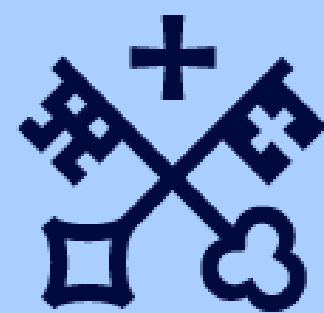


# METREX and Riga experience

Network of metropolitan regions and areas in Europe – sharing urban and regional planning knowledge

Guntars Ruskuls, Head of the Strategic Management Board, Department of City Development, Riga State City Municipality

WORKSHOP ON GOOD PLANNING & COOPERATION PRACTICES IN  
THE BALTIC SEA REGION  
18.09.2025.



# What is METREX?

**METREX is a network of over 50 metropolitan regions and areas in Europe**

- The Network of European Metropolitan Regions and Areas
- METREX is a non-profit network that collaborates with the European institutions, research community, governmental organisations, and other networks
- Metrex shares knowledge and experience on urban and rural themes
- Metrex enables integrated thinking
- Metrex contributes to a common policy framework



# How does METREX work?

- The METREX conference
- Expert groups
- Network groups
- Thematic webinars
- Projects
- Manifesto for Metropolitan Partnerships



# Benefits of METREX?

- Access to all member organisations and their representatives
- Participation in and the opportunity to lead Expert and Network Groups
- Events and study visits
- Support in EU programme applications
- Experience the Metropolitan Dimension in the field of transportation, housing, socio-economic development and environmental issues
- Projects and research ESPON METRO, ESPON METROLAND



Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence



# Nordic-Baltic Network

- Nordic-Baltic Network – is a forum that takes place the day prior to the main METREX Conference and are having additional meetings in-between the conferences if member city-regions agree upon.
- Currently active members of NBN are **Gothenburg** Region, **Stockholm** Region, City of **Helsinki** and Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, City of **Riga**, City of **Oslo** and County of Viken, Capital Region **Berlin-Brandenburg**, **Harju** County, **Skåne** Region.
- Every meeting is aimed at all cities and regions in the Nordic and Baltic areas to meet and discuss the key issues taking place in relation to the conference main theme. Issues range from urban resilience, city-regional governance, connectivity, social cohesion, or living in a future metropolis.

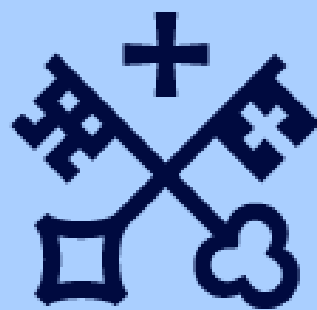


# Network challenges

- Professional Network of spatial planners or Metropolitan lobbying in EU policies
- Network identity
- Engaging a new generation of planners
- Polycrisis



# Thank You!



Department of City Development Riga  
State City Municipality