

**Dear VASAB friends,**

Welcome to our April newsletter!

Since January 2022, **Germany has taken over the VASAB chairmanship** from Lithuania. German chairmanship invites young professionals to apply to the **VASAB Summer School on 22-26 August** in Greifswald. VASAB continues the work towards **updating the Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the BSR** and has launched the **Stakeholder consultations**. Get involved!

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### **Russia and Belarus suspended from VASAB**

Due to the armed aggression by the Russian Federation with support of Belarus against the sovereign state Ukraine, the Member States of the European Union participating in VASAB decided to suspend Russia and Belarus from the VASAB Committee on Spatial Planning and Development of the Baltic Sea Region and Steering Groups of the EUSBSR Policy area 'Spatial planning' for land-based and maritime spatial planning and participation in related activities.

**[Full statement here](#)**

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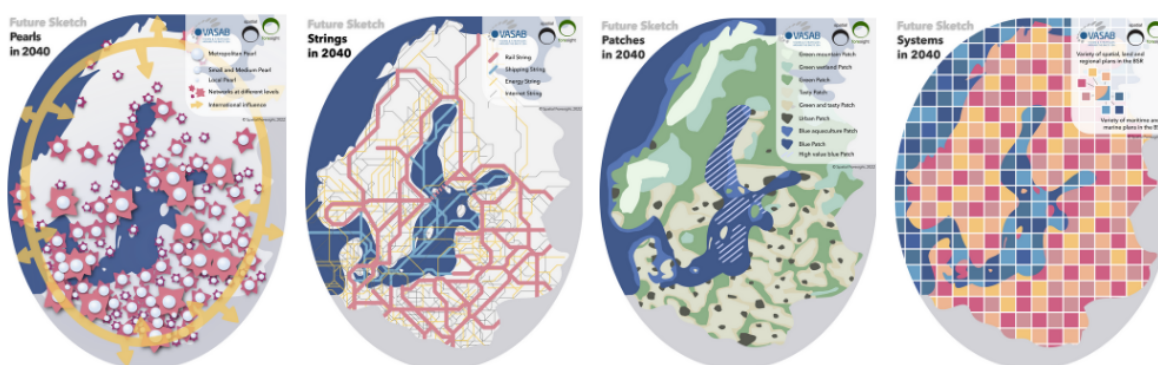


## Apply to the VASAB Summer School on Sustainable Futures for the Baltic Sea Region

We are looking for ideas of young planners and regional developers (students and practitioners) on sustainable futures in the Baltic Sea Region. If you wish to contribute to the discussion, join the **5-day International Summer School in the University of Greifswald, Germany on August 22-26, 2022!** It will offer you a chance to work in multi-disciplinary and intercultural environment to develop ideas for a more sustainable Baltic Sea Region!

**Apply until 22 April 2022!**

[More details and procedure here](#)



## Stakeholder Consultations for the draft VASAB Vision 2040

After updating VASAB Long Term Perspective and elaborating draft VASAB Vision 2040,

**VASAB launches the Stakeholder consultations** that will take place **till 15 July 2022**.

All stakeholders are kindly invited to share their views and feedback for the draft Vision 2040 to further refine the Vision document and discuss potential actions or project ideas that could help in the implementation of VASAB Vision 2040.

[Read more how to participate here](#)

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

#### **VASAB Stakeholder workshop on the application of the draft VASAB Vision 2040**

16 May 2022, online

Workshop will share the prospects of the draft VASAB Vision 2040 and discuss the views on what implications it may have on the ground and how to make it reality.

[Register for the event here](#)



### **eMSP NBSR project brings together maritime spatial planners and stakeholders from North and Baltic Seas**

**The Emerging ecosystem-based Maritime Spatial Planning topics in North and Baltic Seas Regions (eMSP NBSR) project** aims to enable maritime spatial planners, managing authorities and policymakers to reflect on current maritime spatial planning practices, to learn effectively from each other, and to collectively identify problems and solutions.

Five emerging MSP topics have been identified and the European Green Deal is considered cross-cutting theme for the whole project. eMSP NBSR builds upon Community of Practice model creating forums to discuss MSP developments and Science Policy Interface providing up-to-date knowledge input and facilitating a



structured process for sharing and learning.

[www.eMSPproject.eu](http://www.eMSPproject.eu)



VASAB Secretariat led implementation of the **project platform Capacity4MSP** starting from 1 August 2019 until 31 March 2022. The project aimed to increase the capability of marine spatial planning stakeholders, policymakers and decision-makers through increased discussion activities and the dissemination of information obtained in maritime spatial planning.

Throughout the project, project partners have faced various external challenges. Nevertheless, the partnership has managed to overcome these obstacles and



generate meaningful results for the MSP community.

[Read more](#)



## PA Spatial Planning at 3rd EU Macro-Regional Strategies Week

VASAB acting as Policy Area 'Spatial Planning' Coordinator within EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region had an opportunity to hold the session **“Spatial strategies supporting green and just transition in European macro-regions”** during the 3rd EU Macro-Regional Strategies on 8th March 2022. The session shared experience and spatial perspectives across various macro-regions and discussed how macro-regional cooperation supports green and digital transition and common visioning for sustainable development.

[All materials and record from the session is available here](#)

## Upcoming Events

*3 May, online*  
**VASAB Open Troika meeting**

*5 May, online*

*24-25 May, Berlin*  
**87th VASAB CSPD/BSR meeting**

*9 June, online*

**ESPON Peer Learning online workshop  
on Climate change strategies in the  
Baltic Sea Region**  
[Read more >>>](#)

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*16 May, online*

**VASAB Stakeholder workshop on the  
application of the draft VASAB Vision  
2040**  
[Read more >>>](#)

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*19-20 May, Ravenna & online*  
**European Maritime Day**  
[Read more >>>](#)

**Webinar of VASAB German  
Chairmanship 'Offshore wind energy:  
Challenges and opportunities emerging  
from new European expansion targets'**  
[Read more >>>](#)

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*22-26 August, Greifswald*  
**VASAB Young Planners Summer School  
'Sustainable Futures for the Baltic Sea  
Region'**  
[Read more >>>](#)

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*28-29 September, Lappeenranta*  
**EUSBSR 13th Annual Forum**  
[Read more >>>](#)

*NB! All event dates are subject to change.*

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## Follow our activities:



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