workshop participants will learn about current examples of possible ways of dealing with dumped munitions and will be able to take the findings into account in the ongoing discussion about an environmentally friendly solution. They will be aware of the

particular challenges involved in financing and will be able to draw appropriate conclusions for the further development of the topic.

## **PROGRAMME**

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| 15:15 | Setting the scene by the moderator  |
| 15:20 | Statements by each panel participant regarding ongoing actions and expected challenges          |
| 16:00 | Discussion with the participation of speakers and interaction with the audience and conclusions |
| 16:35 | Sum up and 1-sentence-conclusion by each panel participant                                      |

## **Speaker / Panellists**

- Wolfgang Sichermann, Seascope
- Rüdiger Stempel, HELCOM Secretary
- Gustav Lindstrom, CBSS Deputy Director General
- Domas Petrulis, EU DG Mare
- Prof. Jacek Beldowski, IOPAN (POL)

You can use this link to register for the BSSSC Annual Conference and the Workshop or use the QR Code. <https://www.bsssc.com/event-details/bsssc-annual-conference-2024>



Torsten Frey | Researcher



Torsten Frey received the B.A. degree in international business management from Hochschule Furtwangen University, Germany in 2012 and the M.A. degree in environmental studies from Tel Aviv University, Israel in 2015. From 2016 to 2019, he was a Researcher with the Institute for Infrastructure and Resources Management at Leipzig University. Since 2020, he has been a Researcher with the GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Germany, where he is finishing his dissertation. His research interests include quality management and risk management during explosive ordnance disposal in the sea.

Rüdiger Stempel | Executive Secretary, HELCOM



A lawyer by training, Rüdiger Stempel has been the Executive Secretary of the Baltic Marine Environment Commission (Helsinki Commission, HELCOM) since August 2019. He looks back on many years of experience in international environmental law, policy, and diplomacy, with a particular focus on international marine conservation. He has previously held the posts of Executive Secretary of the UN Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North-East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas (UNEP/ASCOBANS) and of the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat (CWSS) and has also worked for several other United Nations agencies. Moreover, Rüdiger has a background as a journalist and professional communicator working in English and German, and he is the author or co-author of numerous articles and several books.



Domas Petrulis holds a Master's degree in Comparative Politics. From 2012 to 2016, he served as a Member of the Lithuanian Parliament (Seimas). Following this, he worked at the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2017 to 2019 as an Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 2019, Domas moved to Brussels, where he served as a Senior Diplomat at the Lithuanian Permanent Representation to the EU. Since the beginning of 2024, he works for the European Commission at the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), focusing on maritime security and surveillance.

Gustav Lindström | Director General, Council of the Baltic Sea States



Gustav Lindström is the Director General of the Council of the Baltic Sea States' (CBSS) Secretariat since 1 September 2024, having previously served as its Deputy Director General. Prior to joining the CBSS, he served as Director of the EU Institute for Security Studies based in Paris and Brussels. Dr Lindstrom holds a doctorate in Policy Analysis from the RAND Graduate School and MA in International Policy Studies from Stanford University.

Dr.-Ing. Wolfgang Sichermann | Seascope GmbH



Wolfgang Sichermann is Managing Director of the company Seascope, which has been coordinating the immediate action programme on dumped munitions in the North Sea and Baltic Sea since the end of 2022 on behalf of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection. During the establishment of the German Maritime Centre from 2018 to 2020, he worked as Managing Director at the interface between business, science and the public sector. Prior to that, Wolfgang Sichermann worked for twelve years in naval shipbuilding in the areas of research and development and product management. He studied naval architecture and ocean engineering at the Technical University of Hamburg and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and received his doctorate in mechanics from the Technical University of Hamburg.

Jacek Beldowski | Head of Laboratory, IOPAN



Jacek Beldowski (49). Since 2000 employed as a researcher in the Institute of Oceanology Polish Academy of Sciences. Since 2010 working with dumped munitions problem. Project manager of EU Interreg MUNIMAP project, previously leading many international projects, including EU Interreg programme CHEMSEA and DAIMON and NATO SPS MODUM. Co-chair of HELCOM SUBMERGED group. Author of over 60 articles about dumped munitions and editor of NATO ASI Book about chemical munition monitoring.