

## Conference Declaration

The cruise shipping sector in the Baltic Sea region (BSR) and the neighbouring North Sea Area has grown enormously in the last decade, the cruise tourism is going to stay on a long term growth trend. The cruise fleet will continuously grow.

It is a need for cruise ship operators, ports and local communities to make cruise operations in ports sustainable as possible. They should together in cooperative manner encourage investments in environmentally friendly cruise port infrastructure. Smart traffic links for the integration of cruise tourism in the public passenger transport and supply system could be helpful.

Due to the transnational character of the cruise business, a joint planning process on transnational level will foster sustainable results. Consequently, the core challenge of the Interreg Baltic Sea Region GREEN CRUISE PORT project with its 10 partners and 10 supporting organizations from all BSR countries will involve and address main stakeholders (e.g. port authorities and operators, private cruise shipping lines, politicians) to find smart solutions.

The Opening Conference of the BSR Interreg Project "GREEN CRUISE PORT" - Sustainable Development of Cruise Port Locations", convened in Hamburg, Germany, on 27 September 2016. It attracted about 100 participants from all countries around the Baltic Sea and the neighbouring North Sea area

- welcoming the chance to meet representatives from the European port and cruise sector to exchange ideas on current status and future developments,
- acknowledging the congregation of participants from the Baltic Sea and from other geographical areas in the EU to exchange know-how, experiences and to learn about the latest developments on sustainable cruise operations (land- and seaside),
- appreciating the opportunity given by the Interreg EU Baltic Sea Region Programme to facilitate a close co-operation in the Baltic Sea cruise sector by offering a discussion platform among industry representatives to exchange information, best practices and to promote new projects.

The participants of the opening conference discussed the perspectives of passenger cruise operation in ports of the Baltic Sea Region and the neighbouring North Sea Area to foster sustainability.

Consequently, the core challenge of the GREEN CRUISE PORT project will address the main public and private stakeholders in the region (and beyond), to meet the demand and the environmental requirements in the cruise shipping sector in a long-term strategic, sustainable but also economically viable manner.

The partners of the GREEN CRUISE PORT project call on the governments of the Baltic Sea Region countries, the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS), the European Union, the BSR cruise port authorities, terminal operators, shipping lines, politicians, private entities and other cruise shipping and tourism stakeholders, to find smart solutions for a more environmentally friendly cruise industry in the BSR

**regarding "Sustainable Energy Supply & innovative Emission Reduction",**

to reduce emissions from cruise vessel in cruise ports by encouraging investments in environmentally friendly cruise port infra- and superstructure.

to summarize and disseminate information and experiences in latest developments in reducing emissions from cruise vessels in ports.

to support the cruise tourism sector in meeting the fast growing demand and the environmental requirements in the cruise sector in a strategic, sustainable manner.

**regarding "Cruise Terminal Buildings & innovative Reception Facilities",**

to promote improvements of smart cruise terminal buildings as well as innovative, state of the art reception facilities.

to develop common standards for waste handling in BSR ports.

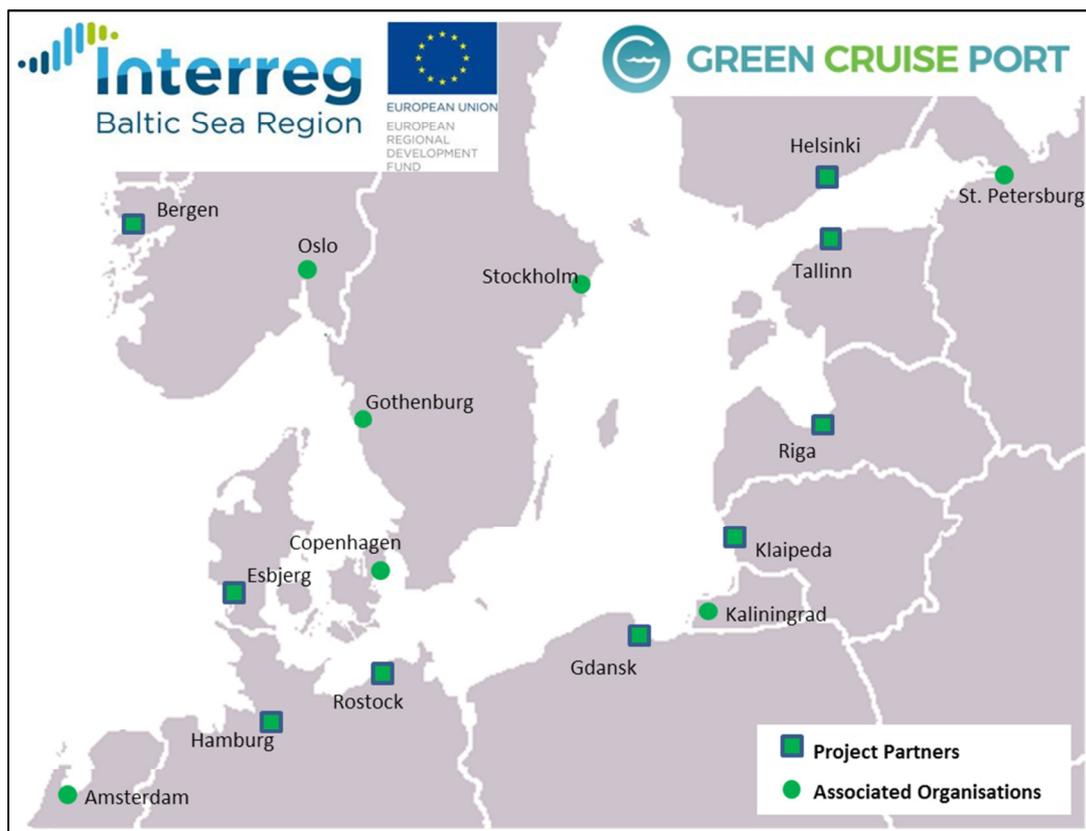
**regarding "Maritime and landside Cruise (Terminal) Traffic Links".**

to promote smart multimodal traffic solutions for cruise ports and adjacent regions.

to asses a common determination of economic effects, concentrating on port related infrastructure and on the regional economic effects of cruise.

to analyze the economic effects of such traffic links, which are an important factor for justifying respectively supporting investments in this sector.

to emphasize the important role of the public transport system in the respective cruise port city.



This conference declaration is signed by the following on behalf of their respective organizations.



Hamburg Port Authority

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Hamburg Port Authority (LP)



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Freeport of Riga Authority (PP4)

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ZELTINS



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Port of Tallinn (PP5)



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SE Klaipeda State Seaport Authority (PP6)

Kristina Gontier  
Head of Marketing Department  
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