



Photo: LH Kiel - Kai Teichmann

# 32nd BSSC Annual Conference 2024

## Let's fight for resilient and safe communities in the Baltic Sea Region

ATLANTIC Hotel Kiel

19-20 September 2024

Raiffeisenstr. 2, 24103 Kiel





Welcome to Kiel!

---

Werner Schwarz

Minister of Agriculture, Rural Areas,  
European Affairs and Consumer Protection of  
Land Schleswig-Holstein



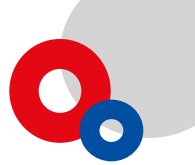
Dear friends of the Baltic Sea Region,

Welcome to the 32nd BSSSC Annual Conference!

It is my great pleasure to welcome you on behalf of Land Schleswig-Holstein to the Annual Conference of the Baltic Sea States Subregional Cooperation (BSSSC) in Kiel 2024.

Since the beginning of 2024, Schleswig-Holstein is chairing the BSSSC. In the diverse concert of institutions, organizations and networks in the Baltic Sea Region, BSSSC has been contributing to the voice of the regions at all levels of cooperation with great commitment and a high degree of effectiveness since 1993.

Against the background of the war in Ukraine, cooperation within the Baltic Sea Region is more crucial than ever. Together, we are experiencing an enormous change. We must explore ways to strengthen our societies, democracy, economy, and by this advance important investments in the context of the European Green Deal.



Schleswig-Holstein has ambitious plans for the period of its BSSSC-chairmanship 2024 & 2025. We are committed to addressing timely issues such as the removal of dumped munitions from the Baltic Sea, the expansion of offshore wind energy, the improvement of sustainable and secure transport routes around the Baltic Sea with a focus on railway and renewable energy such as hydrogen.

To strengthen democracy, we aim to intensify Baltic Sea youth cooperation and enhance the quality of life in our region by supporting regional resilience through culture. The annual "Baltic Sea Region Cultural Pearl" award will further boost cooperation.

I look forward to promising results of this event, which will foster subregional cooperation among the Baltic Sea Regions. I am confident this conference will bring us closer together and create a more resilient Baltic Sea Community.

Yours sincerely,

Werner Schwarz  
Chairman of BSSSC

Welcome to Kiel	01
Contents	04
About BSSSC - Working Plan 2030	05
Programme Day 1	06
Programme Day 2	08
How to find the workshops	10
Workshops	11
BSR Cultural Pearls	20
Cultural Pearls 2024	21
Cultural Pearls Evening - Programme	22
Route description to the Schauspielhaus	23
CVs of our speakers	24
About Kiel	30
What to see	31
Legal Notice and link to the online brochure	32

# About BSSSC - Working Plan 2030



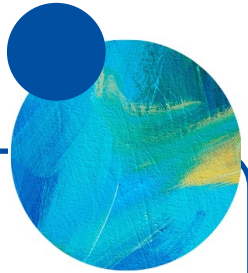
Cohesion policy and programmes

Environment, climate, energy and circular economy



Youth involvement and empowerment

Vision 2030  
Policy Areas



Culture and creativity



Maritime Policy



Transport and accessibility



## Let's fight for resilient and safe communities in the Baltic Sea Region

Event location:

ATLANTIC Hotel Kiel, Raiffeisenstr. 2, 24103 Kiel, Germany

Dates:

2024, Sep. 19th 12.30 h – Sep. 20th 14h

### PROGRAMME

Moderation: Lykke Friis (former Danish Minister for Climate and Energy)

#### Thursday, 19th September

12.30 Registration & light lunch

13.30 **Official opening**

Warm-up talk with Werner Schwarz (Minister of European Affairs of Land Schleswig-Holstein and BSSSC Chairman)

Welcoming words from Daniel Günther (Minister President of Land Schleswig-Holstein)



- 13.45 **Let's fight for resilient societies and communities**
- Key note** from Bernd Henningsen (Professor at Humboldt University Berlin, Institute for Northern European Studies)
- Panel discussion**
- Bernd Henningsen
  - Ulf Kämpfer (Mayor of the City of Kiel and upcoming STRING Chairman)
  - Eka von Kalben (Vice President Schleswig-Holstein State Parliament, Member of CoR & BSPC)
  - Hanne Klintøe (Head of PtX Development, Aabenraa Municipality)
  - Silva Laure (Vice Chair of the Committee of Youth Representatives of the Baltic Sea Region, Latvia)
- 14.45 Coffee break
- 15.15-16.45 **Workshop Session One**
- 1. Smart governments: Harnessing artificial intelligence for public sector transformation**  
Vidzeme Planning Region
  - 2. Sustainable resilience in cities and communities through culture - Baltic Sea Cultural Pearls**  
CBSS Secretariat
  - 3. Next steps towards a munitions-free Baltic Sea**  
Ministry for Energy Transition, Climate Protection, Environment and Nature Land Schleswig-Holstein
  - 4. In defence of EU regional policy**  
Ministry for Finances and for European Affairs Land Brandenburg
  - 5. Regional cooperation as driving force behind the development of offshore wind energy in the Baltic Sea**  
Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodeship
- 17.00 Cool down talk with youth representatives
- 17.20 End of conference (Day 1)

You are invited to join us celebrating the Baltic Sea Cultural Pearls!

## Celebrating the Baltic Sea Cultural Pearls

Event location: Schauspielhaus Kiel, Holtenauer Straße 103, 24105 Kiel

- 18.30 Admission and finger food
- 19.30 Cultural programme
- 21.00 Open end late night mingling

 Interreg  
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by  
the European Union



 Kiel. Sailing. City.

### How do I get there?

Public transport (e.g. bus 11, 12, 13)  
From Kiel central station to  
Schauspielhaus  
or walk 40min. 😊

## Friday, 20th September

08.30 Registration & coffee

09.00 **Security at risk – The Baltic Sea Region in challenging times:  
Dealing with disinformation, cyber-attacks and pipeline  
sabotage**

**Video message** from Anna Lührmann (State Minister at the  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany)

**Key note** from Egils Levits (former President of Latvia)

### Panel discussion

- Egils Levits
- Emilija Kilinskaitė (Stratcom Senior Officer at the Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs of Lithuania)
- Kai Sauer (Ambassador of the Republic of Finland in Germany)
- Gustav Lindström (Director General CBSS)
- Elias Arndt (BSSSC youth board member)





10.00	Coffee break
10.30-12.00	<b>Workshop Session Two</b>  <b>6. Fighting for democracy by combatting fake news and disinformation</b> Academia Baltica  <b>7. Join the dialogue: Shaping the future of BSR-Ukraine cooperation</b> Council of the Baltic Sea States  <b>8. From project to platform: Impulses for sustaining and implementing results from Interreg projects</b> Interreg Baltic Sea Region MA/JS  <b>9. Developing and employing hydrogen infrastructure in Northern Europe: Stakeholder perspectives on cross-border cooperation and the future of sustainable transport</b> STRING Cooperation
12.15	<b>Voices on the future:</b> Takeaways for Baltic Sea Region cooperation  Talk with youth representatives  BSSSC Chairman presents the Resolution of the Annual Conference
13.00	Lunch and farewell
14.00	End of conference

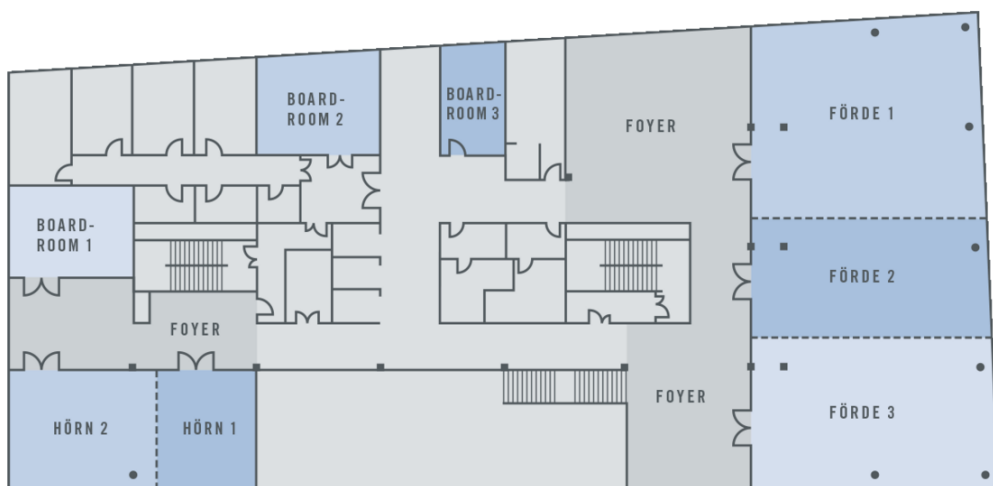


Scan the QR code to get more information about the workshops.

You can also find the CVs of the speakers and panelists here.



Workshop No.	Room	Date
Workshop 1	Board 1	Thursday, 19th Sep. - 15:15-16:45
Workshop 2	Förde 3	Thursday, 19th Sep. - 15:15-16:45
Workshop 3	Hörn 2	Thursday, 19th Sep. - 15:15-16:45
Workshop 4	Förde 1+2	Thursday, 19th Sep. - 15:15-16:45
Workshop 5	Board 2	Thursday, 19th Sep. - 15:15-16:45
Workshop 6	Förde 1+2	Friday, 20th Sep. - 10:30-12:00
Workshop 7	Board 2	Friday, 20th Sep. - 10:30-12:00
Workshop 8	Förde 3	Friday, 20th Sep. - 10:30-12:00
Workshop 9	Hörn 2	Friday, 20th Sep. - 10:30-12:00





# Smart governments: Harnessing artificial intelligence for public sector transformation

This session aims to provide participants with practical insights on challenges and opportunities for effectively integrating AI into the activities of a local and/or regional administration.

## Key discussions points

- AI's relevance to government operations - how AI can enhance decision-making, efficiency, and citizen service
- Role of cross-sector collaboration with industry, academia, and research institutions
- The importance of AI literacy among public servants - training programs and initiatives for skill development
- Ethical considerations - bias, transparency, and accountability in AI algorithms

## Expected outcomes

Participants in the workshop will gain practical knowledge while also being motivated by the possibilities for meaningful AI-driven innovations in the public sector. They will have heard practical examples and the related challenges and opportunities of AI deployment by public-sector institutions, which may result in knowledge and technology transfer and create the groundwork for future collaboration.

### Speakers

Benjamin Delhomme, Ralph Schmidt,  
Christine Eichkorn, Johannes Fronius

### Moderation

Inese Suija-Markova

# Sustainable resilience in cities and communities through culture - Baltic Sea Cultural Pearls

The question of the resilience of our societies and communities has become increasingly important in recent years against the backdrop of growing feelings of insecurity in the Baltic Sea Region. Many stakeholders around the Baltic Sea are currently addressing the question of how resilience can be actively created. One step further, however, an equally important question arises: how can this resilience be maintained and how can long-term tools be developed?

With the Cultural Pearls project as a basis, this workshop is going to explore how to create sustainable resilience in cities and communities. We're taking stock of practices and experiences of the first awarded cities Kiel, Rujiena, Svendborg and Jakobstad (Pietarsaari) and will think up ways to scale up the initial groundwork on resilience that is being done in this as well as in other projects around the Baltic Sea Region.

Our questions are centred on sustainability and durability: How to organise our activities so that they have a lasting impact? What does it take to transfer current and active actions into self-sustaining and long-standing structures? Moreover, which instruments and already existing contexts could be used to achieve the goal of institutionalizing successful initiatives?

### Moderation

Marcus Hagemann  
Kaarina Williams

### Speakers

Annette Wiese-Krukowska, Päivi Rosnell,  
Anna Paula Gruzdiņa, Taiju Kiesilä,  
Pernille Laier Larsen, Mikko Fitze,  
Eva Maersk



## Next steps towards a munitions-free Baltic Sea

### 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.

#### Speakers

Wolfgang Sichermann, Rüdiger Stempel,  
Gustav Lindström, Domas Petruelis,  
Jacek Bełdowski

#### Moderation

Torsten Frey

# In defence of EU regional policy

Despite undoubted achievements in the positive (economic) development of many regions in the EU in recent decades, Cohesion Policy is under pressure with a view to the next programming period 2028-2034: challenges such as strengthening the EU's competitiveness, repaying the debt-based EU reconstruction program NextGenerationEU or supporting Ukraine require further investment. As a result, there are fears of a turn away from a Cohesion Policy for all regions. There is an open discussion to centralize Cohesion Policy along the lines of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF). At the same time, the recently published Letta report highlights cross-border obstacles for the final integration of the Single Market.

How can we successfully counter these trends in view of the proposals for regulations expected from the next European Commission in the first half of 2025? What is the role of interregional and cross-border cooperation? What lessons can we draw by innovative solutions such as the instrument for interregional cooperation?

### Moderation

Reiner  
Kneifel-Haverkamp

### Speakers

Karsten Uno Petersen,  
Eka von Kalben,  
Niina Pautla Mol,  
Ann Irene Saeternes



## Regional cooperation as driving force behind the development of offshore wind energy in the Baltic Sea

During the workshop there will be given an overview of regional and national activities related to the development of offshore wind energy in the Baltic Sea area and an expert discussion on the role of local governments and initiatives integrating the main stakeholders in the implementation of investments in offshore wind farms.

Energy transformation and achieving ambitious EU goals related to the implementation of Green Deal will not come true without active actions in the Baltic Sea Region. It is crucial for the Baltic Sea Region to focus on building long-lasting foundations for energy independence, educational and market transformations. Actions taken so far in individual regions are insufficient. Greater mobilization and coordination are needed. The offshore wind energy industry is at the forefront of these green changes.

During the workshop we will address the following questions: How to effectively build Baltic content in fair mutual cooperation? What role can regional authorities play in this process and what activities should be coordinated at the national level or across state borders?

### Speakers

Karolina Lipińska, Adam Kowalski,  
Tom Schumacher, Stefan Musiolik, Anu Eslas

### Moderation

Maciej Mierzwiński

# Fighting for democracy by combatting fake news and disinformation

In this workshop, participants will learn about the different forms of mis- and disinformation, ranging from a simple “myth” to FIMI (Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference). They will work on different examples of mainly Russian disinformation and FIMI campaigns, which the European External Action Service has monitored and debunked since 2015. Participants will also learn about EU policy responses and other measures to fight against disinformation. In the last part of the workshop, they will get an overview of the most useful tips and tricks for correct fact checking and how to behave on social media. Participants will get an overview of the different kind of mis- and disinformation and on what the EU does to fight off and to prevent disinformation campaigns on its own territory. They will learn that the EU does not only have an own monitoring framework but has also passed legislation which will help to keep disinformation campaigns at bay. Participants will also be more confident in their own fact-checking skills after the workshop.

### Moderation

Christian Pletzing,  
Heiko Hiltmann, Elias Arndt

### Speakers

Sandra Fiene





## Join the dialogue: Shaping the future of BSR-Ukraine cooperation

The following questions will be addressed:

### 1. What BSR could give to Ukraine, what Ukraine could give to us?

Defining mutual expectations in a strategic dimension: how each party perceives the potential cooperation of BSR with Ukraine.

### 2. What are our and their expectations, needs and visions of future cooperation?

Determining the possibilities of cooperation in the technical dimension: what are the legal, organizational and financial possibilities of developing cooperation, implementing joint activities and creating organizations coordinating joint short- and long-term projects (in particular, determining the formal and actual conditions for the independence of Ukrainian regions).

### 3. Practical aspects of cooperation – political, economic, administrative, social

Determining the external conditions of regional cooperation: to what extent and at what level political contacts are required (to initiate and conduct joint ventures), to what extent it is possible to include non-administrative circles (business, investors, youth, cultural circles, etc.), and what areas should be covered by administrative cooperation?

#### Speakers

Nadija Afanasieva, Thorsten Kohlich,  
Vitalii Bielobrov, Olha Novytska,  
Susanne Grahl, Olesia Drobotenko,  
Maria Bohudukhova

#### Moderation

Andriy Martynenko

# From project to platform: impulses for sustaining and capitalising on results from Interreg projects

This workshop aims to explore how regions can make the best use of the results of Interreg projects for their own development. We will look at some inspiring examples of how regions have facilitated the uptake of Interreg results in their policies. The concept of a platform will be presented as an additional tool to sustain and capitalise on project results. Interreg Baltic Sea Region MA/JS will showcase expected project results of current projects in different thematic fields as well as results of project platforms completed in 2021.

It will be followed by an interactive session. Inspired by the examples presented, workshop participants will identify facilitators and barriers to sustain and capitalise on Interreg project results in the regions, and identify actions that the regions and/or the programme could take to support a good uptake of results.

### Moderation

Orsolya Schulz  
Ronald Lieske

### Speakers

Johanna Kamin, Lea Lükemeier,  
Ilga Gruševa, Laila Gercāne, Agnieszka Ilola



## Developing and employing hydrogen infrastructure in Northern Europe: Stakeholder perspectives on cross-border cooperation and the future of sustainable transport

This panel will bring together key stakeholders from hydrogen interest organizations, HDV companies and policy makers from Scandinavia, Germany and the broader Baltic Sea region to discuss the development and implementation of hydrogen infrastructure in Northern Europe.

The main objectives are to raise awareness of the critical importance of hydrogen infrastructure, to address the lack of political support, and to identify solutions to cross-industry and cross-border policy challenges.

The discussion will cover a range of topics such as the integration of hydrogen infrastructure projects with initiatives such as GREATER4H, the impact on the HDV sector, political and regulatory support, funding strategies, technological and operational challenges, and the promotion of stakeholder cooperation. These topics will be further narrowed down in collaboration with the panelists to ensure a focused and relevant discussion.

This is broader selection of potential topics that could be covered. The session will conclude with an interactive session where the audience can ask questions of the speakers to ensure a dynamic and engaging discussion.

### Speakers

Alexander Gehling, Annegret Brauss, Matteo Azzimonti, Jacob Kirstein, Liam Pflughaupt, Sven Friedrich, Lisa Hassler Justesen

### Moderator

Hanne Klintøe



## What is BSR Cultural Pearls?

The BSR Cultural Pearls initiative aims to make smaller towns, cities and municipalities in the Baltic Sea Region more visible, attractive and livable. By engaging citizens in cultural activities, the initiative seeks to enhance the quality of life and foster a stronger sense of social resilience.

## Why is social resilience important?

Countries around the Baltic Sea, despite their diverse backgrounds, face similar challenges like climate change, urbanization, economic instability and aging populations. Social resilience, or the ability of communities to overcome challenges, is crucial for tackling these issues. BSR Cultural Pearls aims to help communities in the Baltic Sea Region build social resilience by promoting cultural engagement and nurturing a sense of belonging and trust among citizens.

## How does culture improve social resilience?

Cultural activities - such as music, dance, theatre and visual arts - are vital for bringing people together and creating social connections. These activities help communities stay strong and united, strengthening their ability to manage future challenges.

## How does it work?

Each year, BSR Cultural Pearls invites municipalities from less central areas of the Baltic Sea Region to apply for this transformative journey through an open application process. Through a selection process, four municipalities with outstanding culture-driven social resilience plans are awarded the BSR Cultural Pearls title. The awarded municipalities embark on a one-year programme to implement their plans with support from mentors, experts and resources of the European Union.



## Jakobstad/Pietarsaari, Finland

Jakobstad (Pietarsaari), aims to enhance cultural engagement by revitalizing the Old Fire Station into a community hub. The town's bilingual nature and history of migration have created cultural assets that need better coordination. The plan focuses on uniting residents, integrating refugees and bridging gaps between Swedish and Finnish speakers.



## Svendborg, Denmark

Svendborg, faces challenges from an aging population and rising youth discontent. The municipality's Culture and Resilience Action Plan focuses on enhancing social engagement among children and youth. By fostering participation in community activities and co-creation, the plan aims to build resilience and strengthen future generations.

## Rūjiena, Latvia

Rūjiena, Latvia's northernmost town, is focusing on creating a socially resilient and democratic community through its Culture and Resilience Action Plan. Priorities include fostering local and cross-border cooperation, enhancing intergenerational dialogue and strengthening residents' sense of belonging to make rural life more attractive and engaging.



## Kiel, Germany

Kiel, the capital of Schleswig-Holstein, focuses on empowering children and young people through cultural learning to enhance social resilience. With a significant migrant population and high unemployment in certain districts, Kiel aims to foster integration and intercultural dialogue, reduce social divides and promote inclusion for marginalized groups and people with disabilities.

6.30 pm Reception with snacks & drinks in the bistro  
7.15 pm Admission to the auditorium

**Start at 7.30 pm**

## 1. Opening by General Director Daniel Karasek

### 2. Choir academy

- Winde wehn, Schiffe gehen
- Meine Muschel
- Das Gespenst
- Manchmal bin ich traurig
- ich bin anders als du

## 3. Welcoming words by the Mayor of Kiel - Ulf Kämpfer

### 4. Ballet academy

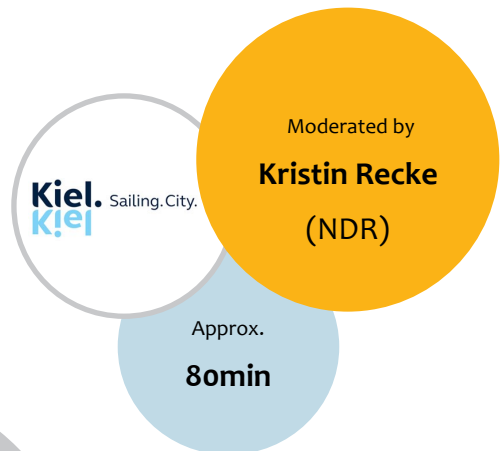
- Interview with Victoria Lane Green (head of ballet academy) (presentation of the academies & the contribution)
- Sailor's Hornpipe (L'Inviti Players)
- Liverpool Hornpipe (The Spinners)

## 5. Orchestra academy

## 6. Discussion round

## 7. Show acrobatics 'MeerManege'

## 8. Closing remarks by Minister Werner Schwarz



**Schauspielhaus Kiel**

Holtener Str. 105, 24105 Kiel

# Route description to Schauspielhaus



## By bus - ATLANTIC to Schauspielhaus

Line 11 (Wik Kanal), Line 12 (Schilksee) or Line 744 (Altenholz)

Enter the bus at **Bahnhof (Sophienblatt)** and exit at the stop **Ansgarkirche**.

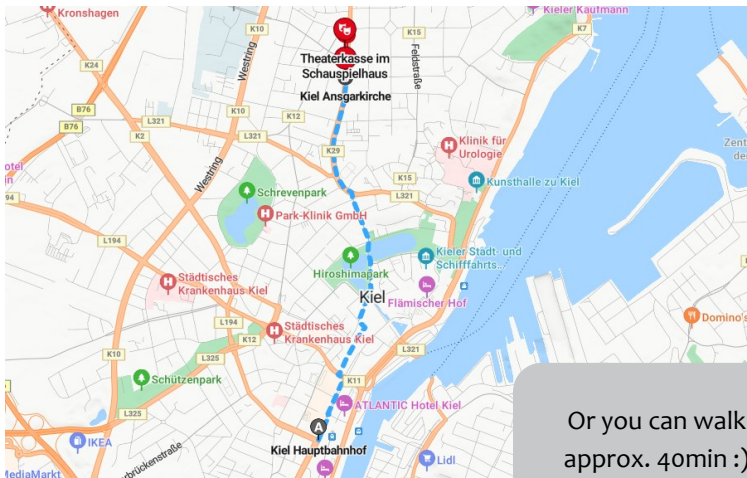
Line 11	Line 12	Line 744
18:14	18:17	18:15
every 10min	every 15min	each hour

## By bus - Schauspielhaus to ATLANTIC

Line 11 (Kiel HBF), Line 12/13 (Schulensee) or Line 744 (Kiel ZOB)

Enter the bus at **Ansgarkirche** and exit at the stop **Bahnhof**.

Line 11	Line 12/13	Line 744	Line N12
22:21	22:06	22:32	23:38
until 00:38 every 15min	23:06	23:32	00.43



Or you can walk  
approx. 40min :)



**Lykke Friis** is the current director of the Think Tank Europa and the Co-Chair of the European Council on Foreign Relations. Furthermore, she holds several public and societal offices. She has a Ph.D degree in Political Science from the University of Copenhagen. Being an expert on European and EU affairs, she has been repeatedly appointed to political forums and published several books about European affairs. Her university career as Prorector for the University of Copenhagen was interrupted by serving two years as Cabinet Minister of Climate, Energy and Gender Equality.

**Werner Schwarz** has been minister since June 2022 at the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Areas, European Affairs and Consumer Protection (MLLEV) of Schleswig-Holstein. He is responsible for the agricultural sector and all associated challenges, rural development, forestry and fishing as well as various aspects relating to European politics and consumer protection in Schleswig-Holstein. Schwarz has completed his education as a state-certified farmer. Before becoming Minister, he has been president of the Schleswig-Holstein farmers` association and vice-president of the German farmers` association. He lives with his wife in the south of Schleswig-Holstein and has three grown-up children.

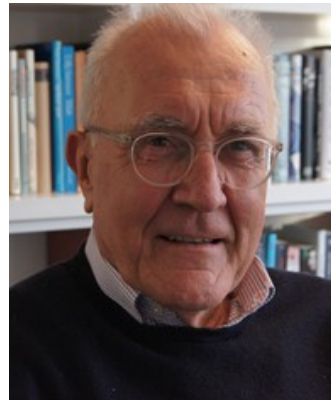






**Daniel Günther** (born 1973) is the Minister-President of Land Schleswig-Holstein since 2017. He studied Political Science, National Economics, and Psychology at Kiel University completed with a Master's Degree. From 2005 to 2012 he was the Managing Director of CDU Schleswig-Holstein. Since 2009 he has been a member of Parliament of Land Schleswig-Holstein. From 2014 to 2017 he was Chief Whip of the CDU Parliamentary Party. From 2018 to 2019 he was the President of the German Bundesrat.

**Bernd Henningsen** is honorary professor at the Department of Northern European Studies, Humboldt-University Berlin. He studied Political Science, Nordic Philology, Philosophy and Psychology at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich and obtained a Ph.D in 1974. He qualified as professor in 1984 researching the welfare state of Sweden. He was professor of Scandinavian studies (1992-2002), (founding) director of the Department of Northern European Studies and head of the Baltic Sea School, Berlin. In 2005 he also became honorary professor at the Department of Political Science at the University of Copenhagen and continued as professor of Scandinavian and Cultural Studies at the Department for Northern European Studies, Humboldt-University Berlin. He retired in 2010.





**Ulf Kämpfer** (SPD) has been Mayor of the Land Capital Kiel since 2014. The lawyer and Secretary of State of the Schleswig-Holstein Ministry of the Environment became Mayor as the joint candidate for SPD, the Greens (Grüne) and SSW in the fifth direct elections for Kiel’s Mayor in March 2014. He was reelected in October 2019. Mayor Kämpfer is also responsible for the industry sector at Kiel Town Hall. His department includes the Press and Public Relations Office, the Legal Office, the Audit Office, the Department of Economic Affairs, the Office for Equality and Land Capital Kiel’s investment management company. In addition, he is Vice-President of the Association of German Cities. Ulf Kämpfer is married and has one son.

**Eka von Kalben** has been a member of the Landtag of Schleswig-Holstein since 2012. As of June 2022, she serves as vice-president of the Landtag. From 2012 to 2022 she was the parliamentary leader for The Greens. She is currently the groups’ speaker for European policy, religion and national minorities. Prior to becoming a Member of the Landtag. She worked in public administration and studied history and political science at the university of Hagen. She has three adult children and lives in the south of Schleswig-Holstein, near Pinneberg.





For the past two years, **Silva Laure** has served as the Vice-Chair of the Baltic Sea Region Youth Forum's (BSRYF) legislative body – the Committee of Youth Representatives (CYR), a regional youth body facilitated by the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS). Silva, along with 15 other members of the CYR, is responsible for exploring & developing new perspectives and policies on core themes of the CBSS, promoting meaningful youth involvement in relevant organizations and institutions, and advancing the initiatives of the BSRYF. In addition to her role in the Committee, Silva is a student of Medicine in Riga, Latvia.

**Hanne Klintøe** is a visionary strategic leader, advisor and organisational developer. She is the founder of two advisory agencies, delivering strategies, leadership support, and transformative projects to global organisations. Hanne has raised considerable EU funding for and developed multiple initiatives to drive the green transition within sustainable transport and infrastructure for the STRING Megaregion, and was a strong voice behind the recommendations to the Danish government regarding cross-border hydrogen infrastructure to Germany. She recently relocated to Denmark's hotspot for Power-to-X, Aabenraa Municipality.





**Anna Lührmann** was born 1983 in Lich in Hesse, Germany. She is minister of state at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Germany. She holds a BA in Political Science, a MA in Gender and Peace Studies and a MA in Research Training in Social Sciences. She obtained a Ph. D in political sciences on democracy. She was a Member of the German Bundestag from 2002 to 2009. From 2010 to 2012 she advised the United Nations Development Programme on parliamentary elections in Sudan and youth participation. For six years she worked at the Varieties of Democracy Institute (V-Dem) at the University of Gothenburg. She was its Deputy Director from 2018 to 2020. In 2020 she was appointed „Docent“ by proof of achievements equivalent to a second dissertation.

In 2021 she returned to politics.

**Egils Levits** was born in 1955 in Riga. Emigrated to Germany in 1972 and studied law and political science at the University of Hamburg. Research assistant at the University of Kiel and later at the Institute for German and East European Studies in Göttingen. From 1992 to 1993 Latvia's Ambassador to Germany. From 1993 to 1994 Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice. Latvia's Ambassador to Austria from 1994 to 1995. From 1995 to 2004 judge at the European Court of Human Rights. From 2004 to 2019 judge at the Court of Justice of the European Union. In 2019 elected as an independent candidate to the position of the President of the Republic of Latvia, a term lasting until July 2023. After the presidency 2023 appointed as Special Representative for International Law.





**Emilija Kilinskaitė** has been in the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Stratcom team for three years. She's responsible for digital campaigning, a proactive fight against disinformation and historical revisionism. Ever since Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine, Kilinskaitė has been actively working in advocating for international support from partners by calling to provide Ukraine with whatever victory takes, exposing Russia's war crimes and atrocities. She studied History at Vilnius University. Before joining government service, she worked as a political consultant to a Lithuanian MP.

**Kai Sauer** took up his position as the Ambassador of the Embassy of Finland to Germany on 1st September 2023. Prior to this, he served four years as the Under-Secretary of State for foreign and Security Policy at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. He served as the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations, in New York (2014-2019), and as the Ambassador of Finland to Indonesia, Timor-Leste and ASEAN (2010-2014). Mr Sauer has worked for the Finnish Foreign Ministry for nearly 25 years and served also in Croatia, Kosovo, Austria and the US. He has held several senior UN positions. Mr Sauer was born in Hamburg, Germany in 1967. He graduated from Tampere University in 1995 with a Master's in International Relations. He has also studied in Hamburg and Berlin.

Mr Sauer is married and has two adult children. In his free time he is an active hockey player and marathon runner.





**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. Mr Lindström holds a doctorate in Policy Analysis from the RAND Graduate School and a MA in International Policy Studies from Stanford University.

**Elias Arndt** has been actively involved with the BSSSC since 2022 and has been a Member of the Board since 2023. He lives in Hamburg and is currently studying Business Informatics at the University of Hamburg. Alongside his studies, Elias works as a freelance software developer, leveraging his technical skills to contribute to various digital projects. His role at the BSSSC allows him to apply his knowledge of computer science, particularly to initiatives focusing on digital transformation.





**Volker Sponholz** works as an artist and writer in the northern parts of Germany, located in Kiel. He has made several books, a few drawn films and he is one of the editors of the "Pure Fruit"-Magazine: a place for stories and visual experiments in illustration and comic. His studies of arts, dramatics, German literature and politics in Erlangen and Kiel became all part of his work, in established and in new, invented ways. He lives with his family in Kiel and loves it, to look at the spirit of time from a healthy distance.

## Getting around

### Busses:

For information on buses in Kiel, you can use the NAH.SH or Google Maps under the category bus.

### Bike - Sprottenflotte:

Explore Kiel with ease using the SprottenFlotte, the city's bike-sharing system. The first 30 minutes are free. You have to download the App **Donkey Republic**. You can see where the green bikes are located in the app.

### Taxi:

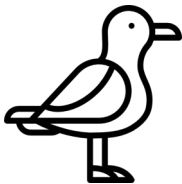
Call +4943177070

### Ferry:

You can take the ferry to get from the east bank to the west bank or to nearby beaches. The ferry departs from the Reventlou pier.

## Staying Connected

In the buses, at public locations (train station, city center) you can use the SH-WLAN for free. No password is required.



Be cautious of **seagulls**, especially when enjoying a delicious ice cream or fish sandwich. They can be quite bold, and some of them are huge and may try to snatch your food.





## What to see

The **Welcome Center** at the Kieler Förde is the tourist information office. It provides information about local attractions, events and other important details about your stay in Kiel to help you make the most of your visit.

Enjoy a walk along the **Kiellinie**, Kiel's beautiful waterfront promenade that stretches along the Kiel Fjord. There you can enjoy fish sandwiches and fish 'n' chips. It's a place to meet for a beer or wine. Alternatively, you can relax on a beach lounge. There are also two designated bathing platforms along the Kiellinie: Bellevue and Kiellinie. These spots are ideal for a refreshing swim or sunbathing, offering direct access to the clean waters of the fjord. From the Kiellinie, at the Reventlou pier you can take the Fjord ferry to Laboe. Laboe is especially popular with tourists and offers a true vacation atmosphere.

In Kiel, you can explore eight museums located close to the fjord, most of which are free. All museums are within walking distance and invite you to take a stroll through Kiel's city center.

In Kiel, there are several beaches on both the eastern and western shores, which can be reached by the Fjord ferry. Falckenstein is a district in Kiel known for its popular beach. The beach features a wide, sandy shore along the Kiel Fjord.





Notes:

---





Scan the QR code to access the latest version of the brochure including possible changes.

#### **Legal Notice**

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Areas, European Affairs and

Consumer Protection of Land Schleswig-Holstein

Fleethörn 29-31, 24103 Kiel

[ostseereferat@mllev.landsh.de](mailto:ostseereferat@mllev.landsh.de) | [poststelle@mllev.landsh.de](mailto:poststelle@mllev.landsh.de)

[www.bsssc.com](http://www.bsssc.com) | [www.landesregierung.schleswig-holstein.de](http://www.landesregierung.schleswig-holstein.de)

August 2024